**UNESCO**

**Attn.: Director-General, Audrey Azoulay**

[info@unesco.org](mailto:info@unesco.org)

7, place de Fontenoy, 75352 Paris 07 SP, France

Dear Mrs. Azoulay,

Your organization fights for almost eighty years already to set up peace by strengthening international partnership in such areas as science, education and culture.

One of the most important achievements of UNESCO became an adoption of the declaration relating destruction of cultural heritage on purpose, which was accepted during the UN General Conference on education, science and culture questions in 2003. This important document was created after Taliban destroyed Buddha sculptures in Bamiyan - event that shocked all the world society.

In recent months, we faced barbaric destruction of monuments to the people, who were fighting against fascism during World War 2 in Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland.

The Monument to the Liberators of Riga, the greatest and the most significant monument in Latvia, is destroyed already. Monuments to the liberators were also destroyed in Lithuanian city Klaipeda and in Estonian town Narva. There were broken more than 100 monuments in The Baltic States all together, which are valuable not only for Russian people, but for people of many other nationalities.

During demolition, there also is happening an exhumation of remains of fallen warriors.

Soon the governments of all these countries are going to destroy all monuments to the heroes of World War 2. They justify their actions by the wish to reduce from the all Soviet symbolic and to show the solidarity to Ukraine.

The current governments of The Baltic States and Poland are trying to rewrite the history, destroy our past on purpose.

Russians, who live in Europe, do not take a part in Ukrainian war. In addition, monuments to the fighters against Nazis, who died eighty years ago, do not have any relation to Ukrainian war and/or to "glorifying Soviet regime".

Does it mean that Russians are related to the inferior race now? Does it mean they are not allowed to have their own material monuments and even mention about the destruction is forbidden in world mass media?

Does it mean that there is a cruel war of extermination against all Russian in the center of Europe? Is hate to another religion and culture the ideological justification of this war?

Declaration of UNESCO straightly says: “a State that intentionally destroys cultural heritage of great importance to humanity ... or intentionally fails to take appropriate measures to prohibit, prevent, terminate and punish any actions for the deliberate destruction of such cultural heritage, is responsible for such destruction to the extent provided for by international law.

The responsibility of the State in such cases is assigned in accordance with the sub-paragraphs (b) (ix) and (e) (iv) of paragraph 2 of article 8 of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court. This is the commission of a war crime consisting in intentionally striking buildings intended for the purposes of religion, education, art, science or charity, historical monuments.”

The Declaration proclaims the principles of attitude to monuments of material culture, but there is a Convention on the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage of 1972, which obliges the signatory countries not to destroy cultural monuments.

Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, Poland, being members of UNESCO, by their current activities destroy the principles of the organization, undermining the foundations of international cooperation for peace.

In this regard, we, representatives of Russian culture and education, urge you to the following:

1. To adopt a resolution prohibiting the demolition of any monuments of the past and demanding from the Governments of Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia to stop the destruction of elements of the world cultural heritage immediately.
2. To form an independent international commission, with the participation of representatives of Russia and Belarus, and immediately send them to Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia to record the facts of mass destruction of monuments of Russian material culture.
3. To temporarily suspend the membership of Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia and Poland in UNESCO until they restore the destroyed monuments. Exclude these countries from the organization if this does not happen.
4. To call on the leadership of The Baltic States and Poland to initiate criminal proceedings for the demolition of each monument, in order to identify and punish the perpetrators. In case it does not happen, you yourself should apply to the ICC for the commission of a war crime – the destruction of monuments of Soviet culture.
5. To post info on the UNESCO website and inform the world community through your existing media channels about the tragic situation in which the monuments of material culture have found themselves and Russian people in The Baltic States and Poland as well.

Sincerely,

Имя, Фамилия

*{место для подписи}*

Почтовый адрес

Email: адрес емайл