



City of Kyoto

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Borys Grinchenko Kyiv University
Oleksandr TURUNTSEV, Vice-Rector

Dear members of the University community, dear citizens!

I am deeply concerned about the ongoing and immensely challenging situation in Ukraine, where the Russian full-scale military aggression persists even a year after its onset. My thoughts and prayers are with the Ukrainian people, as I earnestly hope for the full withdrawal of the Russian army and the fastest possible restoration of peace.

When I visited Kyiv in 2017 for the 45th anniversary of the Kyiv-Kyoto twinning relationship, I gave a commemorative lecture at your university and was awarded with the title of Honorary Professor. I deeply regret that the university, with which I am now closely connected, suffered significant harm during the military invasion. Therefore, in May 2022, we directed a part of the financial aid collected for the city directly to your university.

I also had an online meeting with the Mayor of Kyiv, Mr. Klitschko, on 6th April 2022, where I promised to work towards supporting your city. Following that, I joined efforts aimed at rebuilding the destroyed housing in Kyiv and ensuring the citizens were protected from the cold during the harsh winter.

I would also like to highlight that our city extends a warm welcome to all those who have been displaced from Kyiv and other cities in Ukraine, including students. With the assistance of our residents, we are offering support to individuals in need of housing and assistance to ensure their access to educational institutions.

We cannot afford to let the young generation, that will shape the future, be deprived of the opportunity to receive an education. I would like to express my deepest respect for the fact that even in extremely difficult circumstances, your university remains committed to nurturing individuals through education and research, inculcating culture, and playing a significant role in the pursuit of peace restoration and national rebuilding. I sincerely hope that Kyiv and Kyoto will uphold their spiritual unity, and that peace will be restored in Kyiv and throughout Ukraine as soon as possible, while we will continue to make further efforts to support you.

Mayor of the city of Kyoto

Daisaku KADOKAWA