

## **A STATEMENT BY THE YOUNG ACADEMY OF SLOVENIA ON THE WAR IN UKRAINE AND AN APPEAL TO THE SLOVENIAN SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY**

The Young Academy of Slovenia is following the developments in Ukraine in the last few days with indignation and concern. We strongly condemn Russia's military attack on Ukraine, the violation of its sovereignty and territorial integrity, the destruction of civilian infrastructure, and the loss of and threat to innocent lives. We express our support and sympathy for Ukrainian civilians, and solidarity with the Ukrainian scientific community in the hope that the situation will return to normal as soon as possible.

At the request of our sister organization The Council of Young Scientists at the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine ([Рада молодих учених при Міністерстві освіти і науки України](#)), with whom we share membership in the [European Council of Doctoral Candidates and Early-Career Researchers – Eurodoc](#), the Young Academy of Slovenia is joining other Eurodoc's National Associations in a coordinated effort to help Ukrainian early-career researchers who will be seeking refuge in friendly countries to protect their lives. We commit ourselves to serve as a liaison between the members of the Council of Young Scientists at the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine and Slovenian research and higher education institutions, state bodies (ARRS, MIZŠ), other interested organizations, and individuals who will express their willingness to help admit Ukrainian doctoral candidates and early-career researchers to Slovenia and integrate them into the Slovenian academic system. We also support all efforts to enable Ukrainian undergraduate students and established scientists to enter Slovenia.

In this regard, we call for:

- the Government of the Republic of Slovenia or its authorized bodies to establish communication between the emerging state accommodation centers and Slovenian research and higher education institutions to help integrate Ukrainian students, doctoral candidates, and researchers into the Slovenian research and higher education system as fast and as easily as possible;
- Slovenian research and higher education institutions and student dormitories to offer shelter to Ukrainian students, doctoral candidates, and researchers in vacant accommodation facilities (institutional apartments, student rooms);
- the Government of the Republic of Slovenia, MIZŠ, ARRS, research organizations, and doctoral schools to simplify and accelerate administrative procedures for employment, enrollment in all levels of study, and applications for research projects (following the example of, e.g., [the appeal of the Czech Science Fundation on 25. 2. 2022](#)), where possible and appropriate;
- experienced Slovenian researchers who meet the criteria for mentorship and have sufficient financial resources at their disposal to take interested Ukrainian students and doctoral candidates under their auspices;

- those Slovenian researchers who cooperate with Russia and whose work can be used directly or potentially for military purposes to immediately terminate their cooperation.

We conclude our call with the wish that Ukrainian early-career researchers will soon be able to let go of worries and struggles for their lives and return to striving for the quality of research work and its importance for society and the economy.

Ljubljana, February 26, 2022

In the name of the Young Academy of Slovenia

Dr. Tea Romih, President

