

G5+ meeting in Madrid: ‘Russia’s war of aggression cannot end with a reward to the aggressor’

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Three days after the anniversary of the Bucha massacre, the G5+ Foreign Ministers, representing Germany, France, Italy, Poland, Spain, the United Kingdom and the European Union, reiterated their unwavering support for Ukraine’s independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity.

In their joint declaration, made after a meeting in Madrid on 31 March, they said Ukraine has shown its strong commitment to peace, also by agreeing to a full ceasefire without preconditions.

“However, Russia’s aggression against Ukraine has not ceased. Instead of imposing new conditions and launching continued attacks on Ukrainian cities and infrastructure that cause more and more victims, Russia must now show it is serious about ending its war,” the statement said. *“We call on Russia to stop*

its delaying tactics and reciprocate by agreeing without delay, as Ukraine has done, to an immediate unconditional ceasefire on equal terms and implementing it fully. We need to see progress within a clear timeframe.”

G5+ foreign ministers also said their country and the EU would strengthen Ukraine through “*significant short and long-term military support*” and would stand ready to apply further pressure on Russia “*using all tools available, including by adopting new sanctions, to hinder its ability to wage its war of aggression and to ensure Ukraine is placed in the best position possible to secure a just and lasting peace*”.

They added that “*peace must be just, and Russia’s war of aggression cannot end with a reward to the aggressor*”.