

To: Dr Piotr Rypson, Chair ICOM Poland

In response to your letter concerning the candidacies of Alexander Belousov and Nadia Kulakova, both *eligible* candidates from the Russian Federation, for the DEMHIST board. ICOM-DEMIST is an international committee within the ICOM organization and community. As such, we follow the directives of ICOM.

As of today, the ICOM Executive Board has not decided on the suspension of ICOM Russia and/or on the expulsion of any member of ICOM Russia. Therefore, as both are eligible candidates and in good standing there is no legal basis for forcing the withdrawal of their candidacies to the board of DEMHIST. The ballot box shall speak and express the will of DEMHIST members and determine the make-up of the 2023-26 DEMHIST board.

Sincerely,



Yvonne Ploum  
DEMIST Chair