

President of the Russian Federation  
Mr Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin

**Emergency Statement from Mayors for a Nuclear Power Free Japan  
Calling on the Russian Military to Immediately Cease Attacks on Nuclear Power Plants  
Appeal from a country with experience of nuclear disasters**

On February 24, 2022 the Russia Federation began its military invasion of Ukraine, bringing great suffering to many people living in Ukraine. To date over two million people have been forced to flee from their country, with many other millions unable to evacuate, facing severe and worsening conditions. On March 4, a Russian military attack started a fire at the Zaporizha nuclear power plant, Europe's biggest nuclear power plant, and on March 9, the Chernobyl nuclear power plant's external power supply was cut off. These acts have led to an extremely dangerous situation.

The 1986 Chernobyl disaster spread radiation through the then Soviet Union and all of Europe, even reaching Japan. From those involved in the disaster response, to those who were forced to leave their homeland, many people suffered health impacts due to radiation, and the contamination continues today, having accumulated in the flora and fauna. This is clearly a tragedy that many people in Russia, and in the world together experienced and share.

In 2011, following the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami, the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant suffered a meltdown that spread radioactive materials in Fukushima and throughout Japan, exposing many people to radiation the impacts of which continue even today. Considering these examples from our human history, current attacks on nuclear facilities in Ukraine will only once again spread nuclear contamination on a wide scale, exposing people in Russia and other many countries to radiation. This is surely a scenario which Russia would not hope for, and from which no one benefits.

As mayors of local municipalities and people who experienced such disasters, we are working to protect the lives and assets of our citizens through ensuring that no such nuclear disaster is ever allowed to occur, through a nuclear free policy based on renewable energy. We have been advocating for the Japanese government to shift its energy policies to a society that is not dependent on nuclear power. Russia's military invasion of Ukraine is unacceptable for any reason, and we strongly call for an immediate cease of the attacks on nuclear facilities and a withdrawal from Ukraine.

March 17th, 2022

Mayors for a Nuclear Power Free Japan