

**Susan Frederick-Gray**

Tue, Mar 8, 8:57 AM  
(2 days ago)

Dear Terry and UUJEC,

I wanted to share this most recent statement from the UUA yesterday, condemning the invasion and calling for support for Ukraine.:

<https://www.uua.org/pressroom/press-releases/supporting-ukraine>

It may not address all you list but we recognize there will be opportunity to further comment. Indeed, we have been condemning these attacks through statements on social media since the invasion began. We have a few new staff on our Communications team and realized today that these statements had not been featured on the UUA.org front page. That was an oversight that I hope we have clarified.

It may be helpful to know that the UU@UN is fully a part of the UUA and we did look to Bruce Knotts and our International office to provide helpful insight and rapid response about the situation. We understood this as part of our UUA response. Additionally, we have been in partnership with the UUSC to be sure to amplify their response and work.

In situations of crisis and emergency aid in particular, we are intentionally in conversation with the UUSC about who is better positioned to respond and then throw our support behind whoever is taking the lead (UUA or UUSC). The UUSC, as the key UU international human rights organization, was best position to respond. Our commitment to support each other rather than be in competition does mean that we can move slower to communicate but I believe that it also strengthens our ability to respond not just with statements but with ongoing support to address these situations.

Thank you for your email.

Yours,

Susan

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7 March 2022  
UUA Board  
24 Farnsworth St.  
Boston, MA

Greetings,

The UUs for a Just Economic Community's board feels that the UUA should be making statements condemning Putin's assault on Ukraine. This is a huge humanitarian issue and because war is so destructive, it's also pushing our environment and climate over the edge.

The UUA can speak for peace with justice and it can encourage support for both human rights and environmental protection work. We appreciate the work being done by both UUSC and UU-UNO, but we would like to see a message from the UUA itself.

There's a need for an immediate response and there's a need for long-term solutions. While condemning the war, there is an opportunity to expose our addiction to fossil fuels as foolhardy on so many levels. Politically, fossil fuels have enabled despot after despot. Economically, fossil fuels have strangled our economy again and again. Securitywise—why spend money on defense when spending money on sustainable energy—widely distributed energy—is much more secure than fighting wars to protect our supply of energy? Having an environment that doesn't choke us with particulates or exacerbate killer climate change should be reason enough.

Please take the time to condemn the war, to support the peace movement and emergency services, and to encourage our government to throw all our resources into a just transition to renewable, sustainable energy, with economic justice for all nations.

Thank You!

Terry Lowman  
Sally Jane Gellert  
Co-chairs for UUs for a Just Economic Community  
UUs for a Just Economic Community Board of Trustees