**Statement of Visegrad Group Academies Forum on the military aggression against Ukraine and the support for Ukranian scientists**

*The Visegrad Group Academies Forum, during its annual meeting in Budapest, 27th of May 2022, agreed on the following statement.*

Visegrad Group Academies express their profound sympathy and solidarity for the suffering population of Ukraine.

Visegrad Group Academies do their best to take part in the support of refugees escaping from war, particularly members of the Ukrainian scientific community and their families. Our academies condemn both the Russian aggressor and the crimes against humanity committed.

Visegrad Group Academies are convinced that the only way to stop the ongoing humanitarian catastrophe and to ensure Ukraine’s territorial, educational, cultural, religious, scientific, and economic integrity is an immediate ceasefire and military retreat of the agressor.

Visegrad Group Academies express their common hope and offer their support that the scientists and artists, along with other refugees of Ukraine return to their homeland and continue their invaluable work towards new scientific achievements and the universal goals of science in peace and dignified conditions.

Jerzy Duszyński, President of the Polish Academy of Sciences

Tamás Freund, President of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences

Pavol Sajgalík, President of the Slovak Academy of Sciences

Peter Štih, President of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts

Eva Zažímalová, President of the Czech Academy of Sciences