



**Sergio Mujica**  
Secretary-General

SG 2022

2022-03-22

**TO THE ISO MEMBER BODIES,  
CORRESPONDENT MEMBERS AND  
SUBSCRIBER MEMBERS**

Dear Members,

The President's Committee met last week to discuss the impact of the ongoing war in Ukraine and is deeply touched by the resulting loss of life, suffering and humanitarian impact. We join the international community in the hope that dialogue will prevail, and that peace will soon be achieved.

ISO remains committed to maintaining an open and neutral platform for technical experts to develop International Standards, which are globally recognized as an indispensable driver for economic and social growth.

In this context, we acknowledge concerns that have been expressed regarding participation in ISO technical work that may potentially infringe the sanctions imposed by some countries.

The specific implications of these sanctions need to be assessed at a national or regional level. However, recognising these concerns, we would like to provide the following additional information in relation to these sanctions.

ISO's member in the US (ANSI) currently advises that continued participation in international standards development activities involving Russian participants is permitted where the process remains open and shared information is not proprietary or controlled, as explained in their [communication](#).

As far as the European Union is concerned, even if we have not yet received any final statement from the European Commission (EC), EC officials have confirmed our position and informally indicated that ISO meetings can be considered as multilateral or regional meetings and that participation in technical work is allowed even when Russian technical representatives are present. We will continue our dialogue with the EC through CEN/CENELEC and will promptly inform you if there is any news on this matter.

The situation and expert participation in ISO technical committees will continue to be monitored carefully in close coordination with IEC, CEN/CENELEC and other relevant national or regional bodies, with a view to upholding collaboration across borders as a driver for peace.

Best regards,

Sergio Mujica