

Wednesday, March 30, 2022

[Presentation](#)

[Recording](#)

[Chat](#)

[Transcript](#)

Attendees

Voting: Shayne Gary, Saras Chung, Juan Pablo Torres, Kawika Pierson, Will Glass-Husain, Diana Fisher, Raafat Zaini, Jenson Goh, Lees Stuntz, Munaf Aamir, Tom Fidamann, Bob Eberlein, Sara Metcalf, Paul Newton, Krys Stave, Thomas Wittig, Brad Morrison, Paulo Gonçalves

Non-voting: Peter Hovmand, Jorge Sousa, Eduardo Franco, Christine Tang, Billy Schoenberg, Raquel Buzogany, Rebecca Niles

Agenda

0:05 Welcome, Agenda, and Dashboard (Shayne Gary)

0:05 Motions

0:40 Breakout Rooms for each VP OKRs

0:25 VP Debriefs 2 min

0:10 Response to Ukraine Conflict

Adjournment

Minutes

President Shayne Gary brought the meeting to order, introduced the agenda and highlighted the latest dashboard updates.

Secretary, Lees Stuntz, moved to approve the February 2022 PC meeting. Jenson seconded. Approved unanimously.

Bob Eberlein moved to approve Scott Rockart to PC member partial term. Lees Stuntz seconded. Approved unanimously.

Shayne Gary appointed Ulkem Yararbas as AVP Pre-College Education and welcomed her formally.

Executive Director, Rebecca Niles, shared that the Office has been focusing on conference submissions, which have successful turned in, and will now change its focus to membership which has fallen a bit behind. More memberships are also expected once the grace period ends, from April on.

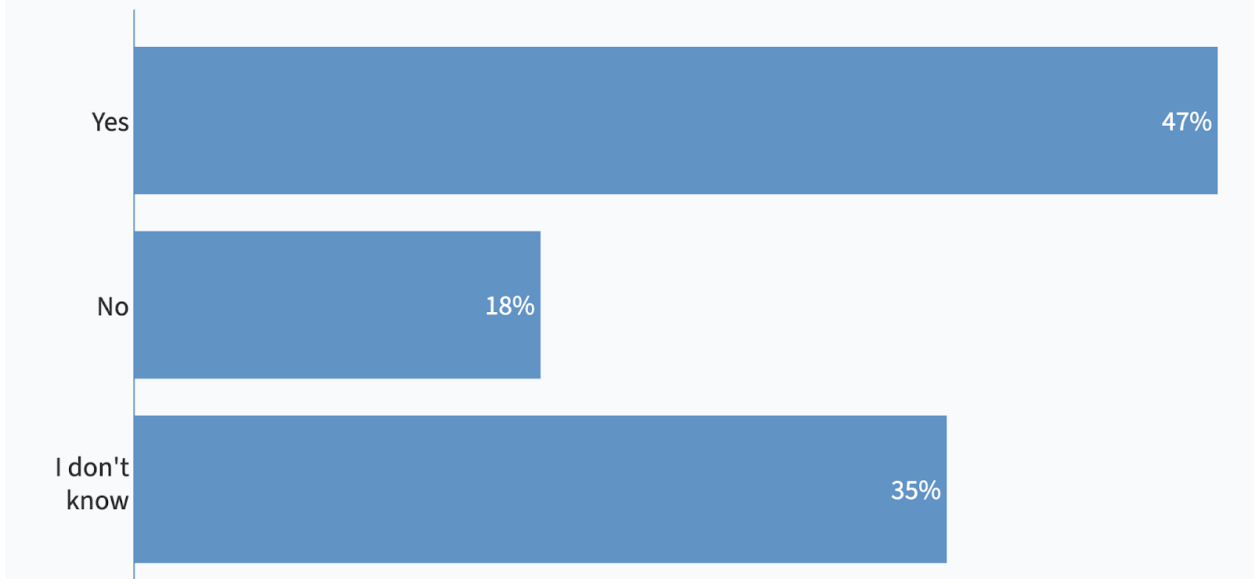
Strategy Committee, Shayne, reviewed the OKR process and attendants had the opportunity to join breakout rooms to continue discussions with individual VPs. Each group then shortly shared their progress with the full PC. (VP Professional Practice changed [link](#))

