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the legal profession

The International Bar Association's (IBA) response to the Russia-Ukraine conflict.

1. 24 Feb 2022: IBA issues **news release: IBA-condemns-Russia's-invasion-of-Ukraine**



IBA condemns Russia's invasion
of Ukraine

2. 25 Feb 2022: IBAHRI issues **news release: IBAHRI-condemns-Russia's-military-invasion-of-Ukraine-and-urges-the-immediate-suspension-of-Russia's-membership-of-the-UN-Human-Rights-Council**



IBAHRI condemns Russia's military invasion
of Ukraine and urges the immediate suspension
of Russia's membership of the UN Human Rights Council

3. 27 Feb 2022: **IBA President Sternford Moyo sent a personal note** to the heads of Ukrainian Bars.
4. 28 Feb 2022: **IBA President Sternford Moyo & Executive Director Dr Mark Ellis sent a note of support to all IBA members based in Ukraine.** – Our members appreciated the note of solidarity.
5. In-depth article published on the conflict: www.ibanet.org/Ukraine-United-front-against-Russian-aggression
6. The IBA has set aside **USD 100K** for a fund to support initiatives in Ukraine. All of this year's membership dues from members in Ukraine have been allocated to this fund. Funding has already been released to the **Ukrainian National Bar Association** and the **Ukrainian Bar Association** in support of humanitarian efforts. Further donations will be made as projects dictate.
7. The **eyeWitness to Atrocities app** has been embraced by both Bars with information circulated to their respective members. The app is being used to gather potential evidence of crimes committed during the conflict. The eyeWitness team is in contact on further circulation and usage. A Ukrainian language version has been made available here: www.eyewitness.global/Ukraine-resources-hub
8. Dr Mark Ellis is in weekly contact with the Ukrainian National Bar Association and the Ukrainian Bar Association.
9. **Radio Free Europe** interviewed Dr Mark Ellis: www.evropaelire.org/a/ukraina-ka-nevoje-per-mbrojtje-kolektive-ushtarake/31720645.html?nocache=1
10. Social media posts:
<https://twitter.com/IBANews/status/1496793648087764995>
<https://www.facebook.com/internationalbarassociation/photos/a.543372659020234/5466263960064388/>
<https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6902604259490435072>
<https://www.lawgazette.co.uk/news/ukraine-invasion-triggers-lawyers-fury/5111625.article>

11. **IBA Bar Issues Commission's Officers** sent a message to all IBA Member Organisations urging them to issue their own statements criticising Russia's invasion of Ukraine as an act contrary to the rule of law and international norms, and to send these statements to their respective governments.
12. 03 March 2022: **News release issued: Russia's invasion of Ukraine – IBA deplors disregard for life and continued breaches of international law**



Russia's invasion of Ukraine – IBA deplors disregard for life and continued breaches of international law

13. 03 March 2022: **Published: IBA Executive Director Dr Mark Ellis' op-ed in *The Times*: 'Russia's attack violates the most sacred principle in international law'** www.thetimes.co.uk/article/russias-attack-violates-the-most-sacred-principle-in-international-law-hdghf5n0m
14. 03 March 2022: The **IBA Healthcare and Life Sciences Law Committee Officers** send a statement to the Committee's members listing medicines and medical supplies needed in Ukraine.
15. **Circulated: A compilation of IBA *Global Insight* articles** on the current Russia-Ukraine crisis, the annexation of Crimea in 2014, the threat to the rule of law, sanctions and other related issues.
16. 03-04 March 2022: During an Urgent Debate on the human rights situation in Ukraine at the **49th Session of the United Nations Human Rights Council**, the International Bar Association's Human Rights Institute (IBAHRI) delivered an **oral statement** in which it called for the establishment of a **Commission of Inquiry** mandated to initiate prompt, independent and impartial investigation into any violations related to the war. Video: <https://media.un.org/en/asset/k1t/k1t3zy1yuk>
17. 04 March 2022: **Published: IBA Executive Director Dr Mark Ellis' second op-ed in *The Ambassador Partnership*: 'Putin's revanchism and the threat to international law'**. www.ambassadorllp.com/ap-insight-143---2022.html
18. Circulated: An **IBA *Global Insight* podcast** that looks at the background to the Ukraine crisis, Russia's hybrid warfare campaign and the role of sanctions in fighting aggression and autocracy. www.ibanet.org/podcasts/Russias-invasion-of-Ukraine
19. **Created: A hub page that pulls together Russia-Ukraine related material** from across the IBA website. www.ibanet.org/Russia-Ukraine-Crisis-2022
20. 9 March 2022: **News release issued: IBA condemns Russian legal organisations' vocal support of Putin's war against Ukraine**



