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**РЕГИОНАЛЬНАЯ ОБЩЕСТВЕННАЯ ОРГАНИЗАЦИЯ
«Клуб ветеранов Морского космического флота»**
Коллективный член РОО «Федерация космонавтики России»

Maritime Museum of Finland and Langinkoski
Kotka, Finland
pia.paukku@kansallismuseo.fi
to Dr. Pia Paukku, the Museum manager

Dear Dr. Pia Paukku,

We are writing to you on behalf of a group of enthusiasts and veterans of the Soviet Space Research Fleet regarding the preservation of the R/V Kosmonavt Viktor Patsaev, the last surviving Soviet space tracking ship.

The Soviet Space Research Fleet began to be created in 1959 on the initiative of Sergei Korolev in connection with preparations for the launch of the first automatic interplanetary stations of the Mars and Venus type, as well as the Vostok manned spacecraft. The entire history of the development of Soviet cosmonautics is closely linked with reliable support from the Soviet Space Research Fleet. The purpose of the ships was to control spacecraft, trajectory and telemetry measurements, to maintain communication with the crews of spaceships and stations. After the Soviet Union was broken up and a difficult economic situation in the 1990s, the fleet was dissolved.

To date, there is only one ship of the Soviet Space Research Fleet, the R/V Kosmonavt Viktor Patsaev which is docked in the port of Kaliningrad at the pier of the World Ocean Museum.

In 2016, thanks to the efforts of the veterans of the Soviet Space Research Fleet, the ship was entered in the Unified State Register of Cultural Heritage Objects of Russia. Veterans propose to create a Soviet Space Research Fleet Museum on board.

The owner of the ship is a joint-stock company that is part of the structure of Roskosmos. For a long time, none of the parties, neither Roscosmos, nor the Ministry of Culture, take the initiative to resolve issues of ownership and financing. Unfortunately, without proper funding, the ship slowly but surely comes into a deplorable state, and the further, the more funds and efforts will be required to restore it.

Thus, in Russia there is a unique ship of the Soviet Space Research Fleet, which here, in Russia, cannot find a reliable owner capable of maintaining it as a monument and museum.

It is especially offensive to realize this in the year of the 50th anniversary of the flight of the world's first orbital station "Salyut" and the spacecraft "Soyuz-11" with cosmonauts Georgi Dobrovolsky, Vladislav Volkov, Viktor Patsayev on board.

The urgency of the situation forces us to apply to various museum organizations. We invite you to familiarize yourself with this vessel and assess the prospects for its use as a branch of your museum.

References:

1. <https://world-ocean.ru/en/kosmonavt-viktor-patsayev>
2. <http://niskvp.ru/index.php/21-otdelnye-stati/204-otchjot-o-poezdke-na-nis-kosmonavt-viktor-patsaev-iyun-2012>

Sincerely yours,

Anatoly Kapitanov,
Chairman of veteran`s organization
“Club of Veterans of the Marine Space Fleet”



Anatoly Kurochkin,
Chairman of veteran`s organization
“Union of Veterans of Ships of the Command and Measurement Complex”



Svetlana Patsaeva,
Daughter of cosmonaut Viktor Patsaev



Vladimir Proschenko,
Veteran of the Space Research Fleet,
Coordinator



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