

I want a president who is a housewife, a cleaner, a teacher, a nurse, a midwife. Unemployed, a pensioner, childless, a mother of five, a single parent. A woman who loves a woman. A president who wears a skirt, trousers, a sweat suit.

A president who doesn't speak about the nation, who is undocumented, who is not white, whose relatives and friends do not speak about the nation.

I want a president who doesn't hide the fact that she drinks, takes drugs, suffers from depression, is scared of being left alone.

I want a president who won't tolerate violence, who knows that punishment doesn't work. A president who has been forced to steal, to sell her body, who has lived on the street, a president who will not join the army, or the police, who laughs at the informers and dismisses the KGB.

A president as artist, actor, musician, penniless poet. A president who listens. Who doesn't speak Belarusian, who doesn't speak Russian. Who knows that language is power, that language can become violence, a president who does not insult people.

I want a president who doesn't have to be guarded, who doesn't need OMON, but who does need medicines in hospitals, who doesn't build palaces for herself, or nuclear power stations, who organizes no parades, who knows that we are all politics, that war and repression mean the end of politics. A president who has been blind from birth. Who is in touch with her nameless grandmothers, who understands what fascism means, a president who knows that the past is always with us and that the future is already here. Who knows what violence means, who has endured it and who no longer wishes to endure it. A president who does not conceal dependence, weakness, illness, old age. A president who is not a businesswoman, who knows that the state is not about making deals but about caring for the weak, the invisible, the excluded.