



# The Independent and Peaceful Australia Network

26<sup>th</sup> February, 2022

## **No War. IPAN calls for an immediate ceasefire and negotiations in Ukraine.**

IPAN condemns the invasion of Ukraine by Russia, and also condemns the attacks by the Ukrainian Government on the people of the Donbas region. IPAN calls for an immediate ceasefire by all parties, a withdrawal of Russian forces from Ukraine, and a de-escalation of the conflict. Negotiations must take place, leading to a peaceful solution to the present crisis.

We express our solidarity with the people of Ukraine and Russia in their demands for peace.

This current conflict and the historically long contention between the USA/NATO and Russia must not be allowed to escalate. The dangers of a mis-step leading to the use of nuclear weapons are too great, as are the dangers of widespread misery and death.

**IPAN calls on the Australian Government to support a peaceful and just resolution in Ukraine by:**

1. Calling for an immediate ceasefire and a Russian military withdrawal.
2. Calling for support for the Ukrainian President's commitment to negotiate genuine neutrality for Ukraine. This would involve the USA and NATO accepting that Ukraine will not join NATO.

3. Calling for a United Nations Peacekeeping force to be formed to supervise a ceasefire.
4. Calling for a cessation of hostilities between the government of Ukraine and the people of the Donbas region..
5. Signing the Treaty to Prohibit Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) as this current crisis highlights the danger of an escalation to a nuclear conflict.

IPAN urges this course of action on the Australian government. These actions are urgent and necessary to forestall the potential for an escalating war which could involve the U.S. and NATO military against the Russian military causing widespread destruction and suffering together with the unthinkable prospect of nuclear weapons being used. We condemn the use, or threats to use, nuclear weapons by any country.

IPAN therefore also calls on the Australian Government to urge the UK and US governments with whom it has close relationships, to support these proposals for de-escalation and peace.

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