

**United States Senate**  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 12, 2022

The Honorable Antony J. Blinken  
Secretary of State  
U.S. Department of State  
2201 C Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20520

The Honorable Alejandro Mayorkas  
Secretary of Homeland Security  
U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
3801 Nebraska Ave NW  
Washington, DC 20016

Dear Secretary Blinken and Secretary Mayorkas:

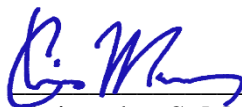
In recent weeks the world has watched the situation on the ground in Ukraine rapidly deteriorate, with civilians caught in the conflict exposed to extreme personal danger. I fully support ongoing efforts to provide additional military and humanitarian assistance to Ukraine, and we must continue to explore all possible ways to assist the Ukrainian people. Specifically, I understand there are Ukrainians in the family and employment-based immigration system for whom a visa is not yet available. I urge you to assess the number of Ukrainian nationals waiting in these backlogs and exercise humanitarian parole to allow them to quickly escape this dangerous warzone and enter the United States.

The Immigration and Nationality Act authorizes the Secretary of Homeland Security to grant parole for urgent humanitarian reasons or significant public benefits to any person applying for admission to the United States. Using parole to immediately bring Ukrainian nationals with approved visa petitions into the United States would help reunify families and save lives.

President Putin's invasion of Ukraine has threatened the safety and stability of Ukraine and Europe more broadly. Russia's military has deployed indiscriminate attacks on civilian targets in Ukraine, including civilian evacuation routes. I have seen credible reports of Russians shooting Ukrainian civilians and shelling civilian targets - deliberate or reckless attacks that can be prosecuted for war crimes. More than ten million Ukrainians have already fled their homes and the United Nations estimates that 18 million people will need humanitarian assistance.

I ask that you expeditiously determine the number of Ukrainian nationals who have approved visa petitions and use parole to facilitate their immediate travel to the United States.

Sincerely,



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Christopher S. Murphy  
United States Senate