

## Brussels, 14th of March 2022

Dear Commissioner Johansson,

We are writing to you regarding the worrying situation at the EU borders, caused by the invasion of the Russian military in Ukraine. We have witnessed in the recent days the dramatic consequences of the attack against the Ukrainian people, especially for the women, girls and children, as they are a significant part of the arrivals in the EU.

Particular attention should be paid to the needs and safety of the above mentioned, mainly because they are exposed to an increased risk of trafficking and exploitation. These factors must be taken into account in all efforts to monitor and respond to the situation in Ukraine, so that early warning signs of impact are met with an appropriate and proportionate response.

We have already received worrying information from the civil society of those Member States on the frontline for reception of Ukrainian refugees that these kind of trafficking and exploitation cases arise.

In your communication referring to the European solidarity with refugees and those fleeing war in Ukraine, you have mentioned that, "appropriate information and accommodation, preventing gender-based exploitation (...) will be among the immediate priorities" and we would like to know which concrete measures you are taking in order to prevent such cases.

We would suggest the following measures, to be immediately requested to the Member States:

- 1. To raise awareness on these risks through dedicated platforms and their law enforcement authorities:
- 2. To set up mechanisms which should be able to determine the whereabouts of women and children from Ukraine entering their territories.

Looking forward to your reply.

Kind regards,

Ramona Strugariu, Member of the European Parliament, Renew Europe Group

Peter van Dalen, Member of the European Parliament, Group of the European People's Party

Dragos Pîslaru, Member of the European Parliament, Renew Europe Group

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