Dear colleagues!

The Russian Federation has started a deceptive and outrageous military attack on my country! In 2022 cruise missiles target residential neighborhoods, kindergartens and hospitals, critical infrastructure, the largest and most powerful aircraft in the world of Ukrainian production AN – 225 “Mriia”.

The armed forces and citizens are defending Ukraine – our country – till the end! The whole world is resisting the aggressor by imposing targeted sanctions so that the enemy can suffer significant losses. But we need your support: in 2022, the use of information, science and technologies is perhaps the best answer to tanks, Grad rocket launchers and missiles.

I am sure that you will not only listen but also do everything possible to protect Ukraine, Europe and the whole democratic world from the witnessed bloody authoritarian aggression! Therefore, I urgently appeal to:

- stop completely cooperation with the Russian Federation;
- terminate cooperation with citizens of the Russian Federation working for your companies and its representative offices;
- stop including Russian universities in the leading international university rankings QS World University Rankings (including the regional rankings Universities in Emerging Europe and Central Asia), Academic Ranking of World Universities (also known as the Shanghai Ranking), the Times Higher Education, the U-Multirank and Webometrics Ranking of World Universities.
These measures are completely justified and logical, given that Russian education and science are used by the Russian authorities for aggressive purposes, criminal propaganda, works to strengthen the military-industrial potential of the state, which threatens the world with nuclear weapons.

Given the assistance of the Belarusian authorities to the Russian attack on Ukraine, it is also advisable to suspend cooperation with the Republic of Belarus and to take similar measures against Belarusian universities.

Ukrainians are dying from bombs and bullets from invaders, our territory is undergoing unprecedented destruction since World War II.

The democratic world cannot remain indifferent, but must support Ukraine with real actions, because at this time our state is holding back an enemy that poses a threat to the whole world.

Yours sincerely,
Deputy Minister of European Integration
Oleksii SHKURATOV