



*Dear Nathalie, dear Yuliya,*

On behalf of all our colleagues at Aspen Institute Italia, we would like to express our solidarity to you at this particularly hard time.

It is a dramatic moment for your country and for Europe as a whole. This is not a Ukrainian crisis, it is a global test for democracy. The cohesive response of Western countries will be decisive to safeguard the fate of the vibrant democracy that is Ukraine, as well as your country's independence.

Over the years, collaborating with you has been an exciting and fascinating experience. We have clear memories of our seminars on the fight against corruption and in favor of the rule of law.

Today, it is appalling to see how Vladimir Putin's only aim is to destroy the foundations of Ukrainian democracy. We are convinced that your country will show all its strength and resilience in this situation -- characteristics which also clearly and specifically apply to the activity of Aspen Institute Kyiv.

We very much hope to be able to help you in any way we can.

You are in our thoughts through these terrible days.

We truly wish you and your families a safe journey through this dramatic experience,

Angelo e Marta