**Introduction to the letter to Pope Francis**

In the past month, I received almost fifty e-mials where the senders expressed their uneasiness and even concerns of the future. Fear of war is in the air. Members of our association feel the same, although many have witnessed situations when a regional or global conflicts were just one step away. None of our members feels that life in peace is granted and that safe times, when one could think fearlessly of near or far future, will return. Six of the writers are anonymous and could not be tracked to thank them for staying within the human race rather than turning towards the seekers of confrontation and war fury as a “solution to global issues”.

**Let me quote one of the anonymous writers:**

*“Mr. Kasalovsky, of course, I do follow the situation and I feel disappointed about the powers clearing the accounts like in an “American grotesque”. It would be bearable if it were just Dukovany nuclear power station, Nord Stream II, Sputnik V… since “politics is concentrated economy”. The problem lies in the rest of the definition: “War is the continuation of politics using different means”. Every military conflict started with a provocation as Casus Belli. I can see two possible reasons for anti-Russian activism. The first one is the pressure for a change of Russian administration towards one that would be more compliant with the US interests in Europe and in the world. The second one is a mental preparation for a military conflict. I am sure that Russian administration is well aware of that hence my doubt that one ammunition supply warehouse in the Czech Republic is worth it. Crime investigators always ask about the motif. But I cannot see one. We have witnessed two serious crises in our lives when the world was on the eve of destruction - Berlin and Caribbean crises. I am afraid that we are heading to another one which we may or may not survive.*

*I am sending you my friendly greetings and I look forward to reading what message you intend to address to Pope Francis and the general public since global leaders have said nothing special on the world peace and security but plain phrases and threats.”*

**The same author sent another e-mail a couple of hours later.**

*“Yet, I do have a slightly optimistic conclusion to the previous text. I think that NATO military capacity is not predominant over Russian Federation’s capacity, thus they cannot disrespect the deterrent military power of the RF. Also, I believe that it is impossible to do in Russia what was done in Ukraine. And so all that could be done is to negotiate and find compromises. I am not sure who will suffer the consequences of the compromises, but I am pretty sure that China will play a big part since a conflict between the USA and the RF could be a source of inspiration for China on how to progress in their relations with Taiwan. However, geopolitics is a longterm issue.”*

**My response to the unknown writer***: “I think there is someone who needs a conventional conflict in Europe. Is it Ukraine?! Yes and no. Is it Poland? Yes. Finally, their army is the best equipped. The result is zero. However, Russia will not comply with a conventional conflict. But it also depends on whether wise decisions will be taken in Germany, in France... The US need to enfeeble Europe. Nevertheless, there is still enough risk takers and dull hawks. They declare that the Earth’s population needs to be reduced to 500 million in order to solve global problems. Some will go to the Rockies, some to the Ural and we will be left with the future underground trench in Petrzalka suburb. I am not an optimist, it is 50:50 up to me, too. There is still more dull administration officers. It is not the pandemic which will hinder the return of better times, but those blockheads all around…. There are plenty of them in Slovakia as well. What needs to be done is to sit around a round table, ban wars and interventions, and most importantly resist the armament manufacturers avid for war and their political supporters, or rather leaders.”*