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Dear EERA Member Associations!

With this letter, we, the Ukrainian Educational Research Association, would like to express our opinion concerning the current situation in Ukraine.

Ukraine is on fire. It has fallen victim to the senseless and cruel invasion of Russian army and sabotage groups. By calumniously stating that this is a liberating operation, Putin uses prohibited weapons to slaughter peaceful citizens sending missiles to houses, railway stations, kindergarten, asylums, and maternity homes. All the occupational actions are aimed at completely destroying Ukraine as an independent state, at depopulating it and levelling it to the ground. The whole world is becoming hostage to the terrorist with nuclear power.

There can be different scenarios of how events may develop (<https://neweasterneurope.eu/2022/03/02/scenarios-of-war-as-of-march-1st/>). Putin's blitzkrieg plan failed as we, Ukrainians, united in fighting for our national dignity, homes, historical territories.

As a research association we are sure of the power of knowledge, and we would be grateful if you could share unbiased information about the current situation. Some useful information in English can be found here <https://war.ukraine.ua/>.

As academic community we feel that sanctions that deal with banning Russian academic population from the European academic field may be powerful. So, we appeal to you and ask:

- to lobby further international sanctions against Russian Federation to help the citizens realize the losses caused by the war;
- to ban citizens and institutions from the Russian Federation from all research databases;
- to make it impossible for academic institutions from the Russian Federation to participate in international grant programs funded by the EU and other partners;
- to suspend the participation of researchers, students, and institutions from the Russian Federation in current international academic mobility programs;
- to boycott attempts to hold scientific events within the Russian Federation (including scientific conferences, symposiums, etc.);
- to ban citizens of the Russian Federation from being editors/co-editors/reviewers of international publications.

Russia will leave Ukrainian territories; Putin will be punished by Hague tribunal. But as long as Putin is in power, totalitarian Russia will not seize attempts to destroy Ukraine in the war against the civilized world. We, Ukrainians are fighting for Ukraine, for Europe and for the whole world today and indifference and ignorance may lead to a global disaster. We rely on you and your help.

Yours,
Oksana Zabolotna
and the UERA Council

