INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR INTERCUTURAL EDUCATION

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Registered non-profit organization in the Netherlands, with sister organizations in United States and Greece

Established 1984

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Following the turbulence shaped by the pandemic that was manifested in instant global connectedness accompanied with social isolation, we have been in the last two weeks witnessing the unfolding military intervention in Ukraine with potentially unpredictable consequences across the world.

This has set in motion, not only the widespread suffering being experienced in Ukraine, but extensive displacement of people, of refugees attempting to exit Ukraine in order to find safe shelter. Along with families, mothers and children, individuals of 'non-European' heritage, including international students, are now experiencing discrimination in their attempt to enter countries bordering Ukraine and the education of children has come to a complete halt.

In the midst of rapidly changing situation the International Association for Intercultural Education (IAIE) which is dedicated to understanding global issues through formal and non-formal education, the displacement of refugee and migrant families and their welfare, issues of discrimination and racism, and the maintenance of social justice in international communities, calls for immediate and complete cessation of such action.

Through our activities, publications, research, and inspiring actions, IAIE has always attempted to build bridges of trust and to use dialogue as means to promote understanding in diverse contexts. As an educational association we encourage the engagement of our members, partners and all educators in research and educational activities towards peace education, conflict resolution, migration and refugee studies, and trauma therapies to overcome any further actions.

It is in this manner, as an internationally connected community concerned with intercultural education, intercultural dialogue and local action support, that we can encourage present and future generations to courageously draw the world of peace they want to live in.

Photo by Hana Alhadi, IAIE Communication Director, taken at Creative workshop with the Refugee children

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