

HONENS STATEMENT

8 March 2022

It is with a deep sense of sadness that the Board of Directors of the Honens International Piano Competition has made the very difficult decision to revoke the invitations of its Russian competitors to participate in the 2022 event.

Honens abhors and condemns any form of violence and is deeply disturbed by the Russian government's unprovoked attack on Ukraine. Such blatant acts of aggression and greed have no place in our world. Following lengthy and in-depth discussions, the Board felt it necessary that Honens make a strong statement in response to this catastrophic and unconscionable humanitarian crisis.

Honens acknowledges that there is no perfect outcome in this case and regrets that it is the six young pianists who will bear the brunt of a decision based on the brutal actions of the Russian government.