



US WOMEN'S CAUCUS AT THE UN

STATEMENT CONCERNING RUSSIA'S ATTACK ON UKRAINE

February 25, 2022

The US Women's Caucus at the UN deplors the naked aggression inflicted by the Russian Federation on the independent sovereign state of Ukraine. The Russian attacks on Ukraine's territory are a shameless repudiation of the rules-based international order that has been the world's best hope for peace and prosperity. We condemn Russia's violent assault on its neighbor in the strongest possible terms.

We stand in solidarity with the people of Ukraine as they resist the Russian attacks and hope for the return of peace. We echo the recent message of the World Federation of Ukrainian Women's Organizations: "The very real and very immediate consequences of war - physical destruction, loss of life, a humanitarian crisis, then the long-term burden of alleviating the intergenerational trauma of war - raising healthy children, keeping families together, healing emotional and physical damage - primarily has been the responsibility of women, a burden needlessly imposed by foreign aggression."

We grieve with those who have lost family members to the battle, especially war widows newly bereaved by Russia's belligerence. We want the nations of the world to focus on building peace and expanding prosperity to all through educating children, creating opportunities for young people, fostering strong economies, pursuing medical advances, caring for the sick and elderly, and addressing the challenges of climate change. Might does not make right, as our Ukrainian sisters have said. Nations become great, not by waging war, but by pursuing peace.

The United Nations was founded to save humanity from the scourge of war, to reaffirm faith in human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, in the equality of men and women and of nations large and small, to practice tolerance, and to live together in peace with one another as good neighbors. We affirm those high ideals from the UN Charter and look forward to the day when every nation without exception will respect them.

We are progressive US NGOs in solidarity for the human rights of women and girls.
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