

**To Event Director
Mr Andy Ventris**

26 February 2022

Joint Appeal to the Organizers of the London Book Fair

We strongly and unanimously condemn the military actions of the Russian Federation against the independent state of **Ukraine** as a brutal and unjustifiable attack against democracy. The cultural organizations representing and uniting book authors, publishers, and other professionals in Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania express their solidarity with the cultural community of Ukraine and the entire Ukrainian nation.

At this difficult hour, we appeal to the organizers of the **London Book Fair** to support Ukraine and its authors and creators by all means possible, and we call for the imposition of painful sanctions against the Russian Federation: ceasing all cooperation with the institutions of the Russian Federation and removing the national stand of the Russian Federation from one of the most important book events in the world – the London Book Fair. A country that conducts military action against Ukraine and its people, including children enduring the horrors of war and dying at the hands of the aggressor, and a country that tramples on the values of democracy and freedom, terrorizing and openly denigrating the peoples of Europe, has no place among book fair participants seeking to create a peaceful, critically minded, and open world.

Culture is a vital foundation in our democratic society and it must not be torn asunder by terror and political hypocrisy.

**Lithuanian Culture Institute
Latvian Literature / International Writers and Translators house
Estonian Literature Centre**

**Lithuanian Publishers Association
Latvian Publishers Association
Estonian Publishers Association**

**Lithuanian Writers' Union
Latvian Writers' Union
Estonian Writers' Union**

**IBBY Lithuanian Section
IBBY Latvian Section
IBBY Estonian Section**