

**Shared via Pacific Yearly Meeting
Peace and Social Order Committee**

Social Concern Minute

**Berkeley Friends Meeting
Minute Calling for Diplomacy, not Militarization, in Ukraine Crisis
February 13, 2022**

The Berkeley Society of Friends (Quakers) supports peaceful resolutions of all conflicts. We are deeply troubled by the current tension between Russia, Ukraine, NATO, and the United States and call for all parties to work to de-escalate this crisis. A war in Ukraine would cause enormous suffering, as all wars inevitably do, and it would destabilize a world already suffering from many serious crises.

We call for all nations and all parties to work for peace in this moment and in all such tense situations, to resist all warmongering rhetoric and military build-up--to resist, in particular, the tendency to speak of violence as something inevitable--and instead to recommit to arms control, diplomacy, and peaceful cooperation. We remind all that peace takes hard and constant work, but that war is never the answer.

Anne Nesbet, Clerk

Approved February 13, 2022