

ESR condemns acts of war and calls for respect of medical neutrality and human rights

The European Society of Radiology (ESR) is an apolitical, non-profit organisation, dedicated to promoting and coordinating the scientific, philanthropic, intellectual and professional activities of radiology in all European countries and beyond. The ESR is home to more than 125 000 individual members and over 100 member societies, from around the world, including Ukrainian and Russian colleagues and societies of radiology, who work together and stay united to serve the health care needs of the general public through the support of science, teaching and research and the quality of service to our patients.

Our mission and unity become even more pertinent when the peace and safety of one of our member countries are at stake. Our heart goes out to all colleagues suffering at this moment. In times when nations abandon dialogue and diplomacy, medical societies like the ESR proudly stand up to their mission of building bridges and showing solidarity and unity in the interest of civil society and, in particular, Europe's patients.

Medical neutrality and human rights must not be disrupted by armed conflicts and the ESR strongly calls for these to be respected and preserved, and hospitals and medical centres spared from acts of aggression.

In particular, the ESR wishes to express our support for and solidarity with our colleagues in Ukraine, as well as with their patients. We pledge to offer every support within our power to maintain radiology services and education within Ukraine.

We will ensure maintenance of the ESR's educational offerings and tailored support programmes and call upon our members to engage in and support humanitarian aid programmes and upon international and national authorities to ensure observance of human rights, humanitarian law and dignity.

Michael Fuchsjäger
Chairman of the ESR Board of Directors

Regina Beets-Tan
ESR President