

The situation in Ukraine, the consequences of the war for Ukrainian society, science development and sustainability

A situação na Ucrânia, as consequências da guerra para a sociedade, o desenvolvimento científico e a sustentabilidade Ucraniana

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Today we are at war in the Eastern part of Europe, where the Russian government and the Russian army have attacked a peaceful, sovereign and independent country, Ukraine. Therefore, Ukraine is forced to defend and prove the basic concepts of a democratic society, in which freedom, peace and independence of countries are the basis for the socio-economic development of any country in the world.

The attack on Ukraine and the outbreak of war by Russia are not only an encroachment on the territorial integrity of Ukraine but also on our national values, i.e. the destruction of Ukrainians as a nation. And not only Ukrainians. Today there is a nuclear threat, as the invaders threaten the use of nuclear weapons and carry out sabotage at the largest nuclear power plants in Ukraine. It was in Rio de Janeiro in 1992 that the UN Concept for Sustainable Development gained the leading status, in which the understanding of sustainable development as a harmonious combination of economic, social and environmental components of development is universally recognized. Today, all this is under threat not only for Ukraine but also at the level of the world.

Today's war is not the realm of the people of science, but today their mission is more common and important than ever. Now more than ever, Ukrainian society needs an unshakable faith in the values of

freedom and humanism, a cold, critical mind, creative work, intelligence, knowledge and skills inherent in scientists. But we quite consciously understand that it is impossible to achieve all this without the support and courage of our heroic army, volunteers, doctors, and those who sacrifice their lives for the sake of others. The struggle of our people is a struggle for Ukraine and Europe, for peace and a better world.

Ukraine has a great intellectual, social and natural capital, scientific and innovative achievements, a strong national consciousness, which the Russian aggressor wants to destroy and is destroying. This can be called genocide of the Ukrainian nation because, having neither ethical nor moral norms, Russian soldiers kill children (as of March 19, 2022, 108 children died), thousands of civilians were shot, including women the elderly. Many schools, institutions, health care, universities, and infrastructure facilities, working at the service of citizens' livelihoods, were destroyed. Since the beginning of the war, more than 280 educational institutions have been damaged or destroyed by bombing and shelling. This is especially reflected in the territory of north-eastern Ukraine. Educational institutions in Zhytomyr, Kharkiv, Sumy, and Kyiv regions suffered the most significant destruction. The Russian military is attacking citizens who want to save their lives without adhering to humanitarian corridor agreements. Arguing its actions as a liberation operation, Russia threatens the whole world, destroying the social, economic and natural systems of Ukraine.

However, we are united and continue to work and fight in the scientific world to end the war, for national unity and our land. We are not alone in this terrible new reality. We have tremendous support from the world scientific community. Several countries provide opportunities for Ukrainian students to become displaced people to continue their studies and research, including schools in Poland, the Czech Republic, Norway and more. Regarding the possibility of conducting research during the war, Ukrainian scientists gain free access to ScienceDirect, the world's largest platform for peer-reviewed primary scientific and medical research. The main purpose of such a service is to help develop science and improve its results for the benefit of society.

Today, we especially thank the world scientific community for solidarity and call to inform the audience about the truth of the war and the peculiarities of the Ukrainian situation and stop cooperation in science and other fields.