FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The American Geographical Society Issues Statement on the Invasion of Ukraine by Russia

[New York City, NY] -- [March 1, 2022] -- The American Geographical Society (AGS) has issued the following statement on the invasion of Ukraine by the military forces of Russia:

“The American Geographical Society wholeheartedly condemns Russia’s invasion of Ukraine as an unprovoked war of choice, and calls upon the Russian Geographical Society (RGS) to remove President Vladimir Putin as the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of RGS. By distorting the historical record and well established geographical facts, and fabricating supposed provocations, President Putin has needlessly sent young Russian soldiers to die as they attempt to slaughter innocent Ukrainian men, women, and children. President Putin does this to rewrite the geography of Russia through the violation of its neighbor’s sovereign borders, in order to advance his personal ambitions, while peaceful Russian citizens take to the streets in an appeal to live in harmony with their neighbors and cultural cousins. President Putin’s behavior is contrary to the values of free nations of the world, and denies the rights of Ukrainians to live in peace within their territorial state.”

The American Geographical Society is a 21st-century learning society dedicated to the advancement of geographic thinking, knowledge, and understanding across business, government, academe, social sectors, and most importantly with teachers and students. Established in 1851, AGS is the oldest professional geographical organization in the United States. It is recognized worldwide as a pioneer in geographical research and education for 170 years. The vision and mission of AGS is to be the foremost champion of geography for the benefit of society. We convene a diverse global community of innovators, thinkers, and practitioners; create and curate geographical knowledge, learning, and exploration; and advance geographic science and technologies to address society’s challenges and opportunities. The Society maintains its headquarters in New York City.

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