

Statement on Russia's Military Invasion of Ukraine

A year has passed since Russia launched a military invasion of Ukraine. Its military aggression continues until now, and many civilians suffer from enormous and severe damage caused by the war. In addition, Zaporizhia nuclear power plant in southern Ukraine is still under the control of the Russian army and in danger of a severe accident. In this situation, we once again strongly protest Russia's military aggression and urge the immediate cessation of it. Russia should withdraw from Ukraine. We also demand that nuclear power plants be returned to safe management as soon as possible.

For these 30 years, we have been working to help the people in Ukraine who suffered from the 1986 Chernobyl nuclear accident in the former Soviet Union. Its victims were suddenly forced to leave their hometowns and have faced immense mental and physical illnesses for more than thirty years. They are now in danger of being killed by Russia's military aggression, displaced by the invasion, devastated by the bombings, torn apart from their families, living with air raid warnings, and unable to get the treatment they deserve....., to name a few of their problems. They are suffering uncontrollably. Is it impossible that the suffering of the people, burdened with the double absurdity of the nuclear accident and the military invasion, reaches the policymakers? Don't reach them the cries of grief? Will they continue to use military forces, turning civilians into enemies?

On the other hand, there are people who help each other in these difficult situations. People deliver medical equipment and medicines to those who need them. We are amazed and respectful of those who reach out to help people in these difficult times, and we support them. We hope that the mutual help and support of citizens across borders will connect lives and hopes and believe that the work will become a light and power for peace.

No matter what the reason, the use of force to take away the lives and hopes of citizens and extinguish the flames of peace is unacceptable. Please stop the use of force immediately.

We cannot build peace through force and war. It is a lesson humankind learned through the past two world wars and various international conflicts that followed. We call for peacebuilding through dialogue and diplomacy. We can avoid the danger of nuclear weapons usage and nuclear accidents, stop the use of force, and open the future to reconstruction that gives priority to the lives of citizens.