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RUSSIA: Assembly of Muslims Head supports Russia's recognition of the Donbas' independence

**The head of the Assembly of Muslims
called Russia's recognition of the
Donbas' independence justified**

Human Rights Without Frontiers in Brussels calls upon the US, the EU and the UK authorities to deny the access to their territory to Mufti Albir Krganov, Head of the Spiritual

Assembly of Muslims of Russia (DSMR). The Mufti also justified “Russia’s recognition of Crimea” in the name of “saving lives” (!) but he is keeping silent about the lives of Ukrainians attacked today by the Russian army

RIA Novosti (23.02.2022) – <https://bit.ly/3vkv2Jr> – *“Russia’s decision to recognize the independence of the Donetsk People’s Republic and Luhansk People’s Republic is justified to protect people, and Russian Muslims understand it,”* Mufti Albir Krganov, a member of the Public Chamber of the Russian Federation, head of the Spiritual Assembly of Muslims of Russia (DSMR), told RIA Novosti.

“I believe that the decision to recognize the republics of the DPR and LPR is justified. Russia’s position, recognition of republics – not for someone to suffer, on the contrary, so that people do not die in Donbass. As stated in the Quran, who will save the life of one person will save the whole world, and if he kills one, as if all mankind,” Krganov said.

According to him, if the negotiations do not work, *“you need to make decisions, because people are waiting. Perhaps it was not an easy decision for the head of state, but, given the opinion of society, specialists, the Security Council, he accepted it. And as members of the ‘open’ Security Council said, this is a forced decision. Muslims are not a separate part of Russian civil society. People see and understand what is happening in Donbass. And Russian Muslims understand the recognition of the independence of the DPR and LPR,”* the mufti stressed.

He recalled that earlier it was **Russia’s recognition of Crimea** that *“allowed to save the people of the republic. I saw*

bandits threatening believers in Crimea, accusing Orthodox and Muslims. These people headed the national Tatar organization, sat 100 meters from the mosque. Pseudo-Islamic organizations, which are now banned in Russia, were imprisoned to start interethnic, interreligious discord in Crimea. Thank God that we were then able to recognize Crimea as a decision, to save the people of the republic," concluded the agency's interlocutor.

The situation in Donbass has escalated in recent days, the **Donetsk and Lugansk People's Republics** announced a lot of shelling by Ukrainian security forces. The leadership of the DPR and LPR reported on the temporary evacuation of citizens to the Rostov region in connection with the threat of Ukraine's invasion. First of all, evacuation concerns women, children and the elderly. The head of the **DPR Denis Pushilin** said that Ukrainian **President Volodymyr Zelenskyy** may soon order the military to move on an offensive, implement a plan to invade the DPR and LPR. On Saturday, February 19, the leaders of the DPR and LPR signed decrees on general mobilization, and then appealed to Russia to recognize the independence of the republics.

Russian **President Vladimir Putin** on Monday, after a meeting of the Security Council, addressed the citizens of the Russian Federation and said that he considers it necessary to immediately recognize the sovereignty of the Donetsk and Lugansk People's Republics. He noted that the world prefers not to notice the horror and genocide in Donbass, not a single day without shelling, killings of civilians and blockade do not stop. As the president said, in case of further bloodshed in Donbass, all responsibility will be on the Kiev regime. Immediately after the address, the president in the Kremlin signed decrees recognizing the LPR and DPR. In his decrees, Putin instructed to ensure the maintenance of peace in the DPR and LPR by the armed forces of the Russian Federation.

HRWF Note: Click to the automatic translation for links to websites in Russian

Photo: Head of the Spiritual Assembly of Muslims of Russia (DSMR) Mufti Albir Krganov. Archive photo: Read ria.ru in

[Further reading about FORB in Russia on HRWF website](#)

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