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21. **Circulated: IBA *Global Insight*** – Russia's invasion of Ukraine: A round-up of coverage detailing the threat to the rule of law in today's world and how democracies can best respond to authoritarian regimes.

22. 08 March 2022: The leaderships of the **IBA Legal Professional Division and Section on Public and Professional Interest** sent mailings to all IBA Committee Officers detailing steps taken by the IBA in response to Russia's invasion of Ukraine.
23. 08 March 2022: **Bar Issues Commission's Chair** advises a good response from IBA Member Bars to the request to issue statements condemning the invasion.
24. The **IBA Rule of Law Forum** is planning a webinar to discuss the invasion, the rule of law and violations of international law and humanitarian law.
25. 10 March 2022: The **eyeWitness Ukraine Resources Hub** is finalised and put online.
26. 11 March 2022: The **IBA Leadership** sent an email to IBA Officers advising: Any individual member of the IBA who advocates against fundamental international legal principles, such as the prohibition of the use or threat of force against another state as set forth in the United Nations Charter, will be subject to the process for expulsion or suspension because of conduct which undermines the core values of the Association.
27. 14 March 2022: **Published: IBA Global Insight news analysis – 'Ukraine: Devastation prompts calls for accountability in international courts'**.
28. 15 March 2022: **Published: IBA Global Insight in-depth article – 'Ukraine at war'**.
29. 15 March 2022: The **IBA and the Ukrainian Bar Association sent a joint letter to the Heads of Oblast Military Administrations** to draw their attention to the *eyeWitness to Atrocities* app and the importance of documenting relevant potential evidence that can be used to bring any perpetrators to justice in national and international proceedings.
30. 16 March 2022: **Published: IBA Global Insight news analysis – 'Ukraine - The UN: words, but no teeth'**.
31. 16 March 2022: The **IBAHRI hosted a webinar: 'Harnessing law in times of war'**. IBAHRI Director Baroness Helena Kennedy QC moderated the discussion. Experts in geopolitical affairs and international law discussed the consequences of Russia's invasion of Ukraine from human rights and humanitarian law perspectives and explored possible avenues for accountability and the role of law at this stage of the conflict. www.ibanet.org/conference-details/CONF2207
32. 16 March 2022: In-depth **interview** with IBA Director Dr Mark Ellis published by *The Los Angeles Review of Books* <https://lareviewofbooks.org/article/russias-blattant-violation-of-international-law/>
33. 17 March 2022: **News release** issued: **Russia-Ukraine war: eyeWitness to Atrocities app captures evidence for future trials**



Russia-Ukraine war: eyeWitness to Atrocities app captures potential evidence for trials

34. 18 March 2022: **Interview of eyeWitness to Atrocities' Director Wendy Betts** aired by **United States broadcaster ABC News** on the importance of using the app in Ukraine to capture potential evidence to assist in bringing justice to victims of Russia's invasion of Ukraine. <https://abcnews.go.com/International/video/uk-based-charity-works-verify-images-war-ukraine-83535086>
35. 19 March 2022: **BBC Radio 5 Live interviewed** IBA Director Dr Mark Ellis on former United Kingdom Prime Minister Gordon Brown's calls for Vladimir Putin to face a Nuremberg-style trial for war crimes committed by Russia in Ukraine.

