

Science4Peace Forum

Science4Peace Forum

News

- new Science4Peace Webpage: <https://science4peace.com/>
 - Science4Peace Fund: ZOOM account and web page independent of any institution
 - ZOOM account also applicable for scientific meetings: already used for **PB-discussion** and **CASCADE developer** meetings to allow participation independent of nation and affiliation
 - If an independent ZOOM meeting room is needed for a physics meeting, please get in contact with **us**
- Please check <https://science4peace.com/> for further infos:
 - collection of links to statements from research institutions
 - public events (like this one, with slides)
 - any other further infos

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News

- Welcome
 - IPPNW (International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War)
 - Angelika Claussen
 - Naturwissenschaftler Initiative
 - Malte Albrecht
 - Pugwash
 - Goetz Neuneck

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News

- **Statement from IUPAP:** (International Union of Pure and Applied Physics)
- IUPAP, during the darkest days of the cold war, apartheid and many other difficult political eras over the past 100 years, has always been able to do two things with care and responsibility:
 - i) Kept open the channels for scientific cooperation across all political and other divides in the hope and expectation that enhanced scientific collaborations are an important means to develop improved understandings between different peoples that contributes to world peace, and
 - ii) Expressed its concerns about any activity or intervention, including war, that impacts negatively on our ability to engage scientifically on a global scale and hence impacting negatively on (i) above.

IUPAP has issued its statement on the Russian invasion of Ukraine

(<https://iupap.org/2022/03/01/iupap-statement-on-the-events-occurring-in-ukraine-2022-03-01/>) in accordance with (ii) above. It will be inappropriate for IUPAP to bar any scientist, especially from a member nation, from any scientific activity in accordance with (i) above. So long as the work upholds the ethics and principles of science in its highest ideals, for example, does not contribute to weapons capabilities, IUPAP can see no reason to disallow Russian scientist participation in the affairs of the Union.

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Statement from G. Parisi (thanks to M. Barone)

Nobel Prize winner for physics Giorgio Parisi took the opportunity to sign the collaboration agreement between the Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei and the Portuguese Academy of Sciences to speak publicly on the war in Ukraine: "We live tragic times" that lead us to breathe "a Cold War atmosphere" again. Right now "we must help Ukrainian scientists but we must not weaken links with Russian scientists", because they represent a channel of dialogue that could help us "build peace in the long run".

The community of scientists, which has always been related beyond national borders and flagships, represents a key to peace-building for the Nobel Prize winner. From this point of view, Parisi places emphasis almost more on Russian scientists than Ukrainian scientists. If the latter are in fact to be protected and helped so that they can continue their searches safely, in countries that can welcome them, the former are a resource that can express an internal dissent of their country or push politics to seek a peaceful solution to the ongoing conflict.

- The full text is under <https://science4peace.com>

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- Conferences in particle physics:
 - DIS2022 starting next week (May 2 - 6 , 2022)
- LHCP2022 (May 16 – 20, 2022)
 - The principle of the Universality of Science is fundamental to scientific progress. This principle embodies freedom of movement, association, expression and communication for scientists, as well as equitable access to data, information and research materials. In pursuing its objectives with respect to the rights and responsibilities of scientists, the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics (IUPAP)

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Discussion in different countries

- Pugwash G. Neuneck
- Germany/DESY Sasha Glazov
- Greece Panos Kokkas
- Poland K. Kutak
- Spain Juan Pablo Fernandez Garcia
- Sweden S. Prestel
- Turkey Deniz Sunar-Cerci
- US S. Mrenna
- Libraries M. Koehler
- if time permits:
 - Belgium Pierre van Mechelen (written comments)
 - UK P. Newman (written comments)
 - Italy Vieri Candelise (written comments)
 - US written comments
- INPPW Angelika Claussen
- Naturwissenschaftler für den Frieden (Responsibility for Peace and Sustainability) Malte Albrecht

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Situation in Belgium – FWO 18 March

Written comments by P. van Mechelen (Belgium):

Measures related to teaching:

- academic relations between Belgian universities and those Russian universities that have signed the declaration are suspended
- exchange students presently in Russia or in Belgium can complete the academic year
- institutional exchange agreements with those universities that have signed the declaration are however suspended and no new exchanges can take place
- individual students from Russia can still register for study programmes at Belgian universities

Measures related to research

- it is recognised that individual scientists do not necessarily agree with statements made by their rectors
- Belgian researchers can decide themselves whether or not they want to continue to collaborate with individuals
- researchers in a threatening situations will be maximally supported
- no new calls for joint funding applications
- ongoing projects with Russian or Belarussian universities that support the invasion are terminated

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Situation in Belgium – FWO 18 March

Some info I received from personal contacts within the UAntwerp administration, so not available from official websites:

- A practical point is that access to (super-) computing facilities from Russian IP-addresses is blocked. This is however more a security measure than a sanction.
- Regarding publications, the consensus seems to be that results from past research can be published. For future research, a bottom-up approach would be followed where researchers can decide themselves. Exception might be political sciences or technological applications.

