

HAW Hamburg, Executive Board, Berliner Tor 5, 20099 Hamburg

To all
HAW Hamburg
employees and students

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Solidarity with Ukraine / Tolerance on our international campus

Hamburg,
10 March 2022

Dear Colleagues and Students,

We, the Executive Board of HAW Hamburg, declare our solidarity with the Ukrainian people. We are very concerned about our Ukrainian students and the researchers who work together with our university. We also stand behind the scholars and scientists in Russia who have spoken out decisively against the Russian government's war of aggression in Ukraine, which is a violation of international law.

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Our long-standing partnerships with Lomonosov Moscow State University and Saint Petersburg State University have been suspended for the time being, as has the new partnership with the Higher School of Economics in Moscow, which is funded by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD). Through these actions we are complying with the urgent request from the Federal Ministry of Education and Research to limit such projects. However, it is important to us to emphasise that Russian scholars, researchers and students who also reject this war must not be held responsible for the current situation. We therefore ask our colleagues with long-standing contact to colleagues in the Russian Federation to maintain these relationships where possible. In this context, we also welcome the fact that the DAAD scholarship programme for students and researchers from Russia is being continued, and that Russian DAAD-scholarship recipients who are already in Germany are permitted to keep their scholarships and thus continue their stays as agreed.

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HAW Hamburg is an international university. Approximately 2,500 international students from more than 100 countries enrich our campus, and many of them are from Ukraine, the Russian Federation and Belarus. This year's summer semester, which will take place mostly on campus as opposed to online, will be starting soon – as will the Welcome Weeks for the 257 new

international students who are coming to us for a visiting semester or to begin their Bachelor's or Master's studies at HAW Hamburg.

This is why we are turning to you today and asking you to work together to ensure that all of these people, regardless of their nationality or origin, feel welcome here. Let us ask our international students and colleagues – whether they are from Ukraine, the Russian Federation or another country – if they need concrete assistance or someone to listen. The [International Office](#) and the [Student Counselling Office](#) are there to assist students with various forms of support – for example, when a safe space for dialogue and exchange is needed. The HAW Hamburg [Centre for Migration Research and Integration Practice](#) provides support services to students and prospective students who have been forced to flee their home countries. And the [Anti-discrimination section](#) of the Equal Opportunities Office helps protect university members from discrimination.

Both our university's academic colleagues and our students are currently involved in various efforts to provide support to refugees from Ukraine. Under the title 'Hamburg Science Bridge – Germany-Ukraine', the Ministry of Science, Research, Equalities and Districts (BWFG) has provided additional initial funding of €100,000 for the Scholars at Risk project to help researchers who are in danger. A newly created [area of the HAW Hamburg website](#) brings this information together in one place. You can find current news and interviews, as well as event listings and links to aid campaigns.

We are looking forward to the new semester with you, and to being able to meet in person again more often on our international campus. And we hope that the suffering caused by this war – for Ukraine, for Russia and for the world as a whole – will come to an end quickly.

With kind regards,
the HAW Hamburg Executive Board