



6 Khreshchatyk street, office 2,
Kyiv, 01001,
Ukraine

4 March 2022 Resolution on Ukraine and the rule of law

Dear President Ogrenchuk,

As a sister European law association, we are writing to express our profound sympathy with the people of Ukraine in the face of the ongoing illegal invasion of Russia. The actions of Russia clearly represent an egregious breach of the rule of law and an unacceptable attack on democracy. We wish to express our solidarity with you, your colleagues and members in the Ukrainian Bar Association (UBA) and we stand ready to help and support them as much as we can.

Furthermore, we support your call on the United Nations to consider establishing a special international tribunal for the Russian officials responsible the conflict. This would be a welcome additional step following the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court's announcement that they intend to open an investigation into events in Ukraine "as rapidly as possible" in respect to crimes against humanity and war crimes committed within Ukraine.

Finally, we wish to write to you to acknowledge that we are keenly aware of the important responsibilities of Scottish law firms to comply, in full, with the sanctions and other restrictions imposed on Russia by the UK Government, and we wish to personally emphasise to you that the Law Society will ensure those responsibilities are understood across the profession. We also stand ready to review the requirements for any Ukrainian lawyers wishing to requalify in Scotland in light of the challenges currently being faced.

We have included the full text of a resolution which has been passed by the Council of the Law Society of Scotland.

We wish to re-express our profound sympathy and our hopes for you, your colleagues' and your members' safety in the weeks and months ahead.

President, Ken Dalling on behalf of the Council of the Law Society of Scotland



The Council of the Law Society of Scotland;

1. condemns the ongoing illegal invasion of Ukraine by Russian forces.
2. considers the actions of Russia to represent an egregious breach of the rule of law and an unacceptable attack on democracy.
3. expresses its profound sympathy with the people of Ukraine and its solidarity with friends and colleagues in the Ukrainian Bar Association (UBA), and agrees for the President to write in those terms to Anna Ogrenchuk, President of the UBA.
4. supports the position of the UBA in calling on the United Nations to consider establishing a special international tribunal for Russian officials responsible the conflict.
5. welcomes that the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court intends to open an investigation into events in Ukraine "as rapidly as possible" in respect to crimes against humanity and war crimes committed within Ukraine as part of the international communities' duty of protection to the Ukrainian people.
6. recognises the important responsibilities of Scottish law firms to comply, in full, with the sanctions and other restrictions imposed on Russia and Belarus by the UK Government, and notes the work of the Law Society executive team to ensure those responsibilities are understood across the profession.
7. supports the work of the education, training and qualifications team to review the requirements for any Ukrainian lawyers wishing to requalify in Scotland in light of the challenges currently being faced.