

Communiqué from Crue Universidades Españolas, COSCE and FACME on the invasion of Ukraine.

Madrid, 2nd March 2022. Crue Universidades Españolas, together with COSCE (the Confederation of Spanish Scientific Societies) and FACME (the Federation of Spanish Scientific-Medical Associations) joined the necessary support for the people of Ukraine and its scientific community during this dramatic, unjustified situation – a situation caused by the Russian invasion of Ukrainian territory.

Our institutions regard the Russian aggression as an attack against the values of freedom and democracy – both of which are cornerstones of the freedom of research and of opportunities for international academic cooperation.

With this communiqué we propose the Spanish Government to reinforce and protect the relationship with the Ukrainian scientific community, as well as to promote bilateral research projects and projects which involve the development and exploitation of scientific infrastructure. We also propose that the Spanish Government establishes welcome programmes for Ukrainian researchers obliged to flee their country.

Crue, COSCE and FACME recommend that, in the case of any existing Spanish scientific cooperation with Russian State institutions, such cooperation must be frozen with immediate effect until further notice. We are aware that there are many projects that will be affected by such measures. We do, however, wish to demonstrate our solidarity with those Russian scientists who have expressed their own dismay with regard to the invasion of Ukraine.

Finally, the signatory scientific institutions would like to stress that science has an important role to play in the building of peace.

Crue Universidades Españolas

Confederación de Sociedades Científicas de España (COSCE)

Federación de Asociaciones Científico Médicas Españolas (FACME)