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TO: NCSJ Leadership and Interested Parties

**FROM: Stephen M. Greenberg, Chairman;
Alexander Smukler, NCSJ President;
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UKRAINE UPDATE #3

Violence has resumed after a period of a short-lived truce between the government and the protesters in Ukraine. Over the weekend, the protests spread outside of the capital, and the opposition seized several regional city administrations. In Kyiv, the demonstrators stormed the Ukrainian Justice Ministry.

On Saturday, President Viktor Yanukovich made a proposal to the opposition leaders offering them key government posts and other concessions, including a release of the detained activists. The offer has been rejected.

Tomorrow, the Ukrainian Parliament (Verkhovna Rada) will convene a special session to work out a compromise with the opposition and consider a repeal of restrictive legislation it recently passed.

The recent escalation of violence has provided an outlet for the radical elements in the country.

This had an impact on the Ukrainian Jewish community. While several Jewish leaders have spoken out in support of the opposition, allegations of anti-Semitic actions have been made by both the opposition and the authorities.

NCSJ is in regular contact with the Ukrainian Jewish community and will continue to keep you informed about the latest developments as they unfold.

About NCSJ

NCSJ: Advocates on Behalf of Jews in Russia, Ukraine, the Baltic States & Eurasia, founded in 1971, represents the organized American Jewish community in monitoring and advocating on behalf of the estimated 1.5 million Jews living in the 15 successor states of the former Soviet Union.

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