

To all member institutions of the
tropEd Network

**Brescia and Munich,
01 March 2022**

Subject: Reaction by the tropEd Network to the war in the Ukraine

Dear colleagues and friends in the tropEd Network,

With terror we are receiving the news about war in the Ukraine, a situation that just a few weeks back we did not believe would come to happen. We as a network, as International and Global Health institutions and specialists have a natural sensitivity for fragile settings and unstable situations, anywhere in the world. We from the Executive Committee of the tropEd Network are convinced that the situation in the Ukraine is having severe consequences for the individuals involved, but will also affect all people in Europe and globally; and, it will also deteriorate human conditions we have been working to ameliorate since decades, such as sustainable health for all, reliable global partnerships, and humanitarian action. It will have consequences for our mode of action well into the future. The tropEd Network bases its foundations on global partnership, on mutual respect, and on principles of equity, diversity, inclusion, and peace.

As an immediate response by the tropEd Network, we are calling on all member institutions to reflect on possibilities to support the immediately affected population in the Ukraine. We are suggesting, for example, to discuss with the deans and directors of member institutions a possible extra-ordinary uptake of students from the Ukraine that have been enrolled in programs comparable to the ones represented

in the network, in order to avoid study gaps and to ensure continuous engagement, but also to train staff in the field of International and Global Health for future vacancies in public health in a possible post-war reconstruction period. In addition, member institutions could consider taking up lecturers for involvement in study curricula. Moreover, as many of us have professional experience in humanitarian action, we should ourselves consider leaves in order to directly support currently initiated emergency relief.

Not least, it is imperative to note that we also welcome the exchange with academics in the field of International and Global Health from Russia, as we are convinced that a pacifist disposition is innate in anyone subscribing to the discipline of International and Global Health.

We from the EC and the secretariat of the tropEd Network are welcoming your suggestions, but also reports of on-going initiatives in your respective settings.

With best regards and on behalf of the tropEd network,



Prof Alberto Matteelli
President



Dr Guenter Froeschl
Executive Secretary