



UNSW Student Representative Council
Basser Steps, Basser College (D17),
College Rd, UNSW Sydney,
Kensington NSW 2052

Friday 25th February 2022

UNSW SRC expresses its support for Students and Staff affected by the events in Ukraine

The Student Representative Council at UNSW condemns the Russian invasion of Ukraine. Our thoughts and prayers go out to our Ukrainian students. The world has been through a difficult time in the last 2 years, and this is a grave moment for humanity. War has no place in our community in the 21st Century and we strongly call on the Australian Government to support the people of Ukraine. We encourage everyone with the capacity to call for negotiations and interventions to prevent large scale loss and damage to people, property, and communities.

To invade Ukraine, unprovoked and to violate the principles of international agreement followed since the WWII order is a dark moment and one that violates the safety, and democratic rights of the people of Ukraine. It is a difficult moment to navigate the feelings of helplessness, despair, and fear for safety of ones loved ones.

This is also a moment when misinformation, false information and sensationalised content will circulate through our social media to enrage and provoke us. We encourage you to only engage with content that is both verified and accurate as now is not the time to give way to misunderstandings based on inaccurate information, acts of aggression and hostility both online and in person, or further discrimination against one another, NOR making satirical and inappropriate culturally motivated jokes.

Now is a time to respond with Unity, Clarity and Conviction. It is a time for support and solidarity, and we encourage all UNSW Students and Staff to reach out to the wider UNSW community.

We appreciate the current events in Ukraine are distressing, not just for Ukrainian students, but all students and staff. We ask all students to be mindful and respectful of one another during this time. It is important that in these moments we come together as a community and support one another.

We urge anyone who is not feeling okay to make use of the counselling services available to UNSW students.

You can find more information to support you here: <https://www.student.unsw.edu.au/mental-health-support>

We encourage students to contact the mental health connect service here: <https://www.student.unsw.edu.au/mhc>

⚠ For emergency services, contact UNSW's 24/7 helpline (02) 9348 0084

Nayonika Bhattacharya
UNSW SRC President 2022

Nick Palmer
UNSW SRC General Secretary 2022