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Continuation of the Russian Academy of Sciences esp. the Institute of Philosophy

Your Excellency, Mr. Prime Minister,

as honorary president and former acting president of the International Institute of Philosophy (The World Academy of this discipline) I would like to convey to you my support for continuing the state of the art, organization and scientific work of the Russian Academy of Science of which institution I am a foreign member.

The Russian Academy is proud of a great tradition stemming from the cooperation between Russian and German scholars like Lomonossov, Euler after the advice of the great Wilhelm Leibniz and did a great work in fostering science and interregional debate not only in Russia but worldwide.

Especially I would like to emphasize also the great work of the Institute of Philosophy at the Russian Academy of Sciences with which I and the International Institute of Philosophy have been cooperating for a quarter century now primarily in connection with colleagues in the philosophy of technology and science, but also in history of philosophy and intercultural studies.

Members of the academy were hosting international world congresses like the one on logic methodology and philosophy of science in 1993 which was declared open by the Russian head of state and got considerable international resonance.

The great work of many of the academicians and also – not to forget in any case! – the young scholars and scientists as well as philosophers and historians of science in the philosophical section of the academy certainly gained great international reputation for their respective academy-work – due to the enthusiasm, excellent work, and international status of many Russian members of international societies and academies. (For instance, well known Russian scholars from the academy have become members of the International Institute of Philosophy and also of the International Academy for the Philosophy of the Sciences.)

Some international leading scholars like the presidents of the IIP and the IAPS just mentioned have been honored to be foreign members of the Russian Academy of Sciences.

In the time of fast growing international contacts and intercommunication between scientists all over the world it would be very important and necessary to have an independent organization and free scientific work of the Russian Academy of Sciences, especially also in a new modern philosophy taking into account the new developments particularly in science, economics, ecology and social systems as well as networking etc.

To my knowledge, freedom of scientific research is emphasized in the Russian constitution – like in many other nations.

It is very important to have also in the future this unique institution of fundamental science and philosophical debates under its own guidance and organization in order to further develop the international status of the Academy and its members as well as freedom of research for the creative young scientists who are in part already internationally well known.

It would be very necessary not to touch on this well-corroborated international understanding and statute of the Institute of Philosophy within the Russian Academy of Sciences and its high reputation all over the world.

As an elder international official of the highest world committees in philosophy (formerly Vice President of FISP and former president of IIP as well as a member of the International Academy for the Philosophy of the Sciences) I plead to guarantee the independence of the scientific work and organization of the Russian Academy of Sciences and its Institute of Philosophy.

With best regards sincerely yours,

Hans Lenk (Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. mult.)

(Former President of the International Institute of Philosophy and former Vice President of the International Federation of Philosophical Societies FISP)