<u>Press Releases: On EU Resolve in</u> <u>Holding Russia Accountable</u>

Press Statement Robert Palladino

Deputy Spokesperson

Washington, DC December 15, 2018

The United States welcomes recent steps by the EU and its Member States to hold Russia accountable for its aggression against Ukraine. The European Parliament's December 12 resolution reiterates the importance of Ukraine's role in the European energy supply network and condemns the construction of the Kremlin-backed Nord Stream 2 pipeline as a political project. We urge Germany to heed the concerns of the many neighbors whose security will be damaged by this pipeline.

We also welcome the unanimous decision of the European Council to extend economic sanctions against Russia. We support the EU position that Russia's November 25th attack on Ukrainian vessels in the Black Sea constituted a violation of international law and welcome the EU's efforts to provide support to areas of Ukraine negatively affected by Russian aggression in the Sea of Azov.

The United States will continue to hold Russia accountable for its actions, and we will continue to work with European partners and Allies to present a unified front against the Kremlin's aggression.

The Office of Website Management, Bureau of Public Affairs, manages this site as a portal for information from the U.S. State Department. External links to other Internet sites should not be construed as an endorsement of the views or privacy policies contained therein.