

February 27, 2022

NPO Association to Help Chernobyl, Chubu-District, Japan

Statement on the Ukrainian Crisis

We strongly protest the Russian invasion of Ukraine and call for the prompt withdrawal of Russian troops from Ukraine.

We have been involved in the relief activity of Ukraine's victims by the Chernobyl accident in 1986 in the former Soviet Union for these 31 years. We have seen these years the reality that many Ukrainians have been displaced from their hometowns and suffered from health hazards due to the world's first major nuclear accident. Not only are the residents of the affected areas, but also the liquidators and their families who worked for Ukraine without regard for their own sacrifices still suffering. We don't want these Ukrainians to experience the suffering again.

Russia's fighting action in Ukraine once again brings tremendous hardship to the Ukrainian people and brings a great unhappiness to the future of children. It is unacceptable for any reason for foreign powers to interfere with problems within Ukraine by military force. Problems between all nations should be solved by dialogue and diplomacy, not by force or war. This is a lesson learned by mankind through the last two world wars and the various international conflicts that followed. Even now, more than 70 years after the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, we have not been able to eliminate nuclear weapons from the earth. We absolutely do not allow the stupid choice of eliminating war with nuclear deterrence.

With the Russian army occupying the Chernobyl nuclear power plant, there is growing international concern about what will happen in the future. We urge the Russian army to withdraw quickly from Ukraine and open up a new future with civilian life first through dialogue and diplomacy between Ukraine and Russia, without using any military means. .