

The Centre for Development of National Alcohol Policy
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to the President of the
Russian Federation
Putin V.V.

Dear Vladimir Vladimirovich!

According to the Federal Law “On Non-Profit Organizations”, a non-profit organization performing foreign agent’s function is a non-commercial institution receiving money resources and other assets from the foreign countries, public authorities, international and foreign organizations, foreign citizens, stateless individuals or authorized persons and (or) from the Russian legal bodies receiving money and other assets from the mentioned sources. The non-profit organization acts in the interests of foreign units and takes part in the political activity in the territory of the Russian Federation.

The non-profit organization is recognized to be a participant of political actions conducting in the territory of the Russian Federation, if despite tasks and objectives pointed in the constituent documents, this organization (including financing) takes part in the management of political actions in order to have an effect on public authorities’ decisions directed to the changing of the state policy and also to the formation of public opinion according to the mentioned aims.

Activities in the field of science, culture, art, health service, preventive treatment and health protection of the citizens, social support and protection, protection of parenthood and childhood, social support of disabled persons, healthy lifestyle promotion, physical training and sports, plant and animal life protection, charitable activity, charity and voluntarism are not classified as the political activities.

Russian Brewers’ Union is a non-profit organization uniting producers of brewing products and representing the interests of the brewing industry. Members of the Union are 60 companies possessing 90% of the manufacturing areas in the territory of the Russian Federation and producing 90% of beer in the country. The dominant members of the Russian Brewers’ Union are foreign divisions: Carlsberg Group – the owner - JSC “Brewing company “Baltika”(market share - 36,8%), AB Inbev (market share - 17%), Heineken (11,6%), Efes Rus (near 6%). According to Nielsen, share of beer retail sales of Carlsberg, InBev, Heineken and Efes Rus in Russia is 81,4%.

According to the information from the official website of the Russian Brewers' Union, "the Union has been successfully cooperating with public authorities, relevant ministries and departments and representing the interests of the brewing industry during 15 years". For example, the Russian Brewers' Union held member's meeting devoted to the "internal activity management" in the building of the State Duma. The representative of the USA Embassy Putiy A.N. attended the conference of the Expert Council in the building of the Federal Anti-Monopoly Service in June 25, 2013 (according to the information of the official site of FAS).

At the present time The Union is engaged in several activities: top priority - "participation in the creation of the legislative and regulatory framework favorable for the development of beer and beverage production and sale".

Some information about the Management team of the Russian Brewers' Union:

Issak Sheps – the Chairman of the Council of the Union, the President of JSC "Brewing Company "Baltika" (Carlsberg Group). Before he was the President of Carlsberg in Bulgaria, Serbia and Croatia; the President Carlsberg South East Europe where controlled 7 countries: Bulgaria, Croatia, Hungary, Slovenia, Serbia, Bosnia, Herzegovina, Montenegro; was the President of Carlsberg UK (Great Britain); at present - a Senior Vice-President in the Eastern Europe.

Etienne Strijp – the member of the Council of the Union, the President of Heineken in Russia. Before he held positions in "Heineken" in Czech Republic, in the Republic of Panama, Argentina, Columbia, the Netherlands.

Stuart Mcfarlane - the member of the Council of the Union, the President of "Anheuser-Busch InBev" in the Central and Eastern Europe. Before he was the President of "AB InBev in Great Britain and Ireland".

Ahmet Tugrul Agirbas - the member of the Council of the Union, the CEO of Efes Rus; before was the CEO of Efes Turkey.

According to the Federal Law "On Non-Profit Organizations" the Russian Brewers' Union had to file an application for inclusion on the register of nonprofit organizations performing foreign agent's functions even in 2012. But there is no such organization in the register.

You are kindly requested

- to entrust the Department of Justice with a task to suspend the activity of the Russian Brewers' Union till the management team applies for inclusion on the register of nonprofit organizations performing foreign agent's functions

- to entrust the Ministry of Internal Affairs to bring to justice official bodies of the Union for avoidance of obligations set in the Russian legislation concerning nonprofit organizations, fulfilling foreign agent's functions under the article 330 of the Penal Code.

Respectfully yours,
The Head of The Centre for Development of National Alcohol Policy Pavel Shapkin /signed/