

**Press Release**

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## **German Library Association shocked by Russia's attack on Ukraine**

The German Library Association (dbv) is shocked by Russia's attack on Ukraine. Our full solidarity goes out to all the people in Ukraine who are now going through a extremely hard time. We stand by our Ukrainian colleagues and support the call of the Ukrainian Library Association, which has been linked on the website of the European Library Association EBLIDA:

<http://www.eblida.org/news/the-russian-federation-barbaric-attack-against-ukraine.html>

We are very deeply concerned about their welfare. But we also think of the people in Russia who are being pushed into this senseless war. There too people are standing up for democracy and freedom of speech, risking a great deal and even putting themselves in danger as a result. Libraries as places of encounter and cohesion support people, especially in times when the liberal values of our open, pluralistic and tolerant society are under threat. In libraries as places of living democracy, people can exercise their right to freedom of expression, political opinion and social participation. Libraries provide education and enable access to reputable sources. They help people better recognize misinformation, which is more important than ever in these times. We ask our libraries, in cooperation with governmental and nongovernmental organizations to support all Ukrainian refugees and offer them assistance and services.

### **German Library Association**

The Deutscher Bibliotheksverband e.V. (dbv) with its more than 2,000 members represents over 9,000 libraries with 25,000 employees and eleven million users nationwide. Its central concern is to strengthen libraries so that they provide all citizens with free access to information. The association is committed to the development of innovative library services for science translation.

[www.bibliotheksverband.de](http://www.bibliotheksverband.de)