

## **Protest Statement against Russia's invasion of Ukraine**

(We demand Russia to stop invading Ukraine and to immediate withdrawal from Ukraine)

March 3, 2022

The Board of the Japanese Society for Social Medicine

Russian troops had started attacking Ukraine and have invaded the northern region near the capital Kyiv and the eastern and southern regions. This act is contrary to the Charter of the United Nations and international law and is violence against Ukraine's sovereignty and territory.

It has been reported that the Russian military attack killed civilians in various areas of Ukraine, and the number has been increasing. Many Ukrainians have already been forced to evacuate abroad, and others unavoidably have spent anxious days in the country. Suppose this situation is prolonged and armed attacks destroy the medical facilities and living infrastructure. In that case, it will significantly impact the health and lives of vulnerable groups such as children, women, and the elderly.

President Putin suggested using nuclear weapons and has been threatening to the international community supporting Ukraine. The use of nuclear weapons can lead to the destruction of human beings. It will also stop the global trend of abolishing nuclear weapons. Japan is the only country in the world to be atomic bombed, and as Japanese citizens seeking peace, the use of any nuclear weapon absolutely cannot be recognised.

Russia's invasion of other countries by military force can create an evil chain of solving global problems by force of arms, and the international community should never admit it.

The Japanese Society for Social Medicine aims to protect all people's lives and health and create a society in which human rights are respected. Therefore, we strongly oppose the Russian invasion of Ukraine with the Ukrainian people, the Russian people who oppose the war, and the people in the world who seek peace and demand the immediate withdrawal of the Russian military.

reference

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The Russian invasion of Ukraine threatens international peace and security and undermines the very foundations of the international order. This is unacceptable. We are deeply concerned about the impact of this situation on people's peace and safety, as well as on the development of the sciences and international cooperation in the sciences in Japan and the world. We earnestly hope that a

peaceful solution, through dialogue and negotiation, will be reached.

February 28, 2022

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