

Dear President! Dear General Secretary! Dear friends! The attention of the whole world is now riveted to Ukraine, where a bloody and terrible war is going on. The Belarusian people are in solidarity with you, dear Ukrainian friends. We are doing and will continue to do our best to bring Ukraine's victory closer. Unfortunately, we have the same war going on, but in the shadow. The regime is currently killing the leader of our party. Pneumonia after 3 coids in the punishment cell, instead of treatment.

Under the same press are our General Secretary Sergei Sparish and other party activists. The inhuman Belarusian regime has given the territory of our country to the aggressor. However, I do not think that anyone asked permission from the illegal authorities to locate their troops in Belarus. The loyalty of the Belarusian dictator does not need obeisance from Russia. At the same time, the overwhelming majority of Belarusians oppose the war and support the Ukrainian people in every way.

In the Belarusian regiment that is fighting in Ukraine, there is a party cell of Narodnaya Hramada. Today the world is closer than ever to a world war. "Realpolitik" and the tacit recognition of the assignment of small countries to the "sphere of interest" of Russia and other large states led to what we are experiencing today. Peaceful protests are increasingly brutally suppressed. Increasingly, the world is slipping into authoritarianism and there are no effective mechanisms for protecting democracy. "Concern" and "deep concern" are perhaps the only means of international reaction to the bloody crackdown on people's protests, as in Belarus. In January 2019, M. Statkevich said from the tribune of the Council in Saint-Domingo that "Belarusians will no longer tolerate Lukashenka's "elegant victory" in 2020. The pre-election farce may even end with a popular uprising. The Belarusian protest was peaceful, for which we were often criticized. However, Russian Foreign Minister Lavrov admitted that the Russian Federation was ready to provide any assistance, including military, so that Luka retained power. Russian troops were stationed at our border as early as 2020. The Belarusian protest may have delayed the start of the war in Ukraine. Mikola also asked us to stop giving up to dictator and start a dialogue with them only after meeting all the conditions of the international community regarding respect for the rights and freedoms of the individual. He said that such giving up as negotiations discredit democracy itself and the EU in the eyes of Belarusians. Who, then, could take such warnings seriously? However, our self-proclaimed authorities took them seriously. That is why Mikola Statkevich was kidnapped on May 31, 2020, more than 2 months before the elections, and has been behind bars for more than 2 years since then. This did not prevent our self-proclaimed authorities from declaring in numerous television propaganda films and official newspapers that he "invented" mass riots" back in 2019. The so-called trial took place in a pre-trial detention center, in conditions of extreme secrecy, for six months. Mikalai Statkevich was sentenced to 14 years in a special regime prison. This is not the longest sentence - in Belarus, opponents of the regime are now sentenced to 20 and 22 years - but the most severe and inhuman in terms of conditions. As a rule, people who have committed the most serious crimes are sentenced to a special regime. So far, none of the other opponents of the regime has been sentenced to a special regime. He will be in the cell for at least five years. And only after that he can be transferred to a common cell with the right to freely exit at least to the courtyard of the correctional colony.

Now Belarus is practically carrying out the genocide of its own people. All independent media were liquidated, more than 800 media, telegram channels, FB pages and even chats were recognized as extremist materials or even structures. For reposting and liking their material, for photos from protests, for demonstrating

symbols, people's houses are broken into, their property is destroyed, they are arrested and sentenced to real prison terms. Recently, a law came into force, according to which the death penalty can be imposed even for the "intention" to commit a terrorist act. What the self-proclaimed authorities understand as terrorist attacks is easy to understand if we remember that Svetlana Tikhanovskaya, Maria Kolesnikova and the Secretary General of our party Sergei Sparish, who was also arrested long before the elections and sentenced to 7 years in prison, are listed as terrorists. Mikalai Statkevich wrote about this that "those who are scared to death are trying to intimidate society with the fear of death." He believes that the changes that have taken place in society are irreversible and changes are inevitable. "This is our delayed victory.."

The war in Ukraine led to the awareness of the need to reconsider approaches to world politics: to fully uphold the principle of the inviolability of borders, the need to collectively resist aggression, not to be led by the aggressor, because aggression, which is not properly countered, inevitably leads to new aggression. World leaders must finally realize that they have a responsibility to keep the peace and the integrity of the borders in small countries. I know what Mikalai Statkevich would say to us here today: "Now more than ever the world needs solidarity. Yes, people are getting tired... But politicians have no right to look for ways to appease dictators, reduce pressure on them or reduce assistance to the victim of aggression. Unpunished evil returns. Our strength is in solidarity. We are responsible for the future of our planet."