

A Resolution Supporting Ukrainian Students on Campus and Condemning the Russian Federation's Invasion of Ukraine

A bill for the consideration of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts Student Government

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Whereas, the mission of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts Student Government (hereafter LSA SG) is to “actively seek the voices of LSA students and advocate their interests to improve academic and non-academic life”;¹ and,

Whereas, LSA is a global community that serves international students from countries around the world, including Ukraine;² as well as domestic students who have Ukrainian background. LSA’s Ukrainian department has also offered opportunities for internships in Ukraine;³ and,

Whereas, on 24 February 2022, the Russian Government launched an invasion of Ukraine, termed as a “special military operation”;⁴ in clear violation of international law,⁵ that has resulted in, as of 3 March 2022 at 1, more than 908 civilian injuries, including 50 children, and 516 civilian deaths, of whom 37 were children;^{6,7} and,

Whereas, this invasion has immensely negative consequences for members of our community, regardless of if they have a direct or indirect connection with the country of Ukraine; and,

Whereas, on 27 February 2022, a “Stand with Ukraine” vigil was held at the University of Michigan Diag where over one hundred members of the University of Michigan community gathered to express their support for Ukraine and its people;⁸ and,

¹ The Constitution of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts Student Government. Article II

² [2020 Statistical Report International Students, Scholars, Faculty, Staff and Education Abroad](#)

³ [Ukrainian Slavic Languages and Literatures](#)

⁴ "Специальная военная операция по защите ДНР и ЛНР. День третий. Онлайн" [Special military operation to protect the DNR and LNR.] (in Russian)

⁵ [International Law and the Invasion of Ukraine](#)

⁶ [UN humanitarian call on combatants to spare Ukraine civilians as aid ramps up](#)

⁷ [Ukraine - War Casualties](#)

⁸ [‘No War!’: UMich community gathers on the Diag to show support for Ukraine. The Michigan Daily.](#)

Whereas, Shabia Mantoo, a spokesperson of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (hereafter UNHCR), stated that there were reports of lines of up to 60 hours long at the border crossings in Poland, and 20 hours long at the border crossing in Romania;⁹ and,

Whereas, the UNHCR estimates the number of internally displaced Ukrainians at over one million;¹⁰ and,

Whereas, as of March 9th, 2022, the UNHCR had accounted for over 2,155,000 people who have fled Ukraine since the escalation of conflict and who are now refugees in other countries;¹¹ and,

Whereas, “Since the Russia[n Federation’s] invasion began on 24 February, Amnesty [International] has been documenting the escalation in violations of humanitarian and human rights law, including deaths of civilians resulting from indiscriminate attacks on civilian areas and infrastructure. Strikes on protected objects such as hospitals and schools, the use of indiscriminate weapons such as ballistic missiles and the use of banned weapons such as cluster bombs, may all qualify as war crimes”;¹² and,

Whereas, the Office of the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court stated that it will seek to open an investigation regarding war crimes and crimes against humanity committed in Ukraine;¹³ and,

Whereas, reports have circulated regarding the restrictions on movement of people of foreign origin, particularly those from Africa, Afghanistan, and Yemen, as well as Roma people located in Ukraine, making attempts to flee;^{14,15,16,17} and,

Whereas, on 7 March 2022, the Interim President of the University of Michigan, Mary Sue Coleman, released a statement declaring that “U-M supports advocacy efforts that would designate Ukraine for Special Student Relief for F1 visa holders to allow for greater flexibility with enrollment and employment”;¹⁸ and,

Whereas, on 8 March 2022, the Central Student Government passed a resolution addressing the crisis in Ukraine.¹⁹

Be it therefore resolved, LSA SG condemns violations of international humanitarian law being perpetrated inside of Ukraine as well as the invasion, which is an act of war, of it by the Russian Federation in violation of the United Nations Charter; and,

Be it further resolved, LSA SG expresses deep sympathy with the innocent victims of this conflict; and,

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ [AFP News Agency. Twitter.](#)

¹¹ [Ukraine Refugee Situation Operational Data Portal](#) United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

¹² [Russia/Ukraine: Invasion of Ukraine is an act of aggression and human rights catastrophe](#)

¹³ Ibid.

¹⁴ [Ukraine Refugee Discrimination. The New York Times](#)

¹⁵ [Why it’s more difficult to flee Ukraine if you’re not from Ukraine. Vox.](#)

¹⁶ [Many nonwhite refugees fleeing Ukraine caught in limbo at borders amid reports of discrimination. ABC News.](#)

¹⁷ [Ukraine’s Roma refugees recount discrimination en route to safety. Al Jazeera.](#)

¹⁸ [Office of the President: Support for Ukraine](#)

¹⁹ [Assembly Resolution 11-068: Call on the University to support Ukrainian and Ukrainian-American Students](#)

Be it further resolved, LSA SG shall strive to work with the Ukrainian Club at UM to support those affected by the ongoing invasion of Ukraine, engage in human rights advocacy, and bring attention to the humanitarian crisis stemming from the conflict in Ukraine; and,

Be it further resolved, LSA SG will take steps to alleviate the impact of the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine by supporting charities such as: ICUCC In Hamtramck, The Ukrainian Cultural Center in Warren Michigan, World Central Kitchen, The Ukraine Crisis Response Committee, UMCOR; and,

Be it further resolved, the LSA SG Diversity Affairs Committee (DAC), Committee Advocating for Transfer, Non-Traditional, and International Students (CATNIS), and the Health Committee will work together to support those affected by the conflict through designing and curating media materials and providing campus support and informative materials to students; and,

Be it further resolved, LSA SG will support the University of Michigan International Center in their efforts to share relevant information with all students by distributing infographics, advertising resources, and collaborating in outreach efforts to support students; and,

Be it further resolved, LSA SG urges members of the U-M community to endeavor to support Ukrainian and other students affected by this crisis; and,

Be it finally resolved, upon passage, this resolution shall be delivered to Interim President Mary Sue Coleman, Provost Susan M. Collins, Nathan Hanke (Intercultural Learning and Innovation Lead), Judith Pennywell (Director of International Center), Kellyn Mackerl-Cooper (Associate Director), and Priscila Papias (Program Director) of the Trotter Multicultural Center, and the University of Michigan Board of Regents.