

President

Warsaw, 14 March 2022

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Professor John Parrotta
President
International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO)

Dear Professor Parrotta,

the international academic community around the world is deeply moved by the attack of the Russian Federation on Ukraine. Until today more than 1.2 million war refugees crossed Poland's border. Among them there are numerous scientists and students. Expressing our full solidarity with the Ukrainian Nation and within the framework of our cooperation with the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine (NASU) the Polish Academy of Sciences has launched a programme supporting the Ukrainian researchers fleeing from war zones. The program covers expenses related to travel and 3-months' stay of Ukrainian scientists in the units of the PAS. More detailed information is available [here](#).

Our Academy receives many requests for help. So far, using our modest funds, we managed to allocate for this programme, we have supported 50 Ukrainian researchers. As you may image, the demand is enormous and it by far exceeds our financial possibilities.

Therefore, we approach all international scientific organizations, our Academy is a member of, to submit a kind request to waive our membership dues for the year 2022. Neither the Academy, nor our Institutes receive overheads from the budget of this specially introduced programme. All funding saved on membership contributions waived this year, will be transferred to support the Ukrainian researchers in Poland. We sincerely hope that together with the community of IUFRO we will be able to support the basic needs of our Ukrainian colleagues in these truly dramatic circumstances.

We would greatly appreciate your response at your earliest convenience.

With best regards,



Jerzy Duszyński