



საქართველოს განათლების და მეცნიერების სამინისტრო
Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia

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Dear Serhyi Kvit, esteemed members of the Kiev-Mohyla Academy administration, academic community and the general public,

I write to convey my wholehearted support for the National University of "Kiev-Mohyla Academy" and to express my deep concern over the dire consequences the new law. As a rector of Ilia State University - a Georgian university that witnessed one of the rapid and successful reforms over the past few years – I have come to know the National University of Kiev-Mohyla Academy as a leading institution in the region. We at Ilia State University admire the achievements that NaUKMA has accomplished in order to become one of the most prestigious academic institutions, where research and education are organized according to the highest of world standards. It is an institution universally respected for its objectivity and independence.

Beyond its significant role on the international academic arena, Kiev-Mohyla Academy contributes to the development of Ukrainian civil society. Over the past few years, Kiev-Mohyla Academy and Ilia State University have become close partners. Among the manifestations of this partnership are numerous projects and joint undertakings implemented by the two institutions, including a recently launched joint project in Tempus, which aims to develop best practice model doctoral schools in Ukraine and Georgia. I deeply value this partnership as it is based on shared values and principles. One of these principles is to serve the interests of students. That is why it was crucial to transform the old system into a liberal arts education that allows students to freely choose courses and to shape their educational trajectory. Kiev-Mohyla Academy is a demonstration of how national university can successfully accomplish this goal.

Tradition of English as a second language is among the important components contributing to the outstanding professionalism and scholarship of the graduates of NaUKMA. Therefore, forbidding English as a second language of instruction will inhibit the process of integration of the Ukrainian researchers into the international scientific community. Equally, limiting the autonomy of the Academy will negatively affect its functioning. I share the opinion of the European Universities Association that the autonomy of a higher educational institution is key for enabling universities to respond to the demands of the society. For years,

NaUKMA has been successfully meeting the growing needs of the local and international scientific communities.

Considering all of the above, I strongly urge the Ministry of Education of Ukraine to rethink the new law and to continue support for growth and development of education and research in Ukraine.

In conclusion, allow me to thank you for the partnership and express my full support to your institution.

Sincerely Yours,

Gigi Tevzadze,

Rector,
Ilia State University

