

**MEXICO EXPRESSES ITS DEEP CONCERN AT THE DETERIORATING SITUATION IN UKRAINE**

The Foreign Ministry expresses Mexico's deep concern at the deteriorating situation in Ukraine, including the latest developments in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea.

Mexico urges all parties and all of the actors involved in this crisis, inside and outside of Ukraine, to exercise restraint in the conflict; engage in a direct dialogue to restore calm and order; find a peaceful solution to the dispute in accordance with the principles and obligations set forth in the UN Charter; and avoid taking measures involving the use of force that could exacerbate the tense atmosphere and lead to an escalation of violence in the region.

Mexico also supports UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon in calling for respect for Ukraine's national unity and territorial integrity, in accordance with the UN Charter and international law. Mexico supports the good offices of the UN in sending Ambassador Jan Eliasson, UN Deputy Secretary-General, to Ukraine.

Lastly, Mexico urges the Ukrainian government to continue ensuring the safety and protection of the rights of all its citizens irrespective of their ethnicity, in accordance with its international obligations.

