

May 12, 2022

Statement of the Engineering Academy of Japan (EAJ) on the Russian Invasion of Ukraine

The Engineering Academy of Japan (EAJ) is dismayed by the invasion of Ukraine instigated by the Russian government. This inhumane act, which has engulfed the civilian population of Ukraine, is a threat to international peace and security and poses a grave crisis for the fundamental values of humanity, freedom and democracy.

The importance of upholding an unwavering commitment to national sovereignty and integrity and defending the values of freedom and democracy cannot be overemphasized.

Research institutes and academic societies in Western countries have successively stated that cooperation and exchanges with Russia in the field of science and technology will be frozen or suspended, while the profusion of global issues requires global cooperation and the importance to mobilize international expertise to address the challenges at the frontiers of science and technology has increased more than ever. EAJ is committed to contribute to the efforts to overcome the situation as soon as possible in view of retrieving a sense of solidarity in the scientific community.

EAJ expresses solidarity with and strong support for the Ukrainian scientists and exchange students who find themselves in a harsh environment. In spite of the ban on free speech and statements of opinion, some scientists in Russia have taken a courageous stand by publishing statements demanding an immediate stop to the war. EAJ expresses solidarity with these Russian scientists who are unwillingly subject to sanctions.

EAJ aims to contribute to the peace and improved well-being of humanity. We reconfirm that the benefits of science and technology must be used to secure global prosperity, safety and security, and that the divisions in the international community must be put right. We expect every individual engaged in science, technology and innovation to make decisions on their own and to take initiatives in their day-to-day work in accordance with their own conscience and sense of ethics.