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STATEMENT OF THE CYPRUS ACADEMY OF SCIENCES, LETTERS AND ARTS ABOUT THE RUSSIAN INVASION IN UKRAINE

The Cyprus Academy of Sciences, Letters and Arts strongly believes that the Russian invasion in Ukraine violently undermines the fundamental values of our civilization; namely, national sovereignty, freedom, democracy, mutual respect and cooperation, and the peaceful settlement of disputes. These values underlie the founding principles of the Academy which aim to cultivate and promote the sciences, letters and the arts internationally, capitalizing on cooperation and dialogue between scholars, scientists, writers, and artists across nations.

The Cyprus Academy joins all other Academies and Associations of Academies in strongly condemning the invasion. We also express our support to the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences, the Ukrainian academic community, and the Ukrainian people in its totality. The Academy emphasizes that only international cooperation under conditions of freedom and mutual respect can enable the solution of the serious problems threatening the survival of humankind, such as climate change, pandemics, and nuclear weapons.

Unilateral military actions, such as the present one, which violate international law, undermine, and put under heavy risk the achievements of international cooperation, solidarity, and free scientific and cross-cultural dialogue attained in Europe after World War II. The Republic of Cyprus, which gravely experienced the consequences of a similar military invasion by Turkey for decades, understands that the war exacerbates and prolongs rather than resolves problems, a lesson that Europe itself has repeatedly learned taken from its history.