Your Honorable Viacheslav Mikhailovich Lebedev,

I write you with respect on a matter that has been handed down to Jehovah Witness in the Russian Federation.

Jehovah Witnesses, follow a peaceful way of life and apply biblical teaching that address love of God and neighbor, love for family, and respect for government.

Romans 13: 1, 2 "Let every person be in subjection to the superior authorities, for there is no authority except by God; the existing authorities stand placed in their relative positions by God. 2 Therefore, whoever opposes the authority has taken a stand against the arrangement of God; those who have taken a stand against it will bring judgment against themselves."

Religious leaders in Christ day tried to frame him.

Matthew 22:15-21 “Then the Pharisees went and conspired together in order to trap him in his speech. 16 So they sent their disciples to him, together with party followers of Herod, saying: “Teacher, we know you are truthful and teach the way of God in truth, and you do not seek anyone’s favor, for you do not look at the outward appearance of people. 17 Tell us, then, what do you think? Is it lawful to pay head tax to Caesar or not?” 18 But Jesus, knowing their wickedness, said: “Why do you put me to the test, hypocrites? 19 Show me the tax coin.” They brought him a de-nar’i·us. 20 He said to them: “Whose image and inscription is this?” 21 They said: “Caesar’s.” Then he said to them: “Pay back, therefore, Caesar’s things to Caesar, but God’s things to God.”"

As Jehovah’s Witnesses, we globally respect governmental authorities and pay our due taxes.

We also, know from the Holy writings that today’s religious leaders, will always be in the business of disrupting peace and unity. The Christ, also experienced this in his day as recorded in Matthew 23:13 “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! because you shut up the Kingdom of the heavens before men; for you yourselves do not go in, neither do you permit those on their way in to go in.”

We as Jehovah’s Witnesses try our very best to follow the teachings of the bible, and do not take the bible out of context to fit our needs, we abide to its peaceful manner as instructed by the Laws of Christ.

Please intervene from having a people that show respect for governmental authority and pay their due taxes from being ban from the Russian Federation. Any information you may seek about Jehovah’s Witnesses and their beliefs and teaching are made available for your review here at JW.ORG

Sincerely,