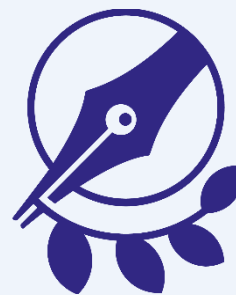


Writers for Peace Committee

Newsletter



**Interview with Andrey Kurkov, president of PEN
Ukraine**

**Nobel Laureates, writers and artists worldwide
condemn Russia's invasion of Ukraine**

Call for an end to the intimidation of Ukraine

**Ukraine/Russia: PEN urges peaceful solution to
deteriorating situation**

Meetings, events and statements

March 2022

“Dear Friends, Dear Colleagues, The Writers for Peace Committee of PEN International,

We are of course in solidarity with our Ukrainian friends, with whom we have felt connected and have been in contact with for years.

With the desire that our community of writers who are members of PEN centres around the world can follow or get involved, we invite you to find in this special edition of our Newsletter an overview of the actions and texts coming from PEN International, our committee and other PEN centres which have kept us informed of their initiatives.

You will also find the agenda of the meetings that will take place in the days to come and during which we will discuss the situation in Ukraine as well as its literature.

Let's be united, let's be creative, let's be Ukrainians!

Emmanuel Pierrat

Chair of the Writers for Peace Committee



PEN International **Writers for Peace Committee**
Comité des écrivains pour la paix du PEN international
Mednarodni odbor **Pisatelji za mir**

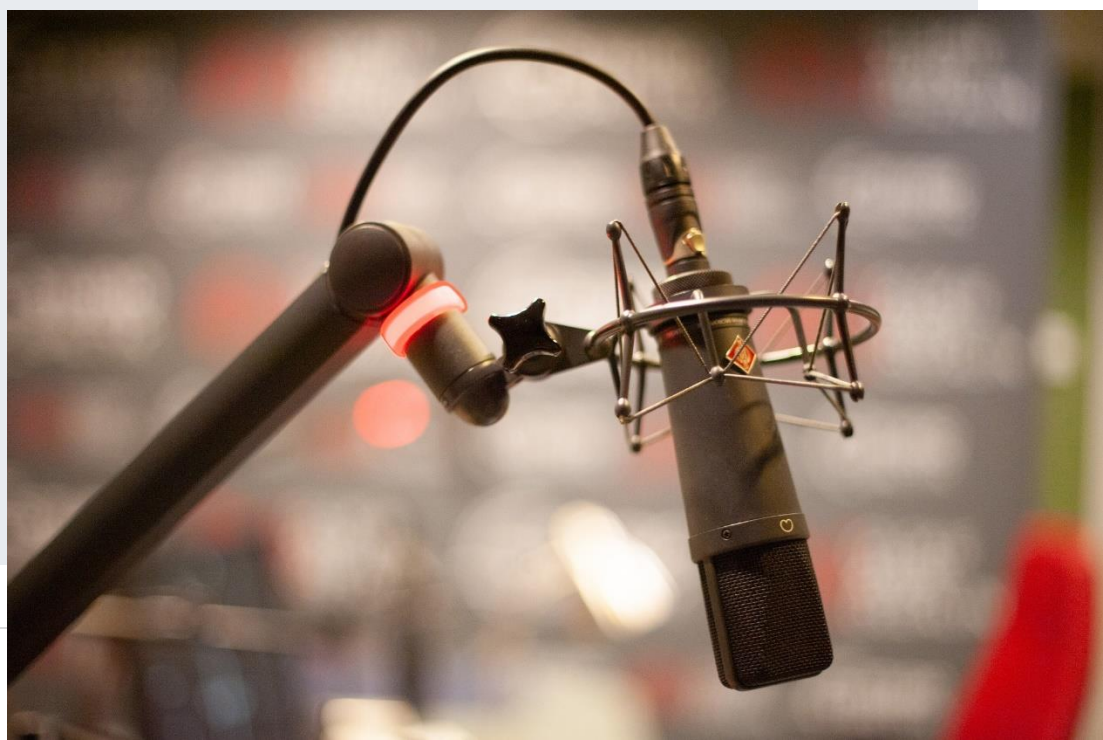
Interview with Andrey Kurkov, president of PEN Ukraine

Sergio Roïc, the vice president of Swiss Italian and Reto-Romansh Centre and a representative of PEN's Writers for Peace Committee interviewed Andrey Kurkov, the president of PEN Ukraine. The interview was made last week and its topic is the situation in Ukraine.

To see the full interview, please click [here](#).

ChiassoTV in collaboration with the Writers for Peace Committee of PEN International presents a series of television interviews led by journalist and writer Sergio Roic. During the interviews, he speaks to authors from all over the world about freedom of expression and new frontiers towards peace in today's ever-changing socio-cultural landscape.

The full list of episodes can be found on this [link](#).



Nobel Laureates, writers and artists worldwide condemn Russia's invasion of Ukraine in unprecedented letter signed by over a thousand

By PEN International

PEN International, the literary and free expression organisation, has released a letter signed by over 1000 writers worldwide, expressing solidarity with writers, journalists, artists, and the people of Ukraine, condemning the Russian invasion and calling for an immediate end to the bloodshed.

To our friends and colleagues in Ukraine,

We, writers around the world, are appalled by the violence unleashed by Russian forces against Ukraine and urgently call for an end to the bloodshed.

We stand united in condemnation of a senseless war, waged by President Putin's refusal to accept the rights of Ukraine's people to debate their future allegiance and history without Moscow's interference.

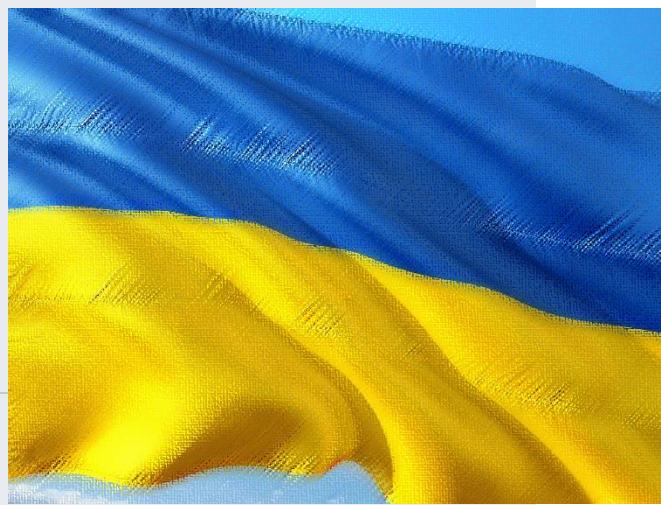
We stand united in support of writers, journalists, artists, and all the people of Ukraine, who are living through their darkest hours. We stand by you and feel your pain.

