

## **Declaration Stand firm**

We are deeply shocked by the Russian invasion of Ukraine in the early morning of February 24th.

As a consequence of the war in Ukraine and Russia's threat of using nuclear arms, peace and democracy in Europe are at severe risk. And while Ukraine is fighting bravely and determinedly for its democracy, it is fighting a war it cannot win alone.

We cannot and will not stand by silently, avert our eyes and keep working. Professional service providers in the Netherlands and Europe bear a responsibility.

We swore an oath in the acceptance of our office, promising faithfully to never defend a case or represent an interest we could not in good conscience justify. In times of crisis and war this responsibility to follow our conscience and act accordingly weighs even stronger.

We appeal to all Law firms in the Netherlands to support this declaration and refuse to facilitate any transaction that may have the intent to secure the interests of the Russian president, the Russian state, Russian (state) companies or the Russian elite insofar as they do not openly take a stand against the invasion of Ukraine. We will not represent the interests of those who (indirectly) facilitate the war against Ukraine. Starting with respecting the sanctions against Russia that have been announced in a European context.

It's time to show our true colours. Stand firm!

### **This statement is supported by:**

- BarentsKrans
- Bird & Bird (Netherlands) LLP
- Boels Zanders Advocaten
- Brinkhof
- Cleerdin & Hamer Advocaten
- CMS Nederland
- Dirkzwager legal & tax
- DVDW
- Florent
- Kennedy Van der Laan
- KienhuisHoving Advocaten en Notarissen
- La Gro Geelkerken
- LXA Advocaten
- Nysingh advocaten en notarissen
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- Trip Advocaten Notarissen
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