

Dear Presidents of National Societies, Dear colleagues,

We are contacting you on behalf of the Council of the European Renal Association (ERA, formerly ERA-EDTA). First of all, we would like to express our sympathy and support in these difficult times for Ukraine and the Ukrainian people. The ERA is currently discovering options how to help people in need and our Ukrainian colleagues. We have already published its Declaration of Support for Ukraine on its website (see attached below) and established an email address helpukraine@era-online.org to coordinate all potentially supporting activities.

The ERA also contacted all past and current ERA Ukrainian members to ask them what their needs are and how European nephrologists could be helpful to our Ukrainian colleagues and nephrological patients and are now waiting for their feedback. We feel that support done in this way will be probably the most efficient.

We are contacting you to discover if you have any information about nephrology care and patients in Ukraine. Also, we would like to offer broader coordination platform in order to provide more targeted assistance. Last but not least, may you please inform us if you have already acted in this matter and in which ways?

Last but not least, please, find the enclosed paper 'Wars and kidney patients: a statement by the European Kidney Health Alliance related to the Russian-Ukrainian conflict' published by R. Vanholder (President of EKHA) and his team.

Thank you for your kind attention and we are looking forward to your replies.

Yours sincerely,



Christoph Wanner
ERA President



Ivan Rychlik
ERA Secretary-Treasurer

—

The ERA completely condemns the unjustified invasion of Ukraine by Russia. The ERA is particularly concerned for its members there, their vulnerable patients and the horrible consequences that they are likely to suffer. Even though the ERA is a non-political professional Society, we call for an end to this unjustified action and unilateral violation of international rules.

The ERA urges a return to dialogue and mediation to achieve rapid resolution of the crisis for the sake of the civilian population including all kidney patients*. We fully support all efforts to provide access to humanitarian aid, including food, water, shelter, medicines, dialysis equipment and medical care and call upon all National Societies to contact us at helpukraine@era-online.org so as to coordinate together how support can best be given in a rapidly changing situation.

*In this regard, patients who are on dialysis need thrice weekly access to fully equipped and working dialysis facilities and specialized personnel to survive, furthermore an interruption of appropriate medication in kidney transplanted patients may trigger the loss of their transplanted organ.

