H-Ukraine Statement on Escalating Russian Aggression in Ukraine

Discussion published by Amber N. Nickell on Thursday, February 24, 2022

Unprovoked, the Russian Federation, under the leadership of an authoritarian government, invaded Ukraine in 2014. The Russian Federation illegally annexed the Crimean Peninsula and backed “separatists” in the temporarily occupied territories of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts.

Overnight on February 23, 2022, the Kremlin’s war of aggression against Ukraine, a sovereign and democratic state, escalated. The Kremlin bombed cities throughout Ukraine, targeting both military and civilian locations. Putin’s regime has since illegally and violently occupied sovereign Ukrainian territory, including the Chornobyl nuclear power plant and exclusion zone. This most recent escalation in Russian aggression has already resulted in the deaths of
well over one hundred and thirty Ukrainian soldiers and one hundred and fifty civilians. The Kremlin’s violent attacks on peaceful Ukrainian citizens, overt disregard for Ukraine’s territorial sovereignty, and continued distortions of history are reprehensible.

The H-Ukraine editorial staff and board members unequivocally condemn the Russian Federation’s unprovoked invasion of Ukraine, which started in 2014 and violently escalated on February 23, 2022. We stand in solidarity with Ukraine and our colleagues throughout the world who recognize Ukrainian territorial sovereignty and the Ukrainian people’s right to a peaceful existence. We reject Putin’s distortions of both Ukrainian and Russian histories and decry the Kremlin’s continued disinformation campaigns and mass arrests of internal protestors and dissenters in Russia.