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Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
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October 25, 2022

President Vladimir Putin  
Russian Federation  
The Embassy of Russia  
2650 Wisconsin Ave NW  
Washington, D.C. 20007

President Volodymyr Zelensky  
Ukraine  
The Ukrainian Embassy  
3350 M St NW  
Washington, D.C. 20007

Re: Invitation to Peace Talks in Phoenix, Arizona

Dear President Putin and President Zelensky,

I'm writing to each of you, or your delegates, with an invitation to come to Phoenix, Arizona to engage in peace talks. I'm not a diplomat. I'm a mere member of the U.S. Congress. But I've seen enough death and destruction among your countries. It's untenable. I've gone from troubled about the lack of peace efforts to now feeling compelled to act.

The United Nations' estimates place civilian casualties at over 14,000. Countless more have been displaced or had their homes and communities destroyed. As if this wasn't problematic enough, the duration of this conflict has been draped with nuclear undertones. From fighting around active nuclear energy infrastructure, to indications or direct statements of unconventional military responses being on the table, this is no longer just a war between your nations. Months of escalation in weaponry and rhetoric endangers not just the citizens of your nations, but also the world.

A pathway to peace is long overdue and I write to offer a means to pursue this important goal. Unfortunately, many statements and actions by global political and military leaders are averse to achieving peace. Inasmuch as I am a non-combatant peace activist, I have a recognized right, pursuant to the United Nations Peacemaker program, to seek mediation through local efforts. I do so with the expectation of administrative and other support from the U.N. to set up the framework for peace talks.

Peace must prevail but does not currently seem to be an option. Therefore, I'm inviting you both to Phoenix, Arizona where we can begin conversations to deescalate nuclear tensions, terminate the war, and end the death and destruction plaguing both your nations. The location, Phoenix, Arizona, is far enough away from the conflict, and away from the entities that are currently urging more war, to be a productive location.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Paul A. Gosar" with a stylized flourish at the end.

Paul A. Gosar, D.D.S.  
Member of U.S. Congress