

SPÖ Gaaden
Thomas Smutny BSc MSc
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AUSTRIA



Mayor of Moscow/ Мэр Москвы
Sergey Semyonovich Sobyanin/ Сергей Семёнович Собянин
13 Tverskaya Street/ ул. Тверская, 13
Moscow, Russia/ Москва, Россия

Gaaden, March 2022

Dear Mayor Sergey Semyonovich Sobyanin!

Local politicians know what moves their fellow citizens, what they need and they enjoy the trust of the population. In addition to humanitarian aid, Ukraine also needs broad political support. For this reason, as Member of the Municipal Council for European Affairs of Gaaden (Austria), I'm making an appeal for peace to my Russian colleagues.

In your neighbourhood and our neighbourhood, we see a war that brings suffering, pain, fear, and destruction. Mayors and city councils in Ukraine are doing their utmost to maintain the functioning of infrastructure, food and water supply – in short – everything to help the civilian population survive the most difficult time we have all ever seen and which we simply could not imagine.

Heavy shelling and attacks against Kharkiv, Sumy, Kiev, Chernigiv, Kherson, Mikolaev and others; destroyed civilian infrastructure, hospitals, schools and social infrastructure, burned museums and power plants, burned houses. It is not a "special operation", it is an aggression, a war, and we also fear war crimes against the civilian population.

We are also aware that this war brings a lot of suffering to Russian soldiers, their families and friends. War and suffering are the last thing that the people, our people and the people of Ukraine need!

As mayor, we call on you to provide real information, to give citizens the opportunity to express their opinions and to call for an end to the bombing of your Ukrainian neighbours. Let's stick together and do our part to end the atrocities and suffering of the people. This is also in the interest of Russian women and men and of all of us.

As mayor, please use your influence as a catalyst for peace. This is what all of us and the women, men and children who trust us want and deserve.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Thomas Smutny', written in a cursive style.

Thomas Smutny BSc MSc
Member of the Municipal Council
for European Affairs of Gaaden