

## **Belle II Response to the Ongoing Russian Invasion of Ukraine**

### **Recalling – HEP as a Peace Driver and Belle II**

History shows that international scientific collaboration provides a unique window of communication and voice of reason, fostering mutual understanding and helping to overcome disputes. High-energy physics (HEP) is one of the academic fields leading in such a role.

We recall that HEP international collaborations arose after World War II, continued even during the Cold War and various cross-border conflicts, and produced numerous discoveries that contributed to all of humankind. Our experience has given us a deep appreciation of the merits of collaborative research as a driver for peace.

The Belle II Collaboration is such a global project of fundamental science with no military or commercial aspects. It consists of more than 1,100 researchers gathered from more than 120 institutions in 26 countries and regions. We are working together on a unique particle physics experiment to elucidate the fundamental laws of the Universe for the benefit of all humankind. The Belle II Collaboration includes researchers from Ukraine and Russia.

### **Strong Condemnation of the War**

We strongly condemn the ongoing military invasion of Ukraine by Russia. The invasion has resulted in a great deal of death, suffering, and destruction, and constitutes a threat to international cooperation on all levels. We urge an immediate ceasefire and restoration of peace.

### **Solidarity/Support for Ukraine**

We are gravely concerned for the safety of our friends and colleagues in Ukraine and for all people who are affected by the ongoing violence. The war puts our Ukrainian colleagues and their families and friends at risk of life and limb. It has destroyed their research environment and facilities and made it difficult for them to continue research in the future.

The Belle II Collaboration will support our Ukrainian colleagues, provide

temporary shelter and a research environment, help them resume research as soon as possible, and ensure their continued participation in the experiment. We also support Ukrainian colleagues who belong to institutes outside Ukraine.

### **Collaboration with Russian Scientists**

While we strongly condemn the invasion of Ukraine by the Russian government, we appreciate the scientific contributions of individual researchers from Russian institutes and the funding that they have received. We respect their invaluable contributions over many years since the time of the Belle experiment. In particular, the Russian colleagues lead the development, construction, and operation of the calorimeter and muon subsystems, as well as physics analyses in a variety of areas. The Belle II experiment relies heavily on their contributions, talents, and expertise both in operation and analysis.

While we were disappointed by the letter signed by leaders of Russian institutes in support of the war, we also admire the courage of many Russian researchers who openly reject and even actively protested against the war. Some of them left the country and are in a difficult situation both personally and professionally.

### **KEK-DG Statement**

We support the statement by the KEK Director General on March 11, which strongly urged an immediate ceasefire, expressed deep concerns about the impact of the war on academic development, and emphasized the continuation of the KEK efforts to provide support to all members of our community connected to Ukraine or Russia.

### **Division and Unity**

We are deeply concerned about the continuation of the war and about the possible development of additional conflicts if the situation deteriorates. We believe that, particularly in such times, we must stand united as a global scientific community. Particle physics is a non-military, non-economic area that fosters cooperation across boundaries of country, race, religion, culture, language, and ideology. Cooperation and open communication are a necessary ingredient in the effort to make a more peaceful world and end the current war. By contrast, sanctions against individual Russian researchers due to actions of their government can only cause division and be counterproductive in both the short and long terms.

## **Authorship**

Authorship is the most important element in the academic records. It acknowledges every author's contribution to the scientific result and establishes their academic responsibility for it. Excluding some authors for non-scientific reasons damages the scientific credibility of the work.

## **Constraints**

Belle II members in some countries cannot at this time be listed as authors on papers together with Russian institutes or funding agencies. In particular, this is the case for scientists from Ukraine. Ensuring the unity of the Belle II Collaboration necessitates respecting this constraint.

## **Summary – Belle II Measures**

Considering the above points, the Belle II Collaboration adopts the following measures:

- Belle II members from Russian institutes continue to contribute to the experiment as collaboration members.

As for publications,

- We list the names of all individuals who signed the authorship confirmation.
- Affiliations, country names, and funding-agency acknowledgements are not listed.

These measures will be reviewed regularly at every Belle II General Meeting until these extraordinary measures are no longer required.

(Adopted by the Institutional Board, 8 June 2022)