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Warsaw, 18 March 2022

**Resolution No. 171 of the Scientific Council  
of the Institute of Political Studies of the Polish Academy of Sciences  
of 18 March 2022 on Russia's attack on Ukraine**

Since 24 February 2022, we have been witnessing events in the immediate vicinity of Poland, which have not taken place in Europe since the end of World War II. Three weeks ago, authoritarian Russia, a nuclear-weapon power, started a war against Ukraine with the intention of removing the democratically appointed authorities, depriving it of its right to decide about its own future, and finally annexing at least those of its territories that it has been occupying since 2014. By attacking Ukraine, Russia violated the principles of international law not just by abandoning diplomacy and starting the war. Its armed forces have committed war crimes and crimes against humanity by killing civilians, which should be judged by criminal tribunals.

Among our institute's main research areas have always been the countries of Eastern Europe and the South Caucasus that have been independent since 1991. We believe that this experience, in addition to the natural human need to identify with the persecuted, gives us an additional right to comment on this subject.

In view of the events in Ukraine of the past three weeks:

- we demand the immediate cessation of hostilities and the withdrawal of Russian troops from the territory of Ukraine within the borders of 2014;
- we condemn all actions that violate human rights and the results of democratic elections in the frontline and occupation areas, and support the trial of their perpetrators by Ukrainian and international law enforcement agencies;



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- we demand that the Russian authorities be held accountable for the human and material losses inflicted on Ukraine and that the aggressor pays full compensation to the victims;
- we show solidarity with the attitude of the Ukrainian authorities and society, who show exceptional determination in defence of their freedom and independence;
- we express our appreciation for those representatives of Russian public opinion who oppose the war;
- we support the activities of Polish society for refugees from Ukraine.

We express our particular solidarity with the representatives of the Ukrainian scientific world. We share relationships, cooperation and camaraderie as well as ties of friendship with many of you. We declare we will provide you with personal help and hope that soon, through various forms of cooperation, we will be able to contribute to reconstructing the infrastructure of scientific life in your country.