All individuals have a right to peace, free expression, and free assembly. Putin's war is an attack on democracy and freedom not just in Ukraine, but around the world.

We stand united in calling for peace and for an end to the propaganda that is fueling the violence.

There can be no free and safe Europe without a free and independent Ukraine.

Peace must prevail.



Signatories

Burhan Sonmez, Svetlana Alexievich, Margaret Atwood, Paul Auster, Tsitsi Dangarembga, Anthony Doerr, Jonathan Franzen, Aleksandar Hemon, Siri Hustvedt, Yann Martel, Joyce Carol Oates, Orhan Pamuk, Maria Ressa, Salman Rushdie, Elif Shafak, Colm Toibin, Olga Tokarczuk, Ludmila Ulitskaya.

Kai Aareleid, Jane Aaron, Evelyne Abitbol, Gabriela Adameşteanu, Kathrin Aehnlich, Inger-Mari Aikio, Ayad Akhtar, Bjanka Alajbegović, Päivi Alasalmi, Frank Albrecht, Amir Alić, Carlos Alonso Aníbal, Najat Alsamad Abed, Vicenç Altaió, Armas Alvari, Hazem Al Amin, Frances An, Ida Andersen, Trine Andersen, Henrika Andersson, Ben Andoni, Stanko Andrić, Dan Anghelescu, Éilís Ní Anluain, Liviu Antonesei, Lisa Appignanesi, Marie Arana, George Ardeleanu, Chloe Aridjis, Homero Aridjis, Gabriele von Arnim, Alexander Arkhangelsky, Ingeborg Arlt, Jordi Bergonyó i Aroca, Damir Arsenijević, Mona Arshi, Lea Cohen-Augsburger, Anisa Avdagić, Mihail Ayzenberg, Marianne Backlén, Elena Baevskaya, Vasile Baghiu, Tomica Bajsić, Leonid Bakhtov, Catherine Banner, Snježana Banović, Jürgen Banscherus, Ekaterina Barabash, Renato Baretić, Niels Barfoed, Jessica Barksdale Inclán, Sheila Barrett, Nune Barsegian, Lone Bastholm, Jette Bastian, Cikuru Batumiké, Juergen Baumann, Nurcan Baysal, Youseff Bazzi, Adisa Bašić, Almir Bašović, Germaine Beaulieu, Dirk-Uwe Becker, Simon Beckett, Sharmilla Beezmohun, Seida Beganović, Francisco Belard, Nadezhda Belenkaya, Amanda Bell, Gaston Bellemare, Timba Bema, Abdelkader Benali, Grația Benga, Vicent Berenguer, François Berger, Tewin van den Bergh, Mal Berisha, Michèle Bernard, Vicenç Llorca Berrocal, Thorvald Berthelsen, Rosaleen Bertolino, Abbass Beydoun, Emilie Bilman, Anne Marie Bjerg, Ana Blandiana, Sylvia Bledow, Gerda Bleses, Jens Blendstrup, Kåre Blitgen, Anna Blume, Isabel Bogdan, Iulian Boldea, Fióna Bolger, Tatiana Bonch-Osmolovskaya, Barbara Bongartz, Javier Bonilla, Thomas Borchert, Virginie Borel, Virginie Borel, Carmen Borja, Marina Boroditskaya, Alla Bossart, August Bover, Agnete Braad, Corin Braga, Colm Breathnach, Marta Breen, Per Bregengaard, Alida Bremer, Alida Bremer, Hans Maarten vd Brink, Roberto Briones, Ricky Monahan Brown, Keira Brown, Marta Nadal Brunès, Niels Brunse, Mikael Brygger, Siv Bublitz, Simone Buchholz, Romulus Bucur, Olga Bukhina, Diana Burazer, Ahmed Burić, Dragan Bursać, Paddy Bushe, Anton Carrera i Busquets, Pat Butler, Ida Börjel, Jan Bürger, Oriol Pi de Cabanyes, Morana Čale, Jenni Calder, Lynn Caldwell, Drew Campbell, Siobhan Campbell, Daniel Cauty, Eibhlis Carcione, Kristina Carlson, Antònia Carré-Pons, Àngels Castells Cabré, Amanda Castleman, Cecil Castellucci, Dragica Čarna, Jaume Creus i del Castillo, Sara Martínez Castro, Arben Çejku, Branko Čegec, Ruxandra Cesereanu, Jade Chang, Natalia Chepik, Ron Chernow, Tatyana Chernysheva, Herménégilde Chiasson, Mark Childress, Søren Møller Christensen, Ioana Cisteleanu, Antoni Clapés, Jennifer Clement, Nicolae Coande, Jonathan Coe, Carolyn Cohagan, Anthony Cohan, Pep Coll, Marian Coman, Denisa Comănescu, Colm Mac Confhaola, Micheál Ó Conghaile, June Considine, Philippe Constantin, Angélica Altúzar Constantino, David Corbett, Liliana Corobca, Željka Čorak, Costigan, Florica Courriol, Robert Craven, Jaume Creus, Bogdan Crețu, Jenny Croft, Pádraig Ó Cuinneagáin, Tony Curtis, Darko Cvijetić, Grozdana Cvitan, Gearóidín Nic Cárthaigh, Magda Cârnecki, Svetlana Cârsteian, Bianca Côté, Mircea Cărtărescu, Nerzuk Ćurak, Denis Dabbadie, Gabriel Dališ, Joan eusa Dalmau, Louise Juhl Dalsgaard, Hasan Daoud, Job Degenaar, Astrid Dehe, Marija Dejanović, Dinko Delić, Peter Demeny, Enkel Demi, Ajla Demiragić, Denise Desautels, Jean-Marc Desgent, Lorraine Despres, Martina Devlin, Sadhbh Devlin, Tadhg Mac Dhonnagáin, Margot Dijkgraaf, Vitaly Dikson, Simona-Grazia Dima, Adina Dinițoiu, Adriaan van Dis, Greg Dinner, Peggy Dobreer, Caius Dobrescu, Henrik Døcker, Veronica Dolina, Salvador Domènechi Domènech, Jackie Mac Donncha, Gerry Mc Donnell, Katie Donovan, Ariel Dorfman, Theo Dorgan, Kevin Doyle, Laurie Anne Doyle, Elma Drayer, Proinsias Ó Drisceoil, Olga Drobot, Daniela Dröscher, Lison Dubreuil, Anne Duden, Dave Duggan, Samantha Dunn, Catherine Dunne, Louise Dupré, Can Dündar, Ferida Duraković, Denisa Duran, Don Duyns, Benedikt Dyrlich, Olga Xirinacs Díaz, Dan Dănilă, Carleton Eastlake, David Ebershoff, Horst Eckert, Gwen Edelman, Jennifer Egan, Jari Ehrnrooth, Lizzie Eldridge, Menna Elfyn, Ayeshah Emon, Martin Enckell, Agneta Enckell, Michael Engler, Álvaro Enrigue, Markku Envall, Irjaleena Eriksson, Peter Lucas Erixon, Evgeny Ermolin, Victor Esipov, Vibeke Eskesen, Karin Evans, Paul Ewen, Belal Fadl, Daniel Falb, Maria Falikman, Elena Fanailova, Simon Ó Faoláin, Reza Farmand, Rafel Nadal Farreras, Sabina Fati, Lia Faur, Alexey Fedotov, Judith Fein, Julian Fellowes, Betty Ferber, Ciara Ferguson, Conrad Fields, Birgit Filskov, Jennifer Finney Boylan, Viviana Fiorentino, Janet Fitch, Brid Fitzpatrick, Anne Fisher, Hana Fischer, Roman Fokin, Mathilde Fontanet, Assumpció Forcada, Sabine Forsblom, Tua Forsström, Kristian Bang Foss, Fouad Fouad, David Francis,

