

Lugano, 23rd March 2022

Dear Colleagues from Ukraine,

For the past 20 days we witness in awe and shock a full-scale war of the Russian Federation against Ukraine with unprecedented cruelty and escalating atrocities against civilians that takes us back to some of the darkest times in Europe. We are deeply distressed by the tragic loss of human lives and suffering among the Ukrainian population and the displacement of millions of citizens from their homes and homeland, in need of immediate healthcare and support.

From the first days, the EADV has stated its condemnation against any act of violence and war and its solidarity to the Ukrainian people and all those affected by the war. As a European medical organization, we remain committed to the ideas of freedom, democracy and free exchange of ideas and knowledge, values which are currently in stake in this act of war against a sovereign European country.

As part of our initial reaction, we have taken several immediate initiatives in an effort to support those in need for support and for medical and humanitarian aid:

- A substantial donation has been made to the main humanitarian organisations currently involved in the Ukrainian emergency (the UNHCR and the Red Cross).
- A call has been opened for our delegates at our website to donate a small amount when registering to one of the events. Each donation received will be matched by the EADV - euro for euro - and will be transferred fully to the aforementioned organisations. We would like to report and praise the decision of a number of webcast speakers who donated their honorarium to the cause.
- A dedicated Working Group, chaired by Immediate Past-President Prof. Carle Paul, has been created to closely follow the situation and to manage EADV's response and support to emerging needs.

We are in regular contact with our Ukrainian Board Member, Ass. Prof. Pavel Chernyshov, whom provides updated information from the actual situation in Kiev and is actively assisting us in our supportive efforts.

A dedicated webpage ("[Dermatology for Ukraine](https://eadv.org/article/435)" <https://eadv.org/article/435>) has been created in order to provide useful information and links from the main humanitarian organisations involved. In addition, the EADV seeks to mobilize our large community of colleagues across Europe through our virtual networks (website, mailing and social media) to help with efforts in meeting the substantial needs of the many refugees. **We have set up an online form where specific and practical requests and offers of help can be posted in order to put colleagues and patients in need in contact with those who can possibly help.** Ass Prof. Chernyshov offered his help for filtering all inquiries and arranging contacts between demand and offer. We therefore encourage you to make use of this tool, by informing us of any further useful information that could be published on this webpage (such as initiatives specifically dedicated to dermato-venereology colleagues and patients fleeing the war, or for those stuck in the country) and to post your request via the online form.

Dear Colleagues,
during these harsh times, the EADV joins its voice with all those urging an immediate stop of this war and a peaceful resolution of this crisis. We stand by your side in your courageous and admirable struggle to defend your country, to protect your families and to support your patients. The EADV remains committed to using its resources and network in the best possible way in order to help you overcome this disaster. Our hearts and thoughts are with you, the people of Ukraine and all those affected.

With our warmest regards,



Prof. Alexander Stratigos
EADV President



Prof. Carle Paul
Chair of the Ukraine Emergency Working Group