

The Norwegian Nobel Committee
Nenrik Ibsens gate 51
NO-0255
Oslo, Norway

September 14th, 2007

Esteemed members of the Nobel Committee:

We, the undersigned member of Parliament of the Czech Republic, hereby convey our strong support for the candidacy of H.E. Dr. Stanislau Shushkevich for the Nobel Prize for Peace.

When Alfred Nobel created the Peace Prize, he contemplated work towards the demobilization of armies as a qualification. However, he could not have foreseen the more vital act of unilateral abandonment of nuclear weapons by a nation's leader, which is one of the several achievements of Dr. Shushkevich.

Dr. Shushkevich is not only a historical figure of great significance, but his visionary achievements also hold great relevance today. He deserves the Prize for his leadership in:

- Decommissioning the vestigial Soviet nuclear arsenal (over eighty tactical and strategic missiles) unilaterally, without compensation or conditioning.
- The peaceful and legalistic dissolution of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, which was ratified by all the parliaments of its twelve constituent republics—an outcome that was not entirely ensured in the volatile situation of late 1991.
- The re-establishment—for the first time in three centuries—of the independence of long-suffering Belarus, and the creation of its democratic institutions.
- The steadfast struggle to re-establish democracy, human rights and European values in Belarus.

Any of these achievements individually would merit the highest recognition the world knows today.

In addition, with the global tensions over the nuclear programs of Iran and North Korea; with the re-establishment of dictatorship in Belarus; and with a resurgence of the forces advocating the re-colonization of the former Soviet space, Dr. Shushkevich's legacy, as well as his current work, merit special recognition and support.

We, the undersigned, cannot imagine any other current world figure that merits the Nobel Peace Prize more than Dr. Shushkevich.

Yours sincerely,
Petr Bratsky