

2nd February 2022

## **Association expresses grave concern about the situation in Ukraine**

The Irish Association for Emergency Medicine represents doctors who staff Ireland's Emergency Departments. We have long recognised that prevention is infinitely better than cure and in this regard have advocated very strongly on issues such as road safety, child safety, water safety and other measures designed to prevent Emergency Department attendance and potential tragedy.

We are appalled at the unprovoked attack on the Ukraine by its larger neighbour, the Russian Federation, with the associated death and serious injury visited on the civilian population. We are particularly concerned to hear of incidents where ambulances, hospitals and other medical facilities have been deliberately targeted, which even within the inherent awfulness of war is never acceptable in any military conflict.

The Association joins with other Medical Organisations, Emergency Medicine Organisations internationally and the Irish people in expressing outrage and condemnation at what is being perpetrated in Ukraine and support the call that Russia withdraws forthwith.

The Association supports its members and other Ukrainian doctors and nurses working in Ireland in their efforts to gather material support, in terms of medical supplies and professional expertise to lend humanitarian aid to their besieged compatriots.

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