



## Crisis for Peaceful Use of Nuclear by Russia's Military Attack on Ukraine (Emergency Statement)

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Fellow Volunteers, Atomic Energy Society of Japan

We, fellow volunteers of AESJ (Atomic Energy Society of Japan), share the deep grief and the strong wish of early truce with citizens in the world for the precious lives lost by Russia's aggressive invasion into Ukraine.

In addition, as nuclear experts to proceed its peaceful use, we recognize the situation as the crisis for peaceful use of nuclear, note the crisis from the following three points and urge international community jointly and severally to make efforts for the realization of the truce. Zaporozhye Nuclear Power Plant (NPP) has especially high risk and needs immediate action.

IAEA Director General Rafael Grossi emphasized that any military attacks or threats are against United Nations charter, international law and IAEA agreements, which is supported by the United Nations Security Council. They strongly condemned the Russia's military attack to Ukraine's nuclear facilities. AESJ fellow volunteers support their statement.

(1) Russia's attack to Ukraine's nuclear power plants has the risk of the function loss of important safety systems due to station blackout, etc., which may lead to the nuclear fuel melting down without sufficient cooling, and finally radioactive materials release to the environment like the accident of Fukushima Daiichi NPP in Japan.

In particular, Zaporozhye NPP has possibility to lose external power supply lines one after another and finally stop them completely. Although standby diesel generator is to supply power, its fuel is difficult to be transported in the state of war and would be consumed in future. Then, the insufficient cooling might make the nuclear fuel melt down, hydrogen explosion, radioactive materials release, and extensive environment contamination. Severe accident management will not be available properly under the war by Ukraine's organizations such as utilities and regulatory bodies.

Operators in the nuclear facilities in Ukraine are under strong stress, may pay less attention to the daily safety activities, and mistake the operation and judgement, which has the risk to lead to severe accident.

Thus, we criticize severely the Russia's military occupation of the nuclear facilities and urge Russia to stop it immediately, to guarantee the safety of NPP, and to leave the management to Ukraine's organizations.

(2) Russia attacked and occupied Chernobyl NPP in early stage of the war, which hinders Ukraine's efforts to proceed responsively the decommissioning and environmental remediation at the site. International community including Russia



cooperate to build the new shelter to prevent the collapse of old sarcophagus. Even though Russia knows well the misery of Chernobyl disaster, Russia messed up there. We strongly blame this barbaric behavior which tramples the effort of world nuclear people.

- (3) Furthermore, this aggressive war brings a critical situation to the international non-proliferation regime for the peaceful use of nuclear.

Ukraine returned all nuclear weapons to Russia to become a non-nuclear-weapon state on the occasion of independence after the fall of Soviet Union. Accordingly, Russia and countries concerned guaranteed Ukraine's security in 1994, nevertheless Russia broke the promise, started to invade Ukraine, and try to block the intervention of other countries by insinuating the use of nuclear weapon. These follies indicate that once-owned country is difficult to abandon the nuclear weapon, give countries desired an excuse to own the nuclear weapons, and then destroy the international framework of nuclear non-proliferation. We also proscribe Russia on this point.

On January 3, 2022, five nuclear weapon countries, USA, UK, France, Russia and China, issued the joint statement to prevent nuclear wars and arms races, where they assure nuclear war cannot be won and must never be fought, and declare to avoid military confrontation, to strengthen stability and predictability, and to enhance mutual understanding and trust. We, AESJ fellow volunteers, ask the permanent members of the United Nations Security Council, especially Russia for responsible behaviors based on this recent statement.

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