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Situation in UK 18 March

Some infos from P. Newman (UK)

Statement of UK universities:

....

We have also suspended our relationship with the Russian Rectors' Forum.

Many Russian students, academics and researchers, at great personal peril, have publicly criticised this invasion. We believe that scientific collaboration and research are a vital global endeavour, **therefore we would not support a blanket suspension of academic links.**

- and some personal note:

... across the German / DESY position in a couple of contexts, including organising DIS'22 - where it feels like we are forced by the threat of German non-participation into excluding our Russian colleagues (of course our Russian colleagues were not able fund participation without declaring their affiliation). I think it's counter-productive to silence Russian scientists, who from what I have seen and heard are pretty-much universally opposed to the war, though not always willing to say so publicly.

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Situation in Italy

Some infos from V. Candelise (Italy)

From the Italian Research Ministry (MUR), they will follow the European Commission rules.

They both say that they are in favor of a temporary stop of the cooperation of institutions but not on the scientific bounds of people. Scientists will be able to sign papers with Russians colleagues.

Statement from Antonio Zoccoli (INFN president) :

“INFN worked with Russia from the Cold War, Science must be a channel of communication and and a bridge towards peace”.

(from <https://www.nature.com/articles/d43978-022-00032-1>, in Italian).

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Situation in US

- it is difficult since 5+ years for russian scientists to get visa to US, the war to Ukraine has not changed this
- Russian scientists are still part of research cooperations and collaborations
- Participation in conferences in Russia is not allowed

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Open Letter

- Open letter to directors of research institutions and laboratories and science committees
 - Express our dis-agreement with the present science policy in dividing science community
 - Express our fear on a global war and the nuclear threat
 - Express that we feel as part of the society and feel we must speak in favor of de-escalation and science4peace
- Letter will be put on signature platform (i.e. charge.org or similar) for signatures
 - keep open for 2 weeks
 - send letter also to DIS conference next week ?

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Draft Open Letter (I)

Stop the Escalation Spiral

We are physicists, employees and associates in national and international research institutions. We are proud of our international contacts and collaborations and we are proud to promote scientific collaboration across the world as a driver for peace.

We condemn the war against Ukraine in the strongest terms and request that this war stop immediately. We are disgusted by war crimes, and demand an immediate ceasefire. We are shocked by the mentions of a Third World War, and we condemn strongly all nuclear threats.

This escalation spiral has to be stopped now!

Scientific collaboration with Russian institutions have been suspended in many western countries. This includes banning scientists with Russian affiliations from experiments that have been built up together over decades and from other common scientific projects, and banning common publications. Open international conferences and workshops cannot be held together anymore. These restrictions are being imposed on non-profit, non-military and no-dual-use areas which were built up in the past as bridges between nations. The restrictions affect peaceful research in general, and are imposed on people not responsible for this war, in violation of good scientific and moral practice.

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Draft Open Letter (II)

The sanctions imposed on scientists are counterproductive, they do not put pressure on the Russian government, but make communication among scientists difficult and in some cases impossible. They often affect colleagues who share our condemnation of the war and have endangered their own welfare by expressing their opinions publicly. These sanctions will not help to achieve a ceasefire or resolve the conflict. On the contrary, these measures will isolate Russian scientists and decouple them from international discussions, in science and elsewhere. Our scientific research is concentrated on fundamental questions of universal interest. Scientific cooperation should remain open across political divides, and not be subordinated to political goals.

We call upon the directorates of research institutions, rectors of universities, scientific academies, leaders of experimental collaborations, organisers of scientific meetings and members of scientific committees to:

- remove the sanctions against scientists, since science has to be independent of political interests and such sanctions are counterproductive to the achievement of a peaceful world;
- continue to promote non-military and peaceful scientific projects that adhere to the ethical principles of science and follow good scientific practice;
- continue to allow common scientific publications and participation in open conferences;
- maintain scientific cooperation, so as to avoid the useless proliferation of sources of tension that escalate the conflict and extend it to the scientific and personal relations within the physics community.

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