

Future of the Institute of Philosophy of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow

Dear Colleague,

As some of you know, the Institute of Philosophy in Moscow has for a number of years been threatened with exclusion from the building which it occupies in central Moscow, near to the Pushkin State Museum for the Fine Arts. This crisis has now reached the highest point and we urgently wish to publicise what is happening and seek your support.

The Institute has a contract to rent the building from the City government, at least until 2019. Recently, however, the ownership passed to the State government, which is acting unilaterally to exclude the Institute and pass the building to other hands. Already a governmental agency is harassing the present occupants. No provision of any kind has been proposed for re-housing the Institute, and were it to be put out now it would literally be on the street.

The Institute itself, and the building which it has occupied since 1929, are of historic importance and vital to the intellectual and academic life of the city and the nation. On 16 November 2009, we held a World Philosophy Day in the Institute, and even the preparation for this event of global significance had been threatened by the existing crisis. We ask you to write in support of the continuation of the life of the Institute at the same place where the Institute has always been located, thereby recognising its historic place in Russian and world philosophy. You may send messages to:

[here should be the addresses where to write to]

Please contact us if you wish to have further information.

The future of this renowned Institute of Philosophy is bleak indeed unless it can secure the base for its continuing work. Thus we turn to your support, in whatever way you think appropriate.

Yours sincerely,
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