

JARED POLIS  
GOVERNOR



136 STATE CAPITOL  
DENVER, COLORADO 80203

TEL 303-866-2471  
FAX 303-866-2003

March 1, 2022

President Todd Saliman  
University of Colorado  
1800 Grant St.  
Denver CO 80203

Re: Divestiture of Russian State-Owned Assets

President Todd Saliman,

The Russian invasion of the sovereign democracy of Ukraine was a premeditated and unjustifiable attack that has already led to the loss of life. Colorado is home to approximately 11,000 Ukrainian Americans – many of whom still have family in Ukraine. We stand in support of Ukrainian Coloradans and their family and countrymen in Ukraine whose lives, liberty, and freedom are threatened by the large-scale Russian invasion. While there are normal disagreements between nations that occur, the outright violent invasion of a neighboring peaceful country is simply not acceptable in today's world.

President Biden announced numerous significant sanctions against Russia, including cutting off large Russian financial institutions and their subsidiaries, disallowing Russian state-owned companies from raising money in U.S. markets, preventing certain technological imports from the U.S. to Russia, and other sanctions on government-related individuals and the Russian military.

My administration supports these federal sanctions against the Russian government and Russian state-owned institutions. Colorado is also acting to condemn Russia's actions on a state-level and to support Ukrainians home and abroad. On February 24, 2022, I issued Executive Order D 2022 011 ensuring the Office of Information Technology (OIT) will focus resources on protecting the State from Russian cyber-attacks and directing OIT and the Department of Personnel & Administration (DPA) to review relevant State contracts to verify that Colorado is not contracting with or investing in Russian state-owned companies.

Colorado is also home to over 55,000 Russian-born Americans, and as we take these steps, we take them against the Russian government, not the Russian people, many of whom oppose these acts and are also working actively to end this aggression.

I know that we share our condemnation of Russia's actions and will move together to ensure that Colorado's dollars are not used to support the Russian government. I ask that your institution: (1) completely divest your endowment of any Russian-owned assets; (2) terminate all contracts with the Russian-government; and (3) terminate all grants in which the Russian-government or Russian institutions of higher education are the primary beneficiary.

We will stand on the side of freedom and proudly support a democratic and independent Ukraine. War, violence, and chaos threaten the very foundations of the global economy and our national security. Colorado will not turn its head. We will take affirmative actions to support Ukrainians and hold Russia accountable. We hope that these actions are short-lived and that the great nation of Russia soon returns to being a proud and peaceful, and your actions can hasten that day.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jared Polis". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jared Polis  
Governor  
State of Colorado