



Statement of ASIL President Catherine Amirfar
Regarding the Situation in Ukraine

February 23, 2022

Article 1 (1) of the U.N. Charter affirms that a fundamental purpose of the United Nations is “the suppression of acts of aggression.” Article 2 (4) of the Charter requires U.N. Member States to “refrain from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State.” These are bedrock principles of the international legal order, and they represent core values long embraced by the American Society of International Law.

The unprovoked acts of aggression by the Russian Federation against Ukraine’s sovereignty and territorial integrity are a brazen violation of international law and represent one of the greatest threats to peace and stability in Europe since the end of the Second World War.

We urge all U.N. Member States to condemn these actions in the strongest possible terms and to support all lawful measures to deter further aggression.

We express our solidarity with the Ukrainian people, and with others in the region who may be put in harm’s way, and we call upon the Russian Federation to withdraw its forces from the territory of Ukraine and to seek a peaceful resolution of its disputes in accordance with its obligations under international law.

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ABOUT THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF INTERNATIONAL LAW

The American Society of International Law (ASIL) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, educational membership organization founded in 1906 and chartered by Congress in 1950. Its mission is to foster the study of international law and to promote the establishment and maintenance of international relations on the basis of law and justice.