Julia Franck, Diane Frank, Bashabi Fraser, Maureen Freely, Frederike Frei, Niels Frid-Nielsen, Meelis Friedenthal, Uwe Friesel, Anna Friman, Angela Furtună, Rita Gabis, Linda Gaboriau, Peter Gadol, Maria Galina, Mia Gallagher, Sergei Gandlevsky, Alisa Ganieva, Christine Garcia, Josep Rafel Cortés Garcia, Dominique Gaucher, Liliya Gazizova, Carlo Gebler, Eva Gedin, Stefan Gemmel, Alexander Genis, Nina George, Clive Geraghty, Ulrikka Gernes, Yaseen Ghaleb, Rania Ghandour, Radu Pavel Gheo, Carmen Gheorghe, Cătălin Ghiță, Áine Ní Ghlinn, Áine Ní Ghlinn, Alexandria Giardino, Dagoberto Gilb, Bernard Gilbert, Shauna Gilligan, Daithí Mac Giobúin, Jo Glanville, Simon Glinvad Nielsen, Jacques T. Godbout, Peter H. E. Gogolin, Alex Goldiș, Francisco Goldman, Veronica Gonzalez, Benjamin Goron, Philip Gourevitch, Fiona Graham, Bel Granya, Safer Grbić, Àngels Gregori, Mark Grinberg, Lauren Groff, Jean-Louis Grosmaire, Joakim Growth, Annett Gröschner, Ralph Grüneberger, July Gugolev, Xiaolu Guo, Kerstin Gustafsson, Tracy Guzman, Çağdaş Gökbek, Tarik Günersel, Morten Haahr, Agnete G. Haaland, Gerda van de Haar, Katharina Hagen, Anna Katharina Hahn, Malu Halasa, Ena Katarina Haler, Jacinta Halloran, Denise Hamilton, Daniel Handler, Marisa Handler, James Hannaham, Linn Hansén, Heather Harlen, Ann Harleman, Lenore Hart, Tessa Harris, Dennis Haskell, Josef Haslinger, Iben Hasselbalch, Rasmus Hastrup, Harri Hautajärvi, Barend van der Have, Tom Healy, Jürgen Heckel, Carol Hedges, Siobhán Hegarty, Christoph Hein, Elke Heinemann, Markéta Hejkalová, Joachim Helfer, Elizabeth Hemmerdinger, Saara Henriksson, Alban Nikolai Herbst, Harri Hertell, Anna Heussaff, Anne Hjelmsø, Kati Hiekkapelto, Judyth Hill, Sophia Hillan, Rinske Hillen, Jane Hirschfield, Elna Hirvonen, Elke Bannach-Hoffmann, Klaus Hoffmann W., Tom Hofland, Anneli Høier, Markku Hoikkala, Kaarina Hollo, Benn Q. Holm, Ulla Holm, Nina Honkanen, Laura Honkasalo, Ann Marie Hourihane, Meg Howrey, Dina Hrenciuc, Laura Hubber, Johanna Hulkko, Iman Humaydan, Jean-Claude Humbert, Franka Hummels, Vilja-Tuulia Huotari, Ramiz Huremagić, Jasmina Husanović, Eero Hämeenniemi, Severi Hämäri, Tomas Håkanson, Michael Häulicã, Florin Iaru, Omer Ibrahimagić, Nedžad Ibrahimović, Vasile Igna, Olga Il'nitskaya, Luuk Imhann, Debra Jo Immergut, Almir Imširević, Jouni Inkala, Igor Irteniev, Tuula Isoniemi, Martti Issakainen, Päivi Istala, Houssam Itani, Susan Ito, Andrei Ivanov, Natalya Ivanova, Victoria Ivleva, Oriol Izquierdo, Piret Jaaks, Juliet Jacques, Alain Jadot, Subhash Jaireth, Claire Jaumain, Jennifer Jenkins, Ingrid Mejer Jensen, Martin Jensen, Per Lau Jensen, Angela V. John, Linton Kwesi Johnson, Thella Johnson, Kaylie Jones, Lois Jones, Michael Jordan, Finn Jørgensen, Huguette Junod, Wim Jurg, Anssi Järvinen, Pasi Ilmari Jääskeläinen, Elaine Kagan, Danson Kahyana, Gennady Kalashnikov, Kätlin Kaldmaa, Ken Kalfus, Regina Kammerer, Arla Kanerva, Anneli Kanto, Entela Kasi, Markku Kaskela, Riina Katajavuori, Nina Katerli, Lucina Kathmann, Dražen Katunarić, Roni Nasir Kaya, Enver Kazaz, Helmi Kekkonen, Annu Kekäläinen, Jochen Kelter, Al Kennedy, Ligia Keşişian, Murat Kharaman, Igor Kharichev, Katarina Kieri, Malin Kivelä, Aino Kivi, Veronika Kivisilla, Margalith Kleijwegt, Mark Klenk, Snješka Knežević, Uwe Kolbe, Aljaž Koprivnikar, Nikolay Kononov, Tomi Kontio, Satu Koskimies, Conor Kostick, Igor Kotjuh, José Kozer, Gennady Krasukhin, Enrique Krauze, Irina Kravtsova, Marcella van der Kruk, Grigory Kruzhkov, Jan Kuhlbrodt, Joachim Kühlmann, Asmir Kujović, Ilya Kukulín, Sergey Kuznetsov, Konstantin Küspert, Jorma Tapio Laakso, Oula-Antti Labba, David Lagercrantz, Jhumpa Lahiri, Olivia Laing, Michael Landgraf, Tanja Langer, Ksenia Larina, Felix M. Larkin, Ola Larsmo, Michelle Latiolais, Heike van Lawick, Eric Lax, Réaltán Ní Leannáin, Byddi Lee, Chang-rae Lee, Ion Bogdan Lefter, Joanne Leedom-Ackerman, Leena Lehtolainen, Eva Leipprand, Oleg Lekmanov, Lucia Leman, Jo Lendle, Andrea Lešić-Thomas, Paul Levine, Else Lidegaard, Ida Linde, Anne Linsel, My Lindelöf, Christoph Lindenmeyer, Fredy Rolando Ruilova Lituma, Zülfü Livaneli, Ruth Frances Long (Jessica Thorne), Kairi Look, M.G. Lord, Gert Loschütz, Daniela Luca, Maria Ludkovskaja, Sofia Lundberg, Ulla-Lena Lundberg, Maria Lundborg, Tomas Lagermand Lundme, Aki Luostarinen, Tom Lutz, Joris Luyendijk, Dorte Lykkegaard, Brendan Lynch, Irene Duffy Lyncy, Ruth Lysaght, Kristiina Lähde, Hélène Lépine, Adrian Lăcătuș, Michel Maas, Carl MacDougall, Chiara Macconi, Stuart Maconie, Kerry Madden, Tue Magnussen, Dolores Coll Magrí, Sabrina Mahfouz, Inger-Maria Mahlke, Maria Maiofis, Geert Mak, Zvonko Maković, Christodoulos Makris, Jennifer Nansubuga Makumbi, Ștefan Manasia, Riri Sylvia Manor, Ksenija Banović Marković, Sarah Manvel, Laura Marchig, Rae Marie, Viorel Marineasa, Rudolf Marku, Frane Maroević, Iva Grgić Maroević, Lieke Marsman, Emile Martel, Jean-Pierre Masse, Marisa Matarazzo, Alexandru Matei, Ioan Matiuț, Edi Matić, Nicolaas Matsier, Manfred Maurenbrecher, Natalya Mavlevich, So Mayer, Daniel Mazzone, John C Mc Allister, Martina McAteer, Felicity McCall, Alistair McCartney, Patti McDermott, Paula McGrath, Lisa McInerney, Maria McManus, Elizabeth McSkeane, Paula Meehan, Vonne van der Meer, Maryse Meijer, Eva Menasse, Dinaw Mengestu, Mooses Mentula, Bruno Mercier, Lluís Meseguer, Robin Messing, Gitte Meyer, Katherine Mezzacappa, Bríd Ní Mhóráin, Peter Mickwitz, Susan Midalia, Virgil Mihaiu, Călin-Andrei Mihăilescu, Lone Mikkelsen, Vanda Mikšić, Victoria Milescu

