

# President's Statement about Russia's Invasion of Ukraine

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The invasion by the Russian Federation of Ukraine breaches the United Nations' Charter and international laws and brings serious risk and fear to civilians. It cannot be tolerated at all. We strongly hope people in the affected areas including Russia and Ukraine will be able to recover peaceful lives as soon as possible.

We have to recognize the following three points:

First, we should watch carefully what is happening in other countries without thinking it has nothing to do with us. Second, on the other hand, we should not fall into a nationalism that lacks calmness. Third, we need to learn again the importance to support others' lives, freedom, and human rights.

Especially, the right to live in peace is the right which is a basis of all fundamental human rights so that people in all the world can live peacefully in this modern international society without wars and retaliation of violence. We cheer the courage of people in Russia who express dissenting opinions against their own government despite the peril of persecution to themselves. We also long for widely guaranteeing the right to live in peace. And we expect the power of law to impose limits on the abuse and runaway of power. From these points of view, we urge the Japanese government to make active diplomatic efforts to solve this situation.

We, the Hyogo Bar Association, have pursued guaranteeing the right to live in peace that is indispensable to personal dignity and the realization of eternal peace through various opportunities with many citizens. As attorneys whose mission is to respect fundamental human rights and achieve social justice, we announce this opinion with a strong hope the sufferings caused by this war will not get worse through diplomatic efforts.

