

President's Statement Strongly Protesting the Russian Federation's Military Invasion of Ukraine

It was reported that on February 24th this year, Russian Federation commenced its military invasion against Ukraine and that many civilians including children became victims and its number is increasing.

The Charter of the United Nations provides in its preamble that we determined "to combine our efforts" "to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war", "to unite our strength to maintain international peace and security" and to ensure that "armed force shall not be used". Also, Article 2 of the Charter states that "all members shall refrain ... from the threat or use of force". The military invasion by Russia is clearly in breach of this prohibition and take civilian's life or living. We can never allow such Russian violation for whatsoever reason.

Furthermore, Russian President Vladimir Putin has made threats by mentioning the possibility of usage of nuclear weapons, which is, we have to say, outrageous. We strongly protest the military invasion by Russian Federation.

The Constitution of Japan provides in its preamble, recognizing the right for the people to live in peace, that "we desire to occupy an honored place in an international society striving for the preservation of peace, and the banishment of

tyranny and slavery, oppression and intolerance for all time from the earth.”

We strongly call on the Government of Japan, which exists based on this Constitution and is the only country to have suffered nuclear devastation, to make active diplomatic efforts toward restoration of peace of Ukraine.

It is said that 80 Ukrainian and more than 200 Russian are living in Fukuoka.

Desiring peace of the homelands of those living with us together, we, as Japanese lawyers whose mission is to protect fundamental human rights and realize social justice, call for the immediate withdrawal of Russian Federation forces from Ukraine and wish for speedy recovery of peaceful social order in Ukraine.

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