

Vienna, 24 February 2022

Dear Mr. President,

Dear members of the Presiding Committee of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine,

Dear colleagues,

In this difficult hour for your country, which has become a victim of the aggression of the armed forces of the Russian Federation, the Presiding Committee of the Austrian Academy of Sciences would like to express its solidarity with the Ukrainian people in general and our colleagues, the scientists of the Ukraine, in particular.

Free science is a supporting pillar for democracy and the rule of law, for which the citizens of the Ukraine have fought most impressively and at great sacrifice in the decades since independence, especially in 2004 and 2014. We share with our fellow scientists in the Ukraine the vision of being able to live together in peace and democracy in Europe.

The Austrian Academy of Sciences would like to assist you, dear colleagues, the members and staff of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, with all the means available to a scientific institution, so that you may continue your work in the best possible way.

Today we have decided on a special programme to enable researchers from your country to spend research stays in Austria, at the research institutes of our Academy as well as at other Austrian research institutions, and we are gladly ready to take further steps together.

We assure the Ukrainian people and our fellow scientists our support and respect in these times of our common European history.

For the Austrian Academy of Sciences

Anton Zeilinger
President

Arnold Suppan
Vice President

Georg Brasseur
Division President

Oliver Jens Schmitt
Division President