

Solidarity with Ukraine

We, the undersigned scientists, students and others associated with the international research and training projects, TiPES and CriticalEarth, funded by the European Commission, condemn Russian government's unprovoked invasion of Ukraine. We are horrified by the suffering and destruction imposed on the people of Ukraine and we support their brave struggle for independence and democracy in front of the aggression by the Russian regime.

As scientists we are driven by the search for knowledge and truth, while truth is the first victim of war. The unjust Russian invasion is based on lies and propaganda, against which the Russian population is defenseless as censorship and suppression of free press and of any opposition inside Russia are ruthless. We do know that the Russian population and our Russian fellow scientists have no part in this aggression.

We believe that disputes should be resolved by dialogue and not war. We urge the Russian government to stop the war immediately and to respect international laws and treaties, which are the foundations for our international society and humanity.

Science is based on open-minded exchange of ideas, knowledge and results across borders, from which our modern world has prospered enormously. Even through the worst years of the Cold War, scientists from both sides did collaborate and met at places like the Niels Bohr Institute in Copenhagen. While we recognize the need to sanction the Russian regime, the prospect of cutting our ties with all our valued Russian colleagues is of grave concern, and strikes us with sadness.

In this very desperate situation for Ukrainian scientists and their families, we open our institutions across Europe to them and we will try to be supportive in any way possible.

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