James Miller, Tim Miller, Lia Mills, Dolores Miquel, Ioana Miron, Sergey Mitrofanov, Jasim Mohamed, Clara Mohammed-Foucault, Núria Busquet Molist, Andreas Montag, Charles Montpetit, Carles Duarte I Montserrat, Laure Morali, Angel Martínez Moreno, Paul Morgan, Sinead Moriarty, Tony Morris, Pat Morrison, Ulli Moschen, Gitte Mose, Bertram Mourits, Ana María Dipp Mukled, Liridon Mulaj, Paul Muldoon, Marie-Ève Muller, Simon Mundy, Bogdan Munteanu, Seosamh Ó Murchú, Besnik Mustafaj, Carmen Muşat, Pekka J. Mäkelä, Ingrid Nachstern, Sten Nadolny, Azar Nafisi, Ralf Nestmeyer, Courttia Newland, Taciana Niadbaj, Ioana Nicolaie, Helmuth A. Niederle, Jørgen Christian Wind Nielsen, Kai Nieminen, Jani Nieminen, Jaana Nikula, Georges Nivat, Celeste Ng, Lynn Nottage, Mark Eliot Nuckols, Liz Nugent, Markus Nummi, William Nygaard, Konstantin Nökel, Barney Norris, Maxine Nunes, Nuala O'Connor, Lauren O'Donovan, Blanca Uzeta O'Leary, Vanessa Fox O'Loughlin, Fiona O'Rourke, Lev Oborin, Stipe Odak, Kurt Oesterle, Vida Ognjenovic, Per Øhrgaard, Daniel Øhrstrøm, Ben Okri, Sofi Oksanen, Musa Okwonga, Emili Olcina, Lissa Oliver, Ursula Andkjær Olsen, Niculina Oprea, Zeynep Oral, Jem Cabanes Orriols, Julianne Ortale, Maxim Osipov, Mathias Ospelt, Marianne Østergaard, Markus Ostermair, Georg M.Oswald, Willem Jan Otten, Per Marquard Otzen, Jean-Luc Outers, Anton Antonov-Ovseenko, Eithne O'Donnell, Stewart O'nan, Iduna Paalman, Markku Paasonen, Nina Paavolainen, George Packer, Triin Paja, Vinyet Panyella, Rita Paqvalén, Alexey Parin, Serguei Parkhomenko, Leena Parkkinen, Alix Parodi, Maarja Pärtna, Tònia Passola, Vinay Patel, Nick Patricca, Cezar Paul-Bădescu, Jurica Pavičić, Alex Pearl, Michael Pearson, Daniel Gustafsson Pech, Daniel I. Pedreira, Gustaaf Peek, Riikka Pelo, Marianne Peltomaa, Mikko Perkoila, Cosmin Perța, Marta Pessarrodona, Vibeke Munk Petersen, Dagmar Petrick, Dmitry Petrov, Heinrich Peuckmann, Lang-Hoan Pham, Louis-Karl Picard-Sioui, Emmanuel Pierrat, Asta Piironen, Drago Pilsel, Joan Manuel Pérez I Pinya, Daniel Pişcu, Andrey Plahov, Vagn Plenge, Elisabeth Plessen, Thomas Podhostnik, Gregor Podlogar, Angelina Polonskaya, Antònia Carré-Pons, Simona Popescu, Liliana Popescu, Adrian Popescu, Edo Popović, Nenad Popović, Max Porter, Anja Portin, Kåre Vedding Poulsen, Peter Poulsen, Tiina Poutanen, Kira Poutanen, David Poyer, Begonya Pozo, Grace Prasad, Kerstin Preiwuß, Vahidin Preljević, Jordi Prenafeta, Ahmet Prençi, Joy Press, Ofelia Prodan, Francine Prose, Merete Pryds Helle, Alina Purcaru, Cezar Pârlog, Cathal Póirtéir, Barbara Quick, Shazea Quraishi, Verena Rabe, Mabrouk Rachedi, Tiina Raevaara, Arya Rajam, Selma Rajjević, Karolina Ramqvist, Ian Rankin, Kukka Ranta, Jo-Ann Rasch-Hansen, Thomas Ravn-Pedersen, Rein Raud, Daniela Raţiu, Steven Reigns, Ole Reitov, Mario Relich, Petra Reski, Monika Rinck, Ashley Rindsberg, Henrika Ringbom, Magnus Ringgren, Fanny del Rio, Peter Ripken, Jukka Rislakki, Simon Robinson, Josep Ballester Roca, Antonio della Rocca, Mille Rode, Guenter G. Rodewald, Marc Granell Rodríguez, Manel Rodríguez-Castelló, Guido Rohm, Màrius Serra I Roig, Alexis Romay, Adrian G. Romila, Jürgen Rooste, Ville Ropponen, Adina Rosetti, Henriette Rostrup, André Roy, Radu Sergiu Ruba, Lev Rubinstein, Evelina Rudan, Andreas Rumler, Maria Rybakova, Riku Räihä, Jan Röhnert, Astrid Saalbach, Hazem Saghieh, Kholod Saghir, Yassin Alhaj Saleh, Salajdin Saliu, Saad Salloum, Janne Salminen, Helena Pol Salvà, Gregor Sander, Paula Sanders, Ulrike Almut Sandig, Philippe Sands, Froukje Santing, Joachim Sartorius, Mark Sarvis John Ralston Saul, George Saunders, Jani Saxell, Simon Schama, Erika Schickel, Roswitha Schieb, Regina Schleheck, Joan Schmidt, Aase Schmidt, Samantha Schnee, Peter Schneider, Ralph Schock, Eugene Schoulgin, Jutta Schubert, Christa Schuenke, Martin Schult, Tom Schulz, Hermann Schulz, Erik Schumacher, Christine Schutt, Elmer Schönberger, Stefan Schütz, Marjan Strojjan, Gert Scobel, Alice Sebold, Olga Sedakova, Lindsay J. Sedgwick, Gabriel Seiseddos, Krishna Sen, Séadna Mac Seoin, Seid Serdarević, Ellen Severance, Keyvan Shahbazi, Amir Shaheen, Flamur Shala, Paata Shamugia, Tatyana Shcherbina, Róisín Sheehy, Owen Sheers, Viktor Shenderovich, Peter Sheridan, Alla Shevelkina, Mikhail Shishkin, Paul Anthony Shortt, Gary Shteyngart, Arkady Shtypel, Nikesh Shukla, Niall Ó Siadhail, Kertu Sillaste, Marisa Silver, Goran Simić, Sherry Simon, Jonathan Simons, Helena Sinervo, Viveka Sjögren, Jane Smiley, Barbara Smitmans-Vajda, Gerard Smyth, Slobodan Snajder, Timothy Snyder, Johannes F. Sohlman, Catalina Sojos, Boris Sokolov, Natalia Sokolovskaya, María Soliva, Leela Soma, Rosa I Sabater, Jasna Šamić, Ivan Šarčević, Andrew Solomon, Simona Sora, Knud Sørensen, Sanja Šoštarić, Vladimir Sotnikov, Tatyana Anna Berseneva Sotnikova, Ralf Sotscheck, Matthew Sprecktor, Art Spiegelman, Monica Spiridon, Klaus Staeck, Irina Staf, Dmitry Stakhov, Dan Stanciu, Saša Stanišić, Laura Starink, Kjersti Løken Stavrum, Deborah Stein, Eira Stenberg, Cecilia Ştefănescu, Wilhelm von Sternburg, Vidosav Stevanović, Frederik Stjernfelt, Caroline Stockford, Jürgen Streich, Tina Stroheker, Antje Rávik Strubel, Lucija Stupica, Bogdan-Alexandru Stănescu, Leander Sukov, Francoise Sule, Anni Sumari, Lubov Summ, Irina Surat,

