



## **Minutes of the 23rd Committee meeting**

11 March 2022 - MSTeams

A single topic is discussed:

### **Topic 1. Resolution against war**

The president, Mario Minale, introduces the problem with the following arguments:

*We are all living a terrible period because of the war between Russia and Ukraine.*

*We want to raise our voice against war with somehow practical and symbolic action. I am going to propose a resolution to temporarily suspend the Vinogradov society of rheology from the ESR until peace will be restored. However, the individual membership of Russian rheologists in the ESR will not be suspended as we have nothing against Russian rheologists and more in general against the Russian people.*

**The resolution is simply a symbolic action to condemn war. It is not meant to attribute any responsibility of war to the VSR.**

*It is only a way to try to let governments understand that war is never a solution and that it brings side effects that can be unpredictable. It is a way to push the belligerent Countries towards peace, with the only action we have as ESR.*

***It will be a feeble voice, but it is the loudest we can raise.***

- The resolution proposed was discussed within the ExCom and a very large consensus (not unanimous) was reached
- A discussion with VSR scientists was undertaken before proposing the resolution: They are against the resolution that they consider unfair and mainly political. The representative of VSR, Ivan Skvortsov, who is absent today to avoid to stir up politics, wrote to the President: *"I repeat that I and our entire community consider the gesture of excluding the Vinogradov Society of Rheology from the ESR exclusively as anti-Russian and exclusively political"*

The following resolution is voted:

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**Resolution against war**

*Science is based on the collaboration between scientists or research groups without distinction of Country, religion or race, on the attitude of sharing results and ideas among peers. All these principles are antithetical to war. The European community, whatever it may be, political or scientific, is founded on peace. The invasion of Ukraine by the Russian armed forces is contrary to international law.*

***The European Society of Rheology firmly condemns war.***

*The Vinogradov Society of Rheology (VSR) is temporarily suspended from the European Society of Rheology (ESR) until peace is restored. It is not intended to attribute any responsibility of war to the VSR members and therefore their individual memberships to the ESR remain active, as science is free, it makes people free and freedom promotes peace.*

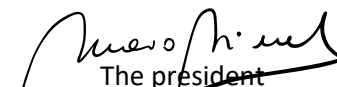
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The resolution is approved with a large consensus.

It will be published on ESR website; on Rheol Acta Website and it will be mailed to the President of the Council and of the Parliament of the European Union.

The President will continue the representative of VSR to the meetings of the committee of the ESR since the resolution must not be intended against the VSR scientists. Obviously, the representative will not have voting rights as long as the temporarily resolution is active.

  
The secretary

  
The president