

To Prof. Sadovnichiy,
Rector of the Moscow State University

In the days when the most courageous students and professors of Russia's colleges, trying to restore peace and defend the future of their country, are bravely facing the brutal batons of fascist police, your name is heading the list of signatories under one of the most shameful documents in the history of Russian science – the cowardly [endorsement](#) by the Union of Rectors of Russia's invasion in Ukraine.

I am not surprised.

Some half-a-century ago, when true scientists in the Soviet Union, such as my teacher Vladimir Arnold, were risking their well-being by signing letters in defense of Soviet dissidents, you were advancing your administrative career by serving the needs of Brezhnev's administration. To remind you of one episode: in the summer of 1975, the year of my graduation from high-school, you personally, in your capacity of the Chair of the Admission Committee at the Mathematics Department of Moscow State University, organized an insidious and even-then illegal scheme of entrance exams preventing Jewish applicants from being admitted.

Your post-Soviet career as the never-changing head of the Moscow State University only demonstrates the true nature of that national idea that you share with your boss – the allegiance of a butt to its chair.

So, let your servility not fool him: the way you've just betrayed your students, your colleagues, and your people, you'll sell him out too the first moment an opportunity presents itself.

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