

Motion from the delegates of the UMC in Eurasia, representatives of Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and the Russian Federation, to the Extra Session of the Northern Europe and Eurasia Central Conference 30 April 2022.

In Ukraine, a tragedy is taking place. People are dying. Families are separated. Ties are being broken. Today, every person of good will asks himself/herself what he/she personally can do to alleviate people's suffering. The decision of the Nordic and Baltic Area group of the Central Conference Council to convene an Extra Session of the Central Conference is based on concern and willingness to help the churches of Ukraine in this situation.

We all are citizens of the Kingdom of God and representatives of the same Central Conference within which this tragedy is taking place. Therefore, we must together seek and use every means of brotherly cooperation, assistance, contacts, support, and pastoral care with the believers in Ukraine. We do not see any obstacles to joint service in this matter if there is good will. This is precisely the time when peace must be restored first and foremost by strengthening relations between us. Jesus said, "By this shall all men know that you are my disciples, if you love one another" (John 13:35).

1. The delegates of the UMC in Eurasia, representing four countries---Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and the Russian Federation---have decided not to participate in the Extra Session of the Central Conference out of fear of Russophobia or discrimination on the basis of nationality. In this situation of tension and emotional intensity, we fear we will not be heard, and thus our voices will not matter. We do not want to provoke further aggravation of the situation.

In addition, technical problems are inevitable; for example, the members of the Central Conference Council from Eurasia were not able to participate in the final part of the Council session or to vote on the convening of the Extra Session of Central Conference. There is no guarantee of quality of communication for all regions.

2. ***We propose that the issue of changing the borders of the two episcopal areas within the Northern Europe and Eurasia Central Conference be moved to a face-to-face format and only after the cessation of hostilities. This will allow us to communicate better and maintain good relations.***

***We ask the presiding officer to read this petition out loud and to verify the petition is recorded in the minutes of the Central Conference session.***

Central Conference Delegates from East Russia and Central Asia Annual Conference  
Artem Golov  
Yulia Stukalova  
Dmitriy Lysin  
Kumpyak Daniil

**Central Conference Delegates from North-West Russia and Belarus Annual Conference**

Andrey Kim  
Elena Kitaeva  
Elena Chudinova  
Natalia Konstantinova

**Central Conference Delegates from Central Russia Annual Conference**

Sergey Nikolaev  
Irina Margulis  
Olga Kobzeva  
Aleksey Voronov

**Central Conference Delegates from South Russia Annual Conference**

Sergey Abramov  
Alexandr Pererva  
Oleg Pozharskiy  
Sergey Torlin

**Northern Europe and Eurasia Central Conference Council members**

Svetlana Tsoy  
Sergey Pugachev  
Elena Kitaeva (a delegate)  
Dmitriy Lysin (a delegate)

**Eurasia Area Bishop**

Eduard Khegay