36. 21 March 2022: **IBA Immigration and Nationality Law Committee, supported by the New York State Bar Association's International Section**, hosted a webinar: *The global response to the Ukraine refugee crisis* www.ibanet.org/conference-details/CONF2211
37. 21 March 2022: IBA provided additional **financial support to the Ukrainian Bar Association for legal assistance** to residents of Ukraine on various war-related issues, including deaths and injuries from shelling, migration, mobilisation, property damage and all business-related issues.
38. 21 March 2022: **IBA Professional Ethics Committee** reveals plan for webinar on 10 May – ‘*Professional Ethics in Times of War*’. It will examine ethical issues relevant to the legal profession that are raised by the Russia-Ukraine conflict. **Register here:** www.ibanet.org/conference-details/CONF2226
39. 23 March 2022: **Meeting** held between the representatives from the **Office of the Prosecutor General of Ukraine** and IBA Executive Director and *eyeWitness to Atrocities* Director. They discussed how the *eyeWitness* app can assist in bringing any perpetrators to justice.
40. 24 March 2022: **Article published by *The Times of London* Britain provides £1m boost for efforts to prosecute war criminals** (Subscription required). *eyeWitness to Atrocities* app referenced.
41. 24 March 2022: **Article published by Ukrainian website *LB.ua*: International Bar Association to suspend members if they back Russia war on Ukraine**
42. 24 March 2022: **IBA War Crimes Committee** launched a ‘**Ukraine Crisis Legal Resources**’ section on its webpage providing information on select efforts to document and collect evidence at a criminal law standard, ways for lawyers to contribute through pro bono efforts, as well as temporary protection options around the world for Ukrainians fleeing the conflict.
43. 30 March 2022: The **Government of Ukraine Announces the creation of the ‘Legal Task Force on Accountability for Crimes Committed in Ukraine’** to support the country’s authorities in delivering justice for victims of any international crimes committed by Russia in Ukraine. Baroness Helena Kennedy QC, Director of the IBA’s Human Rights Institute is on the Task Force at the request of Ukraine’s Government. www.ibanet.org/IBAHRI-Director-joins-Ukraine-government-Task-Force-on-Accountability
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44. 29 March 2022: The **IBA Law Firm Management Committee, supported by the IBA Rule of Law Forum** held the first session of a **two-part webinar: *The Russian invasion of Ukraine: How law firms and lawyers are responding*** www.ibanet.org/conference-details/CONF2213.
45. 01 April 2022: News release issued: **IBAHRI welcomes UN’s Commission of Inquiry on Ukraine into human rights abuses**
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46. 01 April 2022: The IBA’s Human Rights Institute Director, Baroness Helena Kennedy QC, was **interviewed by *Law.com*** on how to secure criminal accountability and reparations in national jurisdictions for crimes committed in Ukraine, when Russia has not ratified the statute of the International Criminal Court.
47. 03 April 2022: ***Al Jazeera*** interviewed IBA Executive Director Dr Mark Ellis on its ***Newshour*** programme.
48. 05 April 2022: **New Zealand broadcaster, *TVNZ Breakfast***, interviewed IBA Executive Director Dr Mark Ellis on the **alleged war crimes** being committed by Russian troops in Ukraine. www.youtube.com/watch?v=BJxVzAWGBAY
49. 05 April 2022: **United Kingdom’s *Politics Home*** interviewed IBA Executive Director Dr Mark Ellis on the process of investigating alleged **Russian war crimes, including genocide**.

50. 06 April 2022: The **IBA Law Firm Management Committee, supported by the IBA Rule of Law Forum** held the second of the **two-part webinar** *The Russian invasion of Ukraine: How can the legal profession provide support to Ukraine?* www.ibanet.org/conference-details/CONF2214
The two webinars raised donations of 4,650 GBP. All proceeds will go directly to supporting humanitarian aid for Ukraine. A **matching donation has taken the total to £9,300.**
51. 06 April 2022: Published on the IBA website an in-depth article: *Ukraine conflict: Russia's crackdown on dissent escalates in wake of invasion.* It examines two new laws that have brought about the most draconian crackdown on civil liberties witnessed in the country for more than 30 years: Both fast-tracked through the Duma – one criminalising participation in anti-war protests and the other banning reporting or disseminating information on the conflict. www.ibanet.org/Ukraine-conflict-Russias-crackdown-on-dissent-escalates-in-wake-on-invasion
52. 07 April 2022: **IBA's European Regional Forum (ERF) conducted an exclusive interview with Anna Babych**, Vice-Chair of the ERF Public Policy Group and executive partner of Ukrainian law firm Aequo. She provides a personal experience of life in Ukraine since Russia invaded. www.ibanet.org/ERF-interview-anna-babych-aequo
53. 07 April 2022: **United States' National Public Radio (NPR)**, published its interview with IBA Executive Director Dr Mark Ellis, who provided insights around prosecution of perpetrators of **alleged war crimes** being committed in Ukraine.
www.npr.org/2022/04/07/1091487854/russian-forces-alleged-murder-rape-and-torture-of-civilians-may-count-as-war-cri
54. 11 April 2022: *IBA Global Insight* publish a **podcast with Professor Philip Leach: War and accountability.** The immediate Past Director of the European Human Rights Advocacy Centre and a professor of human rights law at Middlesex University discusses the challenges of prosecuting war criminals as Russia's invasion of Ukraine shines a light on the issue. www.ibanet.org/podcasts/war-accountability