Rebecca Niles introduced the topic of the SDS response to the Ukraine conflict listing the triggers for the discussion, initial actions, and some implications of a decision. Sara Metcalf presented a picture with Ukrainian colleagues and vouched for taking action. Rebecca then moved forward with a pulse check intended to bring to the light the direction the PC would like to give to this matter. Answers below:

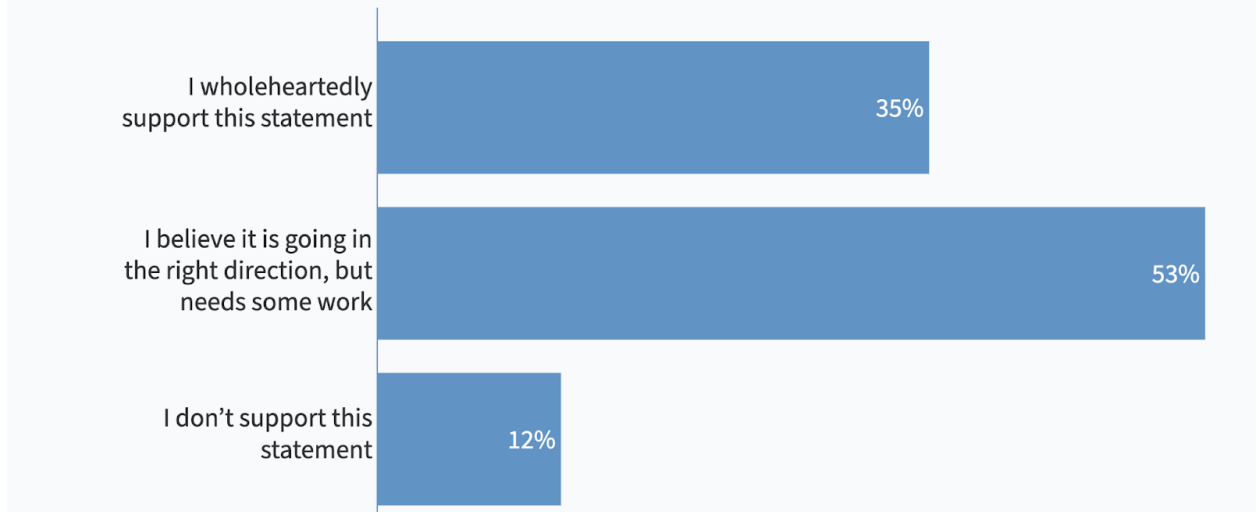
Does the policy council want the SDS to respond in some way to the Ukraine Russia conflict?



If the SDS takes a position on this conflict, is the SDS prepared to take positions on future conflicts?



What is your level of support for STATEMENT #1 (Statement of Solidarity) in response to the Ukraine Russia conflict?