Ville-Juhani Sutinen, Slobodan Šnajder, Michael Svennevig, Zoya Svetova, Hannele Mikaela Taivassalo, Eeva Talvikallio, Amy Tan, Anne Tannam, Stefanie Taschinski, Elma Tataragić, Anne-Marie Tatsis, Marion Tauschwitz, Henriikka Tavi, Catherine Taylor, Janne Teller, Dan Terkildsen, Marie Tetzlaff, Lone Theils, Thorkild Thejsen, Danielle Thibault, Ma Thida, Hans Thill, France Théoret, Christian Braad Thomsen, Kirsten Thorup, Susan Tiberghien, Mika Tiirinen, Lev Timofeev, Hjalte Tin, Alan Titley, Gráinne Tobin, Salimata Togora, Colm Toibin, Miia Toivio, Csilla Toldy, Steve Toltz, Carles Torner, Larry Tremblay, Andreas Tretner, Salil Tripathi, Ilija Trojanow, Agron Tufa, Kári Tulinius, Tanja Tuma, Natalya Tumashkova, Veera Tyhtilä, Frank Überall, Dolores Udina, Radu Ulmeanu, Manon Uphoff, Doina Uricariu, Lluís I-Jovani Urpinell, Luis Alberto Urrea, Urtzi Urrutikoetxea, Anja Utler, Damir Uzunović, Luisa Valenzuela, Tina Vallès, May VanDuren, Radu Vancu, Dragoş Varga, Johanna Vehkoo, Xavier Velasco, Dragan Velikić, Johanna Venho, Regula Venske, Xavier Vernetta, Laurence Verrey, Maarit Verronen, Jes Vestergaard, Lidia Vianu, Hoàng Nguyen Bao Viet, Knud Vilby, Félix Villeneuve, Tõnis Vilu, Marina Vishnevetskaya, Carolijn Visser, Alina Vituhnovskaya, Maria Vlaar, Călin Vlasie, Elena Vlădăreanu, Tatiana Voltskaya, Marja Vuijsje, Smaranda Vultur, Carlos Váscenez, Jan Wagner, Geneviève Waldmann, Maybelle Wallis, Katri Wanner-Salmi, Andrea Ward, Rainer Wedler, Lisa Weeda, Gabriele Weingartner, Thomas Weiß, Annamaria Weldon, Benedict Wells, Hanna Weselius, Taina West, Caj Westerberg, Tara Westover, Kjell Westö, Mårten Westö, Eva Wiesenecker, Herbert Wiesner, Renate Wiggershaus, Eley Williams, Jeni Williams, Rita Williams, Laurie Winer, Marion Wisinger, Uljana Wolf, Tobias Wolff, Máire Dinny Wren, Françoise Wuilmart, Christine Wunnicke, Marina Yadrova, Sergey Yakovich, Elena Yakovich, Alexander Yarin, Viktor Yaroshenko, Samar Yazbek, Charles Yu, Elvana Zaimi, Judith Zander, Andrei Zbîrnea, Michael Zeller, Joachim Zelter, Myra Zepf, Cornelia Zetzsche, Sophie Zijlstra, Clas Zilliacus, Harro Zimmermann, Igor Zotov, Matthias Zwarg, Celia de Fréine, Oek de Jong, Stéphanie de Roguin, Edmund de Waal, Kit De Waal, Ayelet Waldman, Josh Weil, Antoine Wilson, Alberte Windig, Jamie Wolf, Antonije Nino Žalica, Emina Žuna.

