

**To the Leaders of Muslim Countries,  
to the Imams of Mosques and Holy Sites of Islam,  
and to Museum Directors**

**AN APPEAL  
OF THE COUNCIL OF CHECHEN ELDERS IN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES**

*Bismillāh ir-Rahmān ir-Rahīm*

Dear Brothers,

We, the Chechen Elders residing in European countries, address you with an extraordinary yet profoundly important request for assistance and support for the master photojournalist and sculptor **Sergey Melnikoff (MFF)**.

Sergey Melnikoff is a world-renowned photojournalist and writer who devoted immense efforts to bringing to international attention the genocide of the Chechen people carried out by imperial Russia — a genocide that claimed the lives of more than **300,000 Chechen civilians**, including **42,000 children**. For this work, Master Melnikoff was awarded by the Government of the Chechen Republic of Ichkeria one of the highest honours of the state — **“Qoman Turpal” (“Hero of the Nation”)** — and was admitted as an associate member of the **Council of Chechen Elders in Europe (CCEE)**.

Following the onset of Russia’s aggression against Ukraine, Master Melnikoff redirected his efforts toward supporting the suffering Ukrainian people. In recent years, he has chosen a highly original — yet inherently dangerous — means of bearing witness to the genocide of the Ukrainian nation. Living in Odesa, together with his colleagues, he began collecting fragments of exploded Russian shells, missiles, and bombs, transforming them into works of art.

The culmination of his artistic path has become the creation of a masterpiece entitled **“Allah al-Akbar”**, a work of profound significance for every Muslim — and not only for Muslims. Together with his collaborators, through welding, he united thousands of fragments of munitions into a single form, and gilded the central element of the composition — the inscription *“Allah Akbar”* — with gold.

We, the Chechen Elders, are convinced that you, our Brothers, will make every effort to ensure the dissemination of the artistic masterpiece *Allah al-Akbar* and will fulfil your sacred duty before the Almighty by organising exhibitions and presenting this work in your palaces, mosques, and museums. In doing so, you may help to halt the genocide of the Ukrainian people — for the Almighty regards the killing of even a single innocent person as the gravest of sins, and here thousands of innocent lives are being lost, while Ukraine — one of the great countries of the world — is being destroyed.

May the Almighty assist us all in this noble cause. And we, the Chechen Elders, hold the hope that with your support these horrific crimes perpetrated by the Russian leadership and its imperial army will finally be brought to an end.

*In shā’ Allāh.*

With respect and profound hope,

on behalf of the **Council of Chechen Elders in Europe**,

**Ziyavdi-Haji Beloev**

*Tamada (Chairman) of the CCEE*

27 December 2025