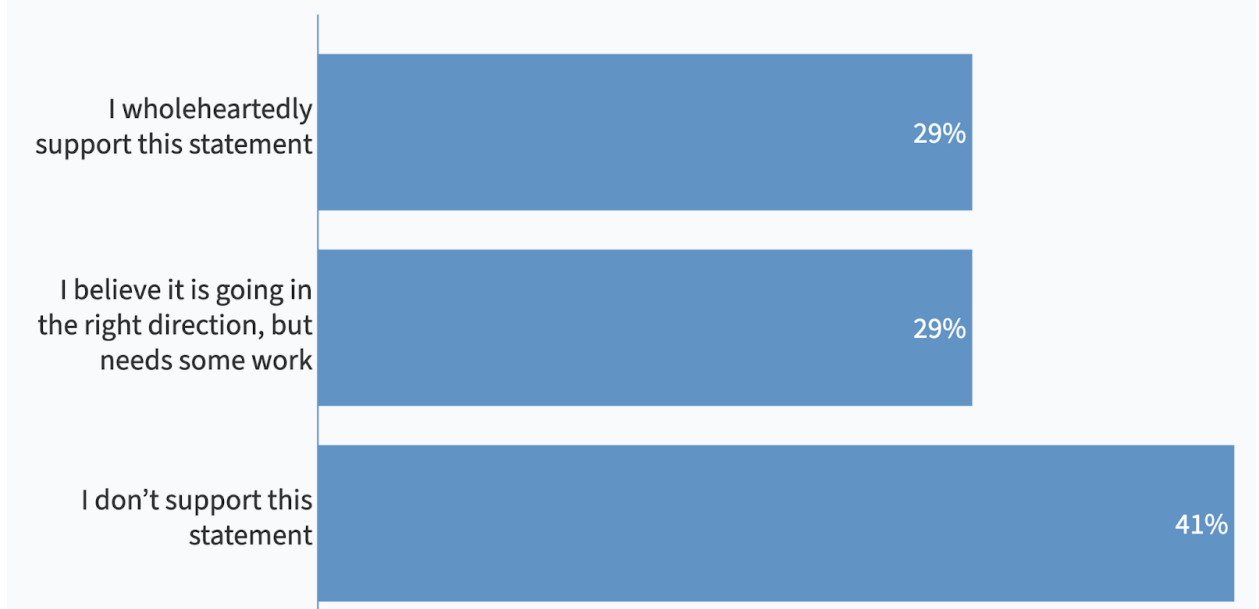


STATEMENT 1

The System Dynamics Society (SDS) considers the Russian military invasion of Ukraine an appalling tragedy. We stand in solidarity with the people of Ukraine who are defending their democracy and freedom.

The SDS supports the immediate withdrawal of Russian forces and their operatives from all territories of Ukraine and the development of a solid and everlasting peace between the peoples of Ukraine and Russia. We also acknowledge the courage that many Russian citizens are showing in speaking out and protesting against this invasion.

What is your level of support for STATEMENT #2 in response to the Ukraine Russia conflict?



STATEMENT 2

The Russian invasion of Ukraine is an appalling tragedy. The System Dynamics Society (SDS) expresses its solidarity with the people of Ukraine and condemns the actions and atrocities being committed by the Russian government and its operatives. As a global society, developed with the intent purpose of doing good in the world, the SDS has an obligation to act in support of the people of Ukraine and the development of a strong and everlasting peace between the peoples of Ukraine and Russia via the immediate withdrawal of Russian forces and their operatives from all territories of Ukraine.

The SDS will therefore take the following set of actions designed to show its support and solidarity with the people of Ukraine, while also supporting those within Russia who act in support for ending the war by creating the systemic change necessary to develop an everlasting peace. The following actions will remain in effect at least until such time as the complete withdrawal of Russian forces and their operatives from all territories of Ukraine has been completed. The ultimate duration of these actions will be determined by the SDS Policy Council.

1. The SDS will immediately withdraw its support from any chapter which plans or participates in an activity which is interpreted by the SDS to support the ongoing hostilities in Ukraine by the Russian Government or its operatives. If the SDS is not satisfied that the chapter supports the development of an everlasting peace in Ukraine via the immediate withdrawal of Russian forces from all territories of Ukraine, the SDS will follow its pre-established bylaws for the dissolution of the chapter.
2. The SDS will deny a voice to any person at its meetings and events, or in its journals and publications, who supports the ongoing hostilities in Ukraine by the Russian Government or its operatives.
3. The SDS will review all of its financial activity (including membership payments) to ensure that it does not continue to do any business with, or receive any Sponsorship from, any companies or individuals that support the ongoing hostilities in Ukraine by the Russian Government or its operatives.
4. The SDS will do what it can to support and protect the interests of Ukrainian universities and practitioners. As such the SDS will highlight the good work of Ukrainian authors within its activities. In addition, the SDS will set up a fund to disburse at its discretion to support any System Dynamics programs, students, or practitioners directly affected by war in their country of residence.

