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President

President Prof. Dr. Anatoly Zagorodny The National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine Volodymyrska, 54

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UA-01030 Kyiv

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Dear President and Colleague Anatoly Zagorodny,

Dear members of the Presidium of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine,

Dear members of the Academy,

With great sadness, the whole Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences follows the barbaric attack of the Russian Federation on your country in violation of international law and the attempt to destroy its national autonomy. We can only imagine here approximately, what you must suffer now in Kiev and other places of your country and think of you repeatedly! On behalf of the whole Academy, I would like to assure our solidarity and sympathy to all members and staff of the Academy. We condemn in the strongest terms the brutal war of aggression against Ukraine and support all measures of European governments to end this aggression as soon as possible.

As an Academy in Berlin, we know only too well the high toll of blood that Ukraine had to pay to repel German aggression against her country in the last century, and we feel a special obligation to publicly stand up for the rights of Ukraine in light of the involvement of members of our Academy in the Nazi genocide. We had all hoped that the freedom movements at the end of the last century would lead to definitive independence for all nations in Eastern Europe and an end to all wars in Europe. Moreover, we know from our own history that the freedom of science, its excellence and all possibility of cooperation are based on the elementary values of freedom, democracy and self-determination, which we must defend together against their enemies.

However, we would like to support you not only with words: Please give us a sign where we can effectively support you with money, scholarships and fellowships or other measures. As a sign of our solidarity, the Ukrainian flag is now flying on the traditional building of the Academy on the boulevard Unter den Linden to remind passers-by of your situation and us here of our obligation. Of course, you may spread this letter wherever it is useful and helps; we will also do so if we believe it can help you at present.

With the repeated expression of our sympathy and solidarity and in the hope for an early end to the aggression and as little bloodshed as possible, on behalf of the entire Berlin-Brandenburg Academy, your warmest regards

Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. mult. Christoph Markschies

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