

An open letter from Russian mathematicians against the war in Ukraine

24.02.2022

The editors of the Troitsky Variant received an open letter from mathematicians working in Russia. The letter is open for signing (signatures are collected here). We publish the text appeals to the head of the Russian Federation.

President of the Russian Federation V. V. Putin

Mr. President!

We, mathematicians working in the Russian Federation, strongly protest against the military invasion of the territory of Ukraine launched by the Russian army on February 24, 2022 of the year.

The standard of living in a country and its position in the world are largely determined by the level of its science. Scientists all over the world are working on tasks that do not have national and territorial restrictions, for the welfare of all mankind; international cooperation, no borders for dissemination of knowledge and humanistic values --, are the basis on which science is built. Our many years of efforts to strengthen the reputation of Russia as a leading mathematical center completely devalued as a result of unprovoked military aggression initiated by our country came forward.

Mathematics has always been one of the few areas of fundamental science in which Russia maintained a leading global position. As confirmation of this, Russia had to accept in the summer of 2022 the most prestigious mathematical conference in the world - International congress of mathematicians. The International Mathematical Union reversed this decision due to Russian attack on Ukraine. In a situation where our country has become a military aggressor and, as consequently, a rogue country, Russia's leadership positions in world mathematics will be irrevocably lost.

In the instructions of the President of December 4, 2020, mathematics was named a priority direction of development of the Russian Federation; goals were identified as in the area fundamental science and education. These goals, of course, cannot be achieved in current conditions, when the lives of our closest colleagues - scientists in Ukraine, with whom we link many years of successful joint work, daily endangered, the source of which is the Russian army, and Russia found itself in international isolation, without the possibility of intensive scientific exchange and cooperation with scientists from other countries.

We are convinced that no geopolitical interests can justify sacrifices and bloodshed. War will only lead to the loss of the country of its future, for which we work.

We demand an immediate cessation of hostilities and the withdrawal of Russian troops from the territory Ukraine.

At 23:00 on February 28, 2022, 115 people signed the letter.

On March 05, 2022, more than 500 people signed the letter.

04.03. 2022

On February 24, Russian scientists and journalists began signing open letters against the so-called "special operation" of Russian troops in Ukraine. There is nothing criminal in the text of the letters, however, in connection with the new legislation, which actually introduces military censorship, we remove the text of the letters, leaving the signatures, believing that it is important for the signatories to let people know that they have not kept silent. Hope for understanding.

The letter was signed by more than 500 mathematicians.

24 февраля российские ученые и журналисты начали подписывать открытые письма против так называемой «спецоперации» российских войск в Украине. В тексте писем нет ничего криминального, тем не менее в связи с новым законодательством, фактически вводящим военную цензуру, мы убираем текст писем, оставляя подписи, полагая, что подписавшимся важно дать знать людям, что они не промолчали. Надеемся на понимание.

Письмо подписало более 500 математиков.

Ruští vědci a novináři začali 24. února podepisovat otevřené dopisy proti takzvané „zvláštní operaci“ ruských jednotek na Ukrajině. V textu dopisů není nic trestného, nicméně v souvislosti s novou legislativou, která fakticky zavádí vojenskou cenzuru, text dopisů odstraňujeme, podpisy ponecháváme v domnění, že je důležité, dát lidem vědět, že oni nemlčeli. Doufáme v pochopení.