

CONFERENCE OF INGOS OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

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## The Conference of INGOs of the Council of Europe CONF/PRES/SPEECH(2014)1

## Statement by the President of the Conference of INGOs, Strasbourg, 13 February 2014

Andrei Yurov, Member of Russia's Presidential Human Rights Council and of the Conference of International Non-Governmental Organisations (INGOs) on behalf of the Youth Human Rights Movement International, was denied entry into Ukraine on Sunday. As a result, he was not able to participate in meetings of the Council of Europe Human Rights Commissioner Nils Muižnieks with civil society on the human rights situation in the country and to do work with the International Human Rights Defenders' Group on the Situation in Ukraine.

On 30 January 2014 the Conference of INGOs adopted a resolution on the situation in Ukraine. The resolution urged the Council of Europe to monitor the situation in Ukraine and to facilitate political dialogue with a view to resolving the crisis. The Conference of INGOs also offered its platform for involving national and international civil society actors, including its member organisations in these efforts.

Jean-Marie Heydt, President of the Conference of INGOs, invites the Ukrainian authorities to consider its open offer for assistance in resolving the crisis with the active involvement of civil society and, for this purpose, to facilitate the entry of representatives of its member organisations in Ukraine.

Jean-Marie Heydt President of the Conference of INGOs NGO-Unit@coe.int