🔊 War and accountability

55. 11 April 2022: **Published: IBA Global Insight news analysis – 'Invasion of Ukraine prompts law firms to exit Russia en masse'**
56. 11 April 2022: **Published: IBA Global Insight news analysis – 'Russia's invasion of Ukraine brings anti-money laundering into sharp focus'**
57. 12 April 2022: *Al Jazeera* again interviewed IBA Executive Director Dr Mark Ellis on its *Newshour* programme.
58. 17 April 2022: The media continues covering the *eyeWitness to Atrocities* app including **BBC** and **AFP** coverage: www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-61011855 and <https://uk.news.yahoo.com/tech-battles-show-worth-ukraine-152033000.html>
59. 18 April 2022: **Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights, Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights UK, the United States Institute of Peace and the Nizami Ganjavi International Center** convened a conversation on holding Russian President Vladimir Putin accountable for alleged war crimes and human rights violations in Ukraine. IBA Executive Director Dr Mark Ellis participated alongside **Iryna Venediktova, Prosecutor General of Ukraine** and **Kateryna Yushchenko, former First Lady of Ukraine.** Video: <http://tinyurl.com/mr3wuw2j>
60. 19 April 2022: **Published: IBA Global Insight news analysis – 'Ukraine: Refugee crisis emphasises need for coordinated international response'**

61. 20 April 2022: **IBA Global Insight** pulled together a collection of its podcasts, news analysis and features focused on the Russia-Ukraine war. '**The Ukraine crisis**' includes conversations around the role and effectiveness of sanctions, accountability for international crimes and how the displacement of people from a conflict zone is managed, among other things. Distributed by email the collection is also on the **IBA Global Insight app**.
62. 20 April 2022: The **Global Human Rights Defence** invites IBA Executive Director Dr Mark Ellis to participate in a webinar on universal jurisdiction, the International Criminal Court's limited jurisdiction in regard to Russian military leaders and the crime of aggression committed against Ukraine.
63. 25 April 2022: **Law for the Lay interviewed** IBA Executive Director Dr Mark Ellis on what constitutes a war crime and how to hold individuals and countries accountable.
64. 28 April 2022: **IBA Global Insight** publishes **The Ukraine refugee crisis** a podcast on the plight of Ukrainian refugees and the need for a coordinated, compassionate international response, and assesses the situation for displaced people from other conflict zones, such as Afghanistan.
65. 01 May 2022: **Il Sole 24 Ore published an article** *Crimini di guerra: in campo le squadre a caccia delle prove* (War crimes: on the field teams chasing evidence). **IBA Secretary General Claudio Visco** contributed details on the IBA-developed **eyeWitness to Atrocities app**.
66. 17 May 2022: A podcast has been planned by the IBA **Legal Policy & Research Unit** with an IBA Officer about his current existence in Ukraine. To be aired in June.
67. 10 May 2022: The **IBA Professional Ethics Committee** hosted the webinar **Professional ethics in times of war A webinar**. Discussed were the many ethical issues that have arisen relating to human rights and the rule of law following Russia's invasion of Ukraine.
68. 23 May 2022: **Reuters News Agency** interviews IBA Executive Director Dr Mark Ellis and publishes article on the first trial of a Russian soldier to conclude in a Ukrainian court. **Russian soldier jailed for life in first war crimes trial of Ukraine war**.
69. 24 May 2022: The IBA transferred 28,166 USD to the **Ukrainian Bar Association** to cover two months of operational costs.