Call for an end to the intimidation of Ukraine

By WfPC

The intimidation and worse of Ukraine by the Russian government and military, and their allies in Belarus, is an affront to civilised values, a massive blow for freedom of expression, and a terrible threat to world peace. There is a whiff of 1913 in the air, with Russia's rulers behaving depressingly like the Kaiser and his generals. War is not a game nor are 19th century imperial power politics appropriate for the global challenges of the 21st century. Whether the aim is to cross the border with troops, use cyber attacks to disrupt Ukrainian life, blockade trade along Black Sea coasts, bring fear and insecurity to people in Ukraine and nearby states, or curtail the rights of their own citizens, such actions are unacceptable.

The Russian government needs to desist immediately. If it is worried about its own security there are plenty of multilateral and bilateral fora for discussing issues and finding reassurance. If it is serious about protecting Russia's place in the international community it will draw back its forces and repair the damage to its reputation among the nations of the world that the actions of recent years have caused. Global peace rests on global trust, as the government in Russia knows from its position as a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council. If such trust is shattered it will take a generation to repair and we will all be less secure, poorer and less able to deal with climate change, disease and all other crises.

As writers we believe that the free circulation and discussion of ideas, without threat or censorship, is the best means of keeping humanity safe and innovative.

"Here we have a real situation where fake news is created in order to start a war that will affect not only Europe but all the world. I appeal to journalists to be honest and objective and to writers to be open and engage in any attempt to avert the looming danger of war in Europe" says Andrey Kurkov, President of Pen Ukraine.

As the Writers for Peace Committee of PEN International, we have been available for nearly forty years to cross political dividing lines and propose new ideas to help communities and countries come to positive and lasting agreement. We therefore call on Russia and Belarus's Presidents to end their isolation, come to a new understanding of their country's real interests, and work to deliver peace and the benefits it will bring to all generations. That can only start when Russia and Belarus renounce the threat of violence.

Writers for Peace Committee
PEN International
22nd February 2022

Ukraine/Russia: PEN urges peaceful solution to deteriorating situation

By PEN International (22. February 2022)

Update - 24 February 2022

On 24 February, Russia began a large-scale military attack on Ukraine. Responding to the news Burhan Sonmez, PEN International president, said:

'PEN International utterly condemns the violence unleashed by Russian forces onto Ukraine, and urgently calls for an end of the military aggression of a sovereign, independent state. The bloodshed must stop now. We stand with Ukraine, our friends at PEN Ukraine, and call on President Putin to stop this war immediately. Peace must prevail.'

We – PEN International, the worldwide association of writers, PEN Ukraine, and the undersigned PEN Centres – are gravely concerned about the rapidly deteriorating situation in Ukraine, with Russia ordering troops over the Ukrainian border and threatening to escalate the use of military force. We call for a peaceful solution that respects the rights to all in Ukraine, through peaceful dialogue and full respect for freedom of expression, in line with the PEN Charter.

Eight years since Russia's unrecognised 'annexation' of Crimea in violation of international law and the de facto control by pro-Russian armed groups of the self-proclaimed 'republics' in the Donbas, the human rights situation in Ukraine continues to raise severe concerns. Over 14,000 people have been killed, nearly 1.45 million people have been internally displaced, and scores of journalists have been detained, kidnapped, tortured, or otherwise harassed solely for carrying out their work. Violations of international human rights and international humanitarian law – or the laws of war – in occupied Crimea persist. Meanwhile, Russia has been accused of being behind a string of cyber-attacks against Ukraine, which recently targeted its defence ministry. On 17 February 2022, the shelling of schools and residential areas in the Donbas injured civilians and damaged civilian infrastructure. On 21 February, President Putin recognized the self-proclaimed 'Donetsk People's Republic' and 'Luhansk People's Republic' as independent states – in breach of international law – and sent in troops, ostensibly as 'peacekeepers'.

‘All individuals have a right to peace, free expression and free assembly. Ukrainian people have already suffered eight long years of violence, including military aggression, sophisticated information warfare and occupation of part of the Ukrainian territory by Russia. As PEN members, we abide by our Charter and pledge ourselves to do our utmost to dispel all hatreds and to champion the ideal of one humanity living in peace and equality in one world. We are deeply concerned by the worsening situation in Ukraine, and the threat that further bloodshed would have on all people in Ukraine and to the peace, security, and hopes of all throughout the region. We call once again on all parties to do all within their powers to ensure a peaceful resolution to the armed conflict in Ukraine through peaceful dialogue and end the use of propaganda that is fueling the violence’, said Burhan Sonmez, PEN International president.

The hybrid war waged by Russia against Ukraine for eight years is now turning into a conventional one, in which casualties among soldiers and civilians could number in the hundreds of thousands. Europe has not been able to defend European values on its territory, of which Ukraine is a part. We are no longer at the edge of the abyss; we are already holding one foot over it. If the leaders of the free world do not make a last decisive attempt to stop the war that the Russian Federation so wants to unleash, it will be safe to say: the Second World War taught humanity nothing! I appeal to all free people of our planet - do everything possible to protect the freedom and independence of Ukraine. There can be no free and safe Europe without a free and independent Ukraine!’, said Andriy Kurkov, PEN Ukraine president.

We deplore the threat to peace and free expression caused by President Putin’s refusal to accept the rights of Ukraine’s people to debate their future allegiance and history without Moscow’s interference. The annexation of Crimea, the crossing of troops in the Donbas, and his unwarranted concentration of forces in the region, whether along Western borders or in the Black Sea, must cease. The sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity of Ukraine ought to be respected. Multi-lateral fora for the avoidance of conflict and misunderstanding should be used, and freedom of expression and access to information both in Ukraine and Russia fully protected.

Signatories

PEN International, PEN Ukraine, Albanian PEN, Austrian PEN, Croatian PEN, Danish PEN, English PEN, Finnish PEN, French PEN, German PEN, Irish PEN/PEN na hÉireann, Japan PEN, Liechtenstein PEN, Montenegrin PEN, PEN America, PEN Armenia, PEN Belarus, PEN Belgium/Flanders, PEN Canada, PEN Català, PEN Centre of Bosnia & Herzegovina, PEN Club of Cuban Writers in Exile, Pen Esperanto, PEN Georgia, PEN Malta, PEN Melbourne, PEN Moscow, PEN Netherlands, NZSA Te Puni Kaituhi o Aoteroa (PEN New Zealand), PEN Norway, PEN Occitan, PEN Perth, PEN Romania, Polish PEN, Slovene PEN, St Petersburg PEN, Swedish PEN, Trieste PEN Centre, Vietnamese Abroad PE, Wales PEN Cymru.

