

Fellow Artists, Musicians, Singers and Dancers, Our Listeners and Viewers

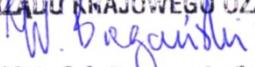
Without declaring war, the troops of the Russian Federation attacked the European sovereign state adjacent to the Republic of Poland, the Independent Ukraine, as on September 1, 1939, at four in the morning, the first air raid on Wieluń started the attack of the Third German Reich on Poland and, consequently, the World War II began. Undoubtedly, we witness barbaric, criminal and genocidal hostilities and we mustn't remain silent. The constantly changing situation makes it impossible to indicate precisely what help would be the most appropriate at this moment and at the same time it would not exceed our capabilities and strengths – we keep learning about it every day. Already now, however, in addition to all forms of collective and individual protests and assistance, we also, as artists associated in our Trade Unions, have the weapon of active protest against this inhuman criminal war, aggression and military violence against those who are fighting today for self-determination, independence of the nation and protection of the borders of their own state of our Ukrainian Neighbours. We call for all forms of protest, including an artistic intervention, against this barbaric attack, until its final cessation and the withdrawal of Russian troops from Ukraine, which is an important part of modern peaceful Europe, whose inhabitants have not started this war and are not threatening Russia in any way. Let our international universal language of music and dance become one of the instruments of our active protest against this attack, our joint call with our listeners and viewers for the restoration of peace in Ukraine. But also at the moment of another serious common threat beyond our eastern border, let it contribute to end our internal disputes and rebuild the national community. Until the end of this inhuman attack and war, let each of our concerts, shows and artistic performances with the participation of the audience, or addressed to them in the media, become our collective expression of solidarity with the Ukrainian Nation, forced to defend and fight for the existence of their independent free state. Let this be our common voice against war and barbarism, a call for peace and respect for the right to freedom, independence and sovereignty of the states. We appeal to all orchestras and the directors of the Polish artistic cultural musical institutions to manifest our opposition to this criminal attack on the Ukrainian Nation and the state independent of Putin's Russia, as well as our solidarity with Ukraine fighting for her inalienable rights to integrity of homeland. In the 21st century, we cannot accept the re-occurrence of the dramatic effects of partitions, annexations and occupation of independent nations and their own countries by foreign powers, which we, as Poland and the Poles, have painfully experienced ourselves, and we have paid for it with a long, steadfast struggle for freedom and for our own independent state.

On behalf of the Main Board of the
Trade Union of Polish Artists Orchestra
Musicians – ZG ZZ PAMO

Przewodniczący ZG ZZ PAMO

Artur Gadzała

On behalf of the Main Board of the
Trade Union of Polish Dancers –
ZK OZZAT

PRZEWODNICZĄCY
ZARZĄDU KRAJOWEGO OZZAT

Witold Biegański