



*International Association*  
**PEACE through CULTURE Europe**

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**Vladimir Vladimirovich PUTIN – President**

Russian Federation  
Moscow  
Kremlin-Palace

January 14, 2014

*(Translation of the German letter mailed to President V.V. Putin  
through his internet/email address)*

**Reference: Russian Cultural Heritage jeopardized**

Respected Mr. President,

Based on the information about the campaign initiated by the management of the N.K. Roerich Museum in Moscow (ICR) with the target to maintain the private (NGO) property structure including the application to use state finances for this purpose, we – the **International Association PEACE through CULTURE Europe** (located and registered in Germany, with members from Austria, Germany, Switzerland, Italy, Ukraine, the Baltic States etc.) –

clearly take the opposite position!

From an ethical and cultural perspective, we are absolutely convinced that it is most important to **nationalize** the N.K. Roerich Museum in Moscow without delay and with immediate effect in order to ensure the existence of its values in the long run!

We appeal to you sincerely, dear Mr. President, to do your utmost to prevent the continuation of the more than 20 years structure based on improper means (according to reports on all media). State finances should not allow for any non-transparent shadowy transactions any more.

This private NGO under the name of N.K. Roerich has – in full contrast to the attitude practiced by the entire Roerich family – acted in a most domineering manner globally towards all other Roerich and related associations and institutions, in the past. But beyond this negative image, the main factor has been and now is all the more the question why the Roerich heritage was not declared as Russian cultural property from the very beginning! No doubt, Svetoslav Roerich surely had in mind to ensure these cultural values for the Russian people directly, without any private access to the treasure of thousands of paintings etc.

It is known worldwide that these paintings meanwhile represent millions of dollars – as was made public in a number of auctions!

The NGO in question certainly enjoyed the support of dark financial speculations to maintain the museum. Such possibility must in any case be stopped immediately by a policy decision! Our sincere conviction: the immediate nationalization of the entire Museum values, at least in reference to the Roerich heritage. The Russian Federation alone can provide for the experts and specialists capable of administering the Roerich oeuvre.

Please, nationalize the Moscow Roerich Museum without any warning! This measure alone will preserve the Roerich Cultural Heritage for the Russian people!

With highest esteem and full respect,

Sincerely Yours,  
**International Association**  
**PEACE through CULTURE Europe**

Wilhelm Augustat  
President