



**International Physicians**  
for the Prevention of Nuclear War



18 May 2022

Mykhailo RADUTSKYI  
Chairman of Committee on Public Health, Medical Assistance and Health Insurance  
Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine

Dear Chairman,

I am writing on behalf of the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW) in response to your letter dated 12.05.2022.

Thank you for bringing your concerns to us about public statements regarding the war in Ukraine by a member of the German branch of our organization (IPPNW-Germany) on 8.05.2022 during an interview with Deutschlandfunk.

We sincerely appreciate receiving your first-hand account of the unfolding humanitarian catastrophe in your country. We have been following events very closely and are sickened by the horrifying pain, death, and destruction that has been unleashed on the people of Ukraine.

IPPNW is composed of independent national medical associations. Our affiliates may have views or take positions on a variety of issues that are not inconsistent with our constitutional mission, and primary focus, to prevent nuclear war. The opinion expressed in the Deutschlandfunk interview represents the views of our German affiliate; it is not the opinion of IPPNW.

IPPNW has maintained a clear and consistent position on the war in your country: We call for an immediate ceasefire, the withdrawal of all Russian military forces from Ukraine, and for all possible efforts to ensure that the crisis does not escalate to the use of nuclear weapons. We call on Russia and NATO to renounce explicitly any use of nuclear weapons in this conflict.

We reject governance through imposition and threats, and we advocate for dialogue, coexistence and justice. We affirm a nation's right – Ukraine's right – to self-defense. We call on all parties to respect the Geneva Conventions and to protect innocent civilians, hospitals, and public infrastructure in accordance with International Humanitarian Law.

Last month we organized a joint call with His Holiness the Dalai Lama and 16 other Nobel Peace Laureates to reject war and nuclear weapons that has been signed so far by more than 1,070,000 citizens worldwide. We delivered the call to UN Headquarters at a meeting with the UN Undersecretary General for Disarmament Affairs. You can find the link here: [https://secure.avaaz.org/campaign/en/no\\_nuclear\\_war\\_loc/](https://secure.avaaz.org/campaign/en/no_nuclear_war_loc/).

For your reference, I also attached another joint statement that IPPNW released with our international health partners, the World Medical Association, the World Federation of Public Health Associations and the International Federation of Medical Students Associations.

Please be assured that we will raise your concerns with Dr. Pohlmeier, our German colleagues, and with the IPPNW Executive Committee.

With high regard for the critical work you and your staff are performing to preserve and protect the health and wellbeing of the citizens of Ukraine,

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Christ". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Michael" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Christ".

Michael Christ  
Executive Director