

POSITION STATEMENT

2 March, 2022, Vilnius

Lithuanian Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (LSOG) Member of International Federation of Gynecology of Obstetrics (FIGO)

The position statement expresses the position of Lithuanian Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists on the membership of Russian Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists in FIGO.

Lithuanian Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists being a member of FIGO is proud of this membership and our participation in FIGO activities. We appreciate the values of the organization – the seeking to the women of the world achieve the highest possible standards of physical, mental, reproductive and sexual health and wellbeing throughout their lives, fighting for the women facing crisis.

Lithuania was the first state in the former USSR to declare its independence after 50 years of occupation. The fight for freedom continued as Russian army was deployed to perform a military coup back to 1991, however was repelled by the patriotic Lithuanian people. The present-day Lithuania is familiar with an insidious Kremlin regime and having fought long battles against occupation and Russian influence our country has never lost its prudence and is aware of the situation Ukraine is in currently.

The Lithuanian Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists expresses enormous and sincere condolences to their brothers and sisters fighting Kremlin's regime in their country. Our support goes to Ukrainian military, civilians, and medical practitioners whose home are under an unprecedented attack from the Russian Federation. Ukraine is fighting a war for the freedom and the future of all the world and the FIGO must stand on the solidarity with our Ukrainian friends.

There are no two sides in this conflict. There are only a malicious aggressor and innocent people of Ukraine. The newborns born in bombshelters and our Ukrainian colleagues move their labor wards to the basements lacking vital medicines and supplies. We hope that the conflict will be resolved by a complete withdrawal of Russian troops from the occupied territories in Ukraine and the Ukrainian people will be able to safely return home.

We cannot stand aside. We condemn the military actions begun by the Russian Federation and therefore asking for an official statement from the Russian Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists which is also a member of FIGO, to state their official stance on the war. We believe that any denial of the war in Ukraine must be met with a strict action from FIGO – a complete suspension of the membership of the Russian Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. The one of FIGO goals is working with governments to promote the health and wellbeing of women and girls, so the Russian Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists can influence the moral obligation of government to ensure that the medical profession can freely continue its care for patients without the threat of violence in every country – Ukraine, Russia, Lithuania and others.

President of Lithuanian Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
Professor Diana Ramasauskaite