Balkan working group meeting

Balkan group of the WfPC is holding a Zoom meeting this Thursday the 3rd of March 2022 at 12.00 CET.

The meeting's topic will be Ukrainian war. Simon Mundy, vice-chair of the Writers for peace committee and the chair of the WfPC Balkan Group would like to provide a forum to express your worries and dangers in your country.

Meeting details:

Topic: Balkan group - Ukrainian war

Time: Mar 3, 2022 12:00 PM Belgrade, Bratislava,

<https://zoom.us/j/96776311011>

Meeting ID: 967 7631 1011

Please confirm your attendance by sending an email to penwritersforpeace@penslovenia-zdruzenje.si

Free the Word, Our Voices, Our Resistance

Women Committee is organizing the event Free the Word, Our Voices, Our Resistance. On the 8th of March 2022.

Amongst others, the Ukrainian poetess and translator Iya Kiva will be featured.

If you wish to know more about the program and make your registration for the meeting, please follow this [link](#).

If you wish to attend the literary event, please follow this [link](#).

Please register as soon as possible.

Declaration of PEN Bulgaria against the aggression of Vladimir Putin in Ukraine

BY PEN Bulgaria

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Bulgarian PEN Center which is part of the World PEN Organization and represents serious and highly respected personalities of Bulgarian literature strongly condemns the military aggression of President Vladimir Putin against Ukraine - a sovereign state in civilized Europe. For the past few days, we have witnessed the beginning of a regional war between neighboring nations that have common historical, linguistic, and cultural roots.

This military conflict could too quickly turn into a European and even a world war. Obviously, the lessons of the Second World War have been forgotten. We, the poets, essayists, novelists, literary critics, and literary translators of the Bulgarian PEN Centre, openly declare our firm support for the people of Ukraine. Innocent people will die there, and as the conflict escalates, not only those fighting but also the mothers and children of the soldiers on both sides will perish. The chain of war will drag dozens of countries into the horror of war and will ruin the peoples' achievements accomplished in Europe with so much effort over the past 77 years.

We highly respect Russian culture and admire the classics created by Tolstoy, Dostoyevsky, Chekhov, Gogol, Turgenev, and the great composers Tchaikovsky and Rachmaninoff, we highly appreciate the work of hundreds of talented Russian artists. In their name and in the name of mankind, in the name of the Ukrainian and the Russian peoples, in the name of the future of our children, let hostilities in Ukraine be stopped!

The Bulgarian PEN Center stands for peaceful resolution of conflicts, against political engineering through military means in any country of the world because this often comes at an immeasurable cost to the individual, and does not achieve results that meet the common human ideal.

Let us preserve life in our common home, the planet Earth!

No strategic interests or megalomaniac ideas can be more important than life!

Signature:

ZDRAVKA EVTIMOVA, President of the Bulgarian PEN Center

The declaration is signed by the members of the Bulgarian PEN Center:

Alek Popov, Amelia Licheva, Amgela Domcheva, Boyko Lambovski, Vassilka Petrova-Hadjipapa, Velislava Savova, Georgi Gopodinov, Georgi Konstantinov, Deyan Enev, Elisaveta Shapkareva, Kerana Angelova, Kiril Kadiyski, Kiril Tolalov, Kristin Dimitrova, Lachezar Lozanov, Lyudmil Dimitrov, Milena Fichedjieva, Ognyan Stamboliev, Patricia Nikolova, Petar Chuhov, Svetla Georgieva, Hristo Dobrotiniv.

PEN Centres events dedicated to Ukraine

Readings for Ukraine in Sweden

An evening dedicated to freedom of speech in Gothenburg, Malmö, Växjö, Uppsala and Stockholm.

Welcome to a manifestation for peace, international solidarity and freedom of speech. Swedish PEN, Översättarcentrum, 20-tal, Glänta, Ord&Bild, Bonniers Konsthall, Dramaten, Göteborgs Litteraturhus and Uppsala Stadsteater are jointly organizing an evening of readings in support of our colleagues in Ukraine.

The readings will take place simultaneously in five different cities and will gather authors and translators who will present texts written by our Ukrainian counterparts. Some of the texts are older and remind us of exchanges in the past few years, especially through 20-tal publications. Other texts are being written and translated at this very moment. We will also listen to texts written by our Russian colleagues protesting the regime.

Several of this evening's contributors are in direct contact with their Ukrainian counterparts and many also have personal experience of exchanges with the country. This evening is grounded in PEN's foundational principle that literature does not adhere to national borders and must be able to spread freely.

The readings will take place simultaneously in Stockholm, Gothenburg, Malmö, Växjö and Uppsala.

STOCKHOLM - Bonniers Konsthall, 6:00 pm

Contributors: Elnaz Baghlanian, Jesper Bengtsson, Jonas Gren, Madeleine Grive, Linn Hansén, Ida Linde, Janina Orlov, Dmitri Plax and Marie Silkeberg.

Music by Sara Lundén

Hosted by Daniel Gustafsson

Free of charge! Booking in advance is not required - arrive on time to secure a seat.

The reading in Stockholm will be live-streamed on Svenska PEN's Facebookpage.

GOTHENBURG - Göteborgs Litteraturhus, 6:00 pm

Contributors: Erik Andersson, Göran Dahlberg, Lina Ekdahl, Helena Fagertun, Anna Fock, Ann Ighe, Kennet Klemets, Jila Mossaed and Malte Persson.

Music by Martin McFaul

Hosted by Marit Kapla

Link to event:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/968338773821136?ref=newsfeed>

MALMÖ - Malmö Stadsbibliotek, 6:00 pm

Contributors: Mats Kolmisoppi, Torbjörn Flygt, Ida Börjel, Kristofer Folkhammar and Gabriella Håkanson.

Link to event:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/3159561804292211?ref=newsfeed>

UPPSALA - Uppsala Stadsteater, 6:00 pm

Contributors: Gunnar Ardelius, Peter Englund, Petra Brylander, Hanna Nordell, Magnus Dahleus, Alma Kirlic, Frank Watson and Elin Cullhed.

