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## **Press release for immediate publication: 1<sup>st</sup> March 15.30hrs, UK**

The Association of British Paediatric Nurses are calling on the UK government, the United Nations and other international partners to continue and extend their efforts to stop the violence and violations of human rights and to protect the children and young people of the Ukraine.

The ABPN condemn the attacks by Russian forces on the Ukraine. Members have seen the news of the attacks in Ukraine and send their support to the health care workers in Ukraine who are working tirelessly in hospitals, clinics and other health care settings and on the front line to care for the innocent people affected by this conflict and to those providing humanitarian relief in nearby countries providing safe haven to many.

Katrina McNamara, Chair of ABPN said *"We know that many children need oxygen and technology to survive and are hearing that hospitals are being attacked, threatening the essential oxygen and electrical supplies. I hope that humanitarian support is allowed to provide support to the children before it is too late"*.

The Association stands in solidarity with our nursing and medical colleagues striving to provide care to children in these dangerous times.

There are many Ukrainian and Russian families living in the UK and we know that UK nurses will be dealing with the additional worries and fear of these patients and their families when receiving care

We urge nurses and health care colleagues to reach out and ask for help if you find that the current situation is evoking severe anxiety or flashbacks.

Professor Bernie Carter, President of the ABPN, said *"In all conflicts, children are the innocent victims. Children are especially vulnerable to the consequences of violence and Ukrainian children's lives are being radically impacted by both the threat of violence and actual violence. The ABPN stands firm with the children of the world and our thoughts at this present time are particularly with the children of the Ukraine, their families and those health care workers continuing to deliver care under unimaginably difficult circumstances"*.

### **Notes for editors**

The ABPN is a UK-based network of children's nurses with a wide membership of experts in clinical practice, education, leadership and research. It is the oldest children's nursing association in the world.

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