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To: International Mathematical Union

Matematiska institutionen  
Prof. Volodymyr Mazorchuk

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Dear Colleagues,

the Swedish Mathematical Society has received the following appeal from Ukrainian mathematicians:

Date: Mon, 16 Aug 2021 14:30:20 +0200  
From: Masha Vlasenko <masha.vlasenko@gmail.com>  
To: secretary@swe-math-soc.se,  
president@swe-math-soc.se, mazor@math.uu.se  
Cc: Masha Vlasenko <mvasenko@impan.pl>  
Subject: an appeal from Ukrainian mathematicians

Dear Swedish Mathematical Society,  
dear professor Mazorchuk,

In 2014 Russia annexed Crimea, and started a war in Eastern Ukraine. This war is not over to this day, thousands have died and millions have fled their homes. It has devastated the Ukrainian economy and has caused significant damage to Ukrainian academia. Eighteen colleges, including Vasyl Stus National University of Donetsk, were exiled in their own country.

Many Ukrainian mathematicians were shocked when in 2018 the International Mathematical Union chose Russia to host the International Congress of Mathematicians in 2022. It is not surprising that, despite the tradition that countries neighboring with the Congress host organize satellite events, no such conference is planned in Ukraine.

We have expressed our concern in an open letter, which can be found here:

<http://www.icm2022boycott.org/ukrainians/>

While we are not asking the SMS to join our call for a boycott, we are hoping that it could issue a statement acknowledging the choice of Russia as a host of the ICM 2022 as inappropriate or at the very least questionable, and express support for Ukrainian



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mathematicians. Many of us felt betrayed by our professional community when the IMU made Russia the next Congress host. Solidarity of the SMS would mean a lot to us.

Sincerely,  
Ukrainians against ICM 2022 committee

This letter was discussed at the meeting of The Executive Committee of the Swedish Mathematical Society on 23 August, 2021, and was offered for discussion at the general meeting of the Swedish Mathematical Society on 19 November, 2021.

The Swedish Mathematical Society would like to express the opinion that the circumstance of armed conflict makes the choice of Russia as host of the International Congress of Mathematicians in 2022 very unfortunate. This includes, in particular, the way it affects Ukrainian mathematicians.

With best regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'V. Mazorchuk'.

Volodymyr Mazorchuk  
President of the Swedish Mathematical Society