NO TO WAR IN UKRAINE

The Editorial Board¹

Accepted: 4 March 2022 / Published online: 4 March 2022
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The Editors and International Advisory Board of *Studies in East European Thought* (*SEET*) resolutely condemn the Russian military invasion of Ukraine as an outrageous act that grossly violates international law and undermines all rational norms of civilized relations among nations in today's world. As a philosophical journal whose scholarly focus is on Russian and Eastern-European thought, *SEET* opposes any hostility and aggression that attempts to resolve contentious issues by use of military force and coercion. The actions of the current Russian government are not merely cruel and inhumane, but indefensible on any rational ground. We are watching this unfolding tragedy with moral outrage and disbelief. We demand that Russia immediately cease its military actions and withdraw its troops from the sovereign territory of Ukraine.

We deeply mourn the losses and the suffering of the people of Ukraine and hope that the war will be brought to a speedy and decisive end. All problems that exist between Russia and Ukraine must be solved by diplomacy and peaceful negotiation, not by arms.

This is a war between two nations that have been historically connected and close to each other and we are deeply pained by the scars that this war inflicts on the unbreakable ties between them. These scars will bleed for a long time and the memory of this criminal act of nationalistic hubris and misguided “national interest” will not heal easily. Ukraine and Russia have common roots, and this is emphatically true of Russian philosophy as well. Ukrainians and Russians both share Hryhorii Savych Skovoroda as the origin of their philosophical traditions. Vladimir Solovyov considered himself Skovoroda's distant descendant. Ukraine is the birthplace of Nikolai Berdyaev, Lev Shestov, Gustav Shpet, and many others, too numerous to mention. Countless philosophical biographies, from Evgenii Trubetskoi to Merab Mamardashvili, are like myriad threads connecting the two philosophical traditions—and others! And now Russian tanks and missiles are ripping apart this fabric, woven by human spirit over centuries. We must not let shortsighted and misguided politics break the bonds that arose in our joint quest for philosophical knowledge and understanding.

We stand with all the people of Ukraine and Russia who oppose this war. We call upon all our colleagues in the field of Russian and Eastern-European thought

✉ The Editorial Board

¹ <https://springer.com/11212>

to support our condemnation of this war, our call for peace, and our solidarity with Ukrainian colleagues and those who protest the war in Russia. We say NO to the war in Ukraine. Peace must be restored in order to ensure security in the region.

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