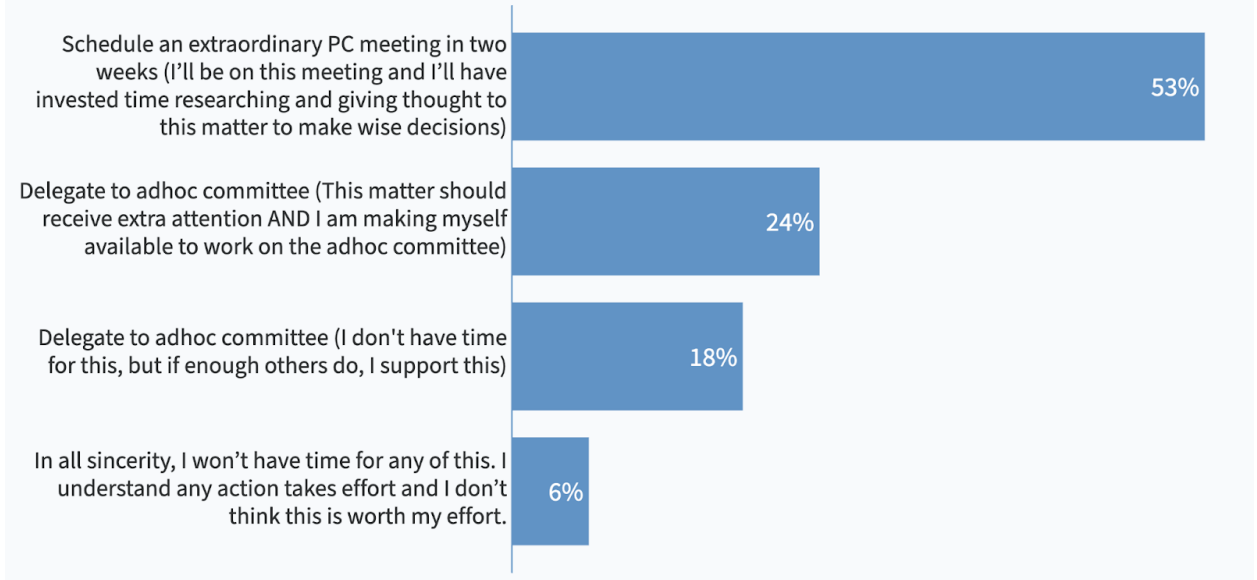
The SDS understands that many of those working with System Dynamics in Russia are fully committed to the immediate end to the war in Ukraine and never supported its development in the first place. The SDS hopes that in time, System Dynamicists in Russia will be able to play a role in the development of a strong and everlasting peace between the peoples of Ukraine and Russia. Until such time, the SDS believes the

current situation requires a response that reflects its solidarity with Ukraine and its rejection of the Russian Government's aggression, without punishing supporters of peace, regardless of their nationality and place of residence.

The SDS feels that these actions make its position clear, but the SDS will not hesitate to take further action as the situation develops.

Response	Net Votes	Upvotes	Downvotes	Trending Score
SDS will highlight good work of Ukrainian authors within its activities (conference, SDR, etc).	16	16	0	16
Immediately withdraw its support from any chapter which plans or participates in an activity which is interpreted by the SDS to support the ongoing hostilities in Ukraine by the Russian Government or its operatives.	14	14	0	14
Remove connection from website to the Russian Chapter website which currently promotes a conference on the use of SD to improve the Russian military.	14	15	1	14
SDS will set up a fund to disburse at its discretion to support any System Dynamic programs, students, or practitioners directly affected by war in their country of residence.	12	14	2	12
Review financial activity to ensure that it does not accept SPONSORSHIPS from companies/individuals that support the ongoing hostilities in Ukraine by the Russian Government or its operatives.	12	14	2	12
Review financial activity to ensure that it does not accept membership payments from companies/individuals that support the ongoing hostilities in Ukraine by the Russian Government or its operatives.	8	12	4	8
Issue STATEMENT #1 of solidarity (see draft in PC prez) with the Ukrainians (e.g. on Russian Chapter page, via email, or on home page.)	8	11	3	8
Would not put the statement on Russian Chapter page, as this might actually put people at risk, as	6	7	1	6
Highlight past SD work on peace and conflict resolution.	5	5	0	5
Question: Should SDS have had a similar response to the US invasion of Iraq after 9/11?	5	5	0	5
Issue a more complete statement including a number of actions as defined in the LONGER STATEMENT to the extent they are approved in this poll.	1	8	7	1
Deny a voice to any person at its meetings, events, journals and publications, who supports the ongoing hostilities in Ukraine by the Russian Government or its operatives.	0	7	7	0
If not satisfied that chapter supports development of an everlasting peace in Ukraine via the immediate withdrawal of Russian forces from Ukraine, the follow its pre-established bylaws for the dissolution of the chapter.	-1	6	7	-1
No statement. No action. Remain neutral on this and other geopolitical issues.	-12	1	13	-12

How would the PC like to make or delegate decisions regarding this matter?



Given the results for the last question, it was agreed that the extraordinary PC meeting will be held in one week on April 6th to avoid unnecessary delays. Billy asked the Executive Committee to provide the discussion that will rule the extraordinary PC meeting by Monday, it was agreed Billy would send a draft to the EC. Paul Newton asked what are the next steps if there is no quorum in the next meeting, from attendants this didn't seem to be an issue and a second option would be to create an adhoc committee. Raquel was tasked on creating a statement #3 taking into account the initial two statements and poll results, others are free to add alternative statements.