

INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

EINSTEIN DRIVE

PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY 08540-0631

E-Mail: witten@ias.edu

Telephone: 609-734-8021

Fax: 609-951-4489

SCHOOL OF NATURAL SCIENCES
PROFESSOR

EDWARD WITTEN,

August 22, 2013

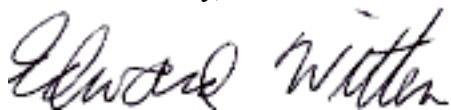
The Honorable Sergey Naryshkin
Speaker
The Russian Parliament

Dear Mr. Naryshkin,

I write with concern about reported plans to reform the Russian Academy of Sciences.

Russia has a great scientific tradition going back hundreds of years that has been one of its great strengths throughout history. Preserving, reviving, and enhancing your scientific tradition will best serve your country. Your scientific community can serve your country best if you respect its independence. The Russian Academy of Sciences is a historic asset for your country.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Edward Witten". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Edward Witten
Simonyi Professor of Physics