

UK summons Russian Ambassador

News story

The Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office has summoned the Russian Ambassador over reports of the death of a British aid worker.



The Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) has summoned the Russian Ambassador, Andrey Kelin, to express the UK's deep concern at reports of the death of British National Paul Urey in captivity in the non-Government controlled areas of Ukraine.

Foreign Secretary Liz Truss said:

I am shocked to hear reports of the death of British aid worker Paul Urey while in the custody of a Russian proxy in Ukraine. Russia must bear the full responsibility for this.

Paul Urey was captured while undertaking humanitarian work. He was in Ukraine to try and help the Ukrainian people in the face of the unprovoked Russian invasion. The Russian government and its proxies are continuing to commit atrocities. Those responsible will be held to account.

My thoughts are with Mr Urey's family and friends at this horrendous time.

Background

The Foreign Secretary instructed Sir Tim Barrow, Second Permanent Under-Secretary for the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office to summon the Ambassador, to urge Russia to clarify the status of Mr Urey.

Sir Tim will demand that that the Russian Federation meet all its obligations under International Humanitarian Law, including by respecting and protecting all civilians. He will make clear that the UK holds the Russian Federation responsible for the safety and welfare of civilians in the non-Government

controlled areas of Ukraine, including those within the so-called Donetsk and Luhansk 'People's Republics', which the United Kingdom does not recognise as independent states.

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