



International Conference on Air Quality - Science and Application

Statement on the War in Ukraine

from the

**Members of the International Scientific and Advisory Committee of the
International Conferences on Air Quality – Science and Application¹**

14 March 2022

We are deeply saddened by the increasing escalation of the unprovoked invasion of Ukraine by the military actions of the Russian Government. In addition to the tragic human suffering, displacement of people and economic losses, the invasion is causing huge environmental damage with potential for global consequences. At the time when the world is still recovering from the global pandemic and facing devastating impacts from climate change and air pollution, we as atmospheric and climate scientists are strongly urging for immediate cessation of aggression in Ukraine with renewed and urgent efforts to reach a peaceful resolution to the conflict. We make this statement in solidarity with the people of Ukraine on humanitarian grounds and because of environmental devastation that the war could spread world-wide.

There is already considerable harm to international collaboration especially with scientists in Ukraine and Russia which is hurting academic freedom and scientific cooperation. We wish to emphasize that this statement is not against the people of Russia or the many Russian scientists who are working for the betterment of humanity.

As a matter of principle, there should be no place for unjustifiable aggression on basic human values of freedom and democracy, and war and conflict should never be a means to settle international disputes.

We call upon all scientists and citizens to demand an immediate ceasefire in Ukraine and for a rapid peaceful resolution to the conflict. Our heartfelt support goes out to all the people of Ukraine and all those affected by this conflict.

This statement has been issued by the following members of the International Scientific and Advisory Committee of the International Conferences on Air Quality – Science and Application:

Ranjeet S Sokhi, Nicolas Moussiopoulos, Peter Suppan, John Bartzis, Carlos Borrego, Judy Chow, Sandro Finardi, Bernard Fisher, Rainer Friedrich, Selahattin İncecik, Matthias Ketzler, Jaakko Kukkonen, Guido Lanzani, Xavier Querol, Zissis Samaras, Roberto San Jose and Michael Schatzmann.

Note (1): The International Conference on Air Quality – Science and Application is a non-political and a non-profit making organisation which aims to advance air quality and climate science. We stand for the principle of freedom, inclusivity, and objectivity of science throughout the world. We make this unprecedented statement for the first time in the history of the Conference solely because of the untold human suffering and consequential economic and environmental costs from the unprovoked invasion of Ukraine by the military actions of the Russian Government.

End of statement