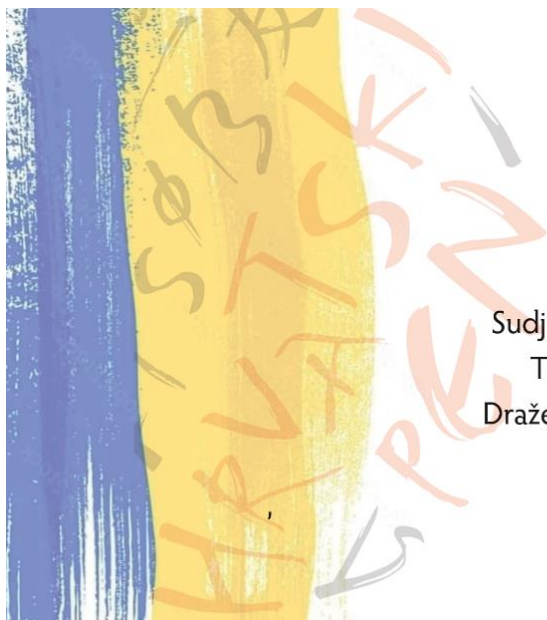
Hosted by Gunnar Ardelius

Free of charge but tickets must be booked in advance!

The event will be updated continuously with additional contributors.

Readings for Ukraine is organized by Swedish PEN, 20-tal, Dramaten, Översättarcentrum, Glänta and Ord&Bild in partnership with Göteborgs Litteraturhus, Bonniers Konsthall, Malmö City Library (Malmö Stadsbibliotek), det Fria ordets hus and Uppsala Stadsteater.

The **Croatian PEN** is organising a poetry reading in solidarity with their friends and all people in Ukraine. The poetry reading will take place on the 1st of March 2022 at 6:00 PM in Art Gallery Shira in Zagreb, Croatia.



ZA UKRAJINU

Pjesničko čitanje u solidarnosti
s kolegama i svim ljudima u Ukrajini
žrtvama ruske agresije.

Sudjeluju: Tomica Bajsić, Sanja Baković, Lana Derkač Šalat,
Tomislav Domović, Ena Katarina Haler, Ivan Herceg,
Dražan Katunarić, Miroslav Kirin, Ksenija Marković Banović,
Vanda Mikšić, Evelina Rudan ...

Utorak, 1. ožujka 2022. u 18 sati,
Galerija Šira, Preradovićeve 13, Zagreb.

The **Slovene PEN** is organising together with Slovene Writers' Association and Slovenian Associates of Literary translators a poetry reading in support peace in Ukraine.

The poetry reading "War and Peace" will take place in the conference room at Tomšičeva 12, Ljubljana, Slovenia.

MIR IN VOJNA

Spoštovani,
vabljeni na branje za mir v Ukrajini,
ki ga v znak solidarnosti pripravljamo
Društvo slovenskih pisateljev, Društvo slovenskih književnih prevajalcev in SC PEN.

Branje bo
v petek, 4. marca 2022, ob 17. uri
v dvorani na Tomšičevi 12 v Ljubljani.

Nastopili bodo:
Souzan Ali, Lijana Dejak, Lidija Dimkowska, Kristina Hočevnar,
Alenka Jovanovski, Andreja Kalc, Aljaž Koprivnikar, Kristian Koželj,
Dušan Merc, Brane Mozetič, Aleš Mustar, Tanja Petrič, Peter Semolič,
Muanis Sinanović, Marjan Strojman, Tanja Tuma, Maja Vidmar.

54th International Writers' Meeting at Bled

By Slovene PEN and WfPC

Despite the unpredictable time in which we find ourselves, we are remaining faithful to the tradition of organising the Bled Meetings. In the hope that the epidemiological picture finally improves or stabilises, we wish to invite you to the 54th International meeting of writers in Bled, to be held between 11th and 13th of May 2022. Although we sincerely hope to see as many of you as possible in person, we will also enable online participation that will be open to all of our members.

Like every year, the focus will be on the PEN International Writers for Peace Committee Meeting that will sit in three sessions:

- 11 May - General Assembly of WfPC.
- 12 May - round tables about the following topics: Failing Global Ethics: The Writer's Response, The five horsemen of the Apocalypse: covid, hate speech, violent protests, global warming, and the decline of democracy and Bosnia and all the "Bosnias" in the world".
- 13 May - closing meeting of the WfPC to finalise materials for the PEN Annual Congress.

If you are interested in attending the 54th International Writers' Meeting at Bled, please send us the completed registration form by the 10th of April 2022. The participation fee needs to be settled by the 20th of April 2022.

As usual, we will discuss and exchange views during round tables. Due to numerous difficult situations in our region and around the world, we decided to hold three round tables instead of two, as in the previous years.

The Writers for Peace Committee is troubled by the behaviour of several governments in Europe and worldwide. Therefore, the committee wishes to discuss Failing Global Ethics: The Writer's Response. Too many governments around the world, whatever their size, are behaving with increasingly cynical disregard for human rights, liberal democracy and freedom of expression. This is a threat to peaceful co-existence and individual liberty. The ethical basis of the world order is being undermined by many of the very states that established it after World War II.

Slovene PEN wishes to open two discussions. The first one will be about the topic The five

The promotion of hate speech in political discourse, in the media, on social networks and during violent protests are leading to the disintegration of democracy. Simultaneously, the exploitation of nature and people for the benefit of a handful of the richest has exceeded all boundaries and threatens the decline of civilisation, if not the destruction of the planet. How are writers affected by all these social phenomena?

The second discussion is entitled Bosnia and all the "Bosnias" in the world. Bosnia and Herzegovina together with the wider region (meaning Montenegro, Macedonia and Kosovo) is once again in the grip of nationalism and dangerous social, interethnic and interreligious frictions. With slow accession to the European Union, there is a great danger of renewed conflict and a new war. Hatred has also escalated in other crisis areas around the world, based on religious, racial and national intolerance. How can writers motivate countries where there is peace to act? What can writers do to help establish and maintain world peace?

Your written contributions will be published in an anthology if sent by the 10 April 2022 in one of the official languages of the meeting; French, English or Slovenian. The text should not exceed 4.000 characters with spaces. In order to encourage as many people as possible to participate, we are accepting for the first time all literary forms, not only essays like in the previous years.

After yet another year of staring into screens, we would be really honoured to welcome you in person at Bled in the breeze of life we used to know. We are however also looking forward to see and meet all the online participants, as the world needs to hear your voice.

Looking forward to your registration,

Sincerely yours,

Emmanuel Pierrat, President of Writers for Peace Committee

Tanja Tuma, President of Slovene PEN

Sara Katarina Zver, editor and co-ordinator of Writers for Peace Committee

If you wish to register, please contact us at penwritersforpeace@penslovenia-zdruzenje.si. We will send you all available information and the registration form. Please note that the deadline for the registration is the 10th of April 2022.



Writers for Peace Committee - Newsletter No. 2, March 2022
Chair : Emmanuel Pierrat
Vice chairs: Tienchi Martin-Liao, Simon Mundy, Franc Mikša
Editor : Sara Katarina Zver

