IUPsyS Statement on conflict in Eastern Europe

The International Union of Psychological Science (IUPsyS) stands in solidarity with the international community in expressing deep dismay about the humanitarian crisis in Eastern Europe following the military actions of the Russian Federation in Ukraine.

IUPsyS is gravely concerned for all those directly and catastrophically affected by the impact of the crisis and human rights violations, to which our work speaks quite directly, whether it’s trauma, peace negotiations, or understanding conflict. We support our National Member, the Ukrainian Association of Professional Psychologists/PAN-Ukrainian, and the people of Ukraine in a period of extreme anxiety and dislocation, even as the COVID-19 pandemic continues to wreak havoc.

Psychology is about improving lives. As the global voice of psychology, IUPsyS represents the voice for humanity. We stand for principles of peace, justice, self-determination, respect for human rights, and the value of science to understand human nature and improve the wellbeing of all humanity. We have a history of building bridges and supporting the role of psychology and psychologists in uniting and finding shared beliefs over those that try to divide us.

We understand the destructive short and long-term psychosocial consequences of war and call for the cessation of hostilities. Thus, we urge psychologists all over the world – especially in Europe – to do their best to prevent and alleviate those effects. It is our duty as human beings and members of a scientific and professional community to reduce suffering and build humanity’s wellbeing.