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Siberian Students Uncover Soviet Peers' Wish for Peace in 50-Year-Old Time Capsule

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Gorky Palace of Culture in Novosibirsk / vk.com

Students in Siberia have opened a 50-year-old time capsule containing a wish for peace and international friendship from their Soviet peers, local media reported Thursday.

The Soviet students' message of hope for a peaceful future was unearthed as Russia faces unprecedented economic and political isolation in the wake of its invasion of Ukraine.

To mark the 50th anniversary of the Soviet Union's founding, members of the Pioneers youth organization in the city of Novosibirsk sealed a time capsule in their school's walls in May 1972 — to be opened by future students after another 50 years.

Those same Soviet students, now well into adulthood, helped open the time capsule at a ceremony Thursday.

In a letter placed inside the time capsule, the Soviet middle schoolers recite the history of the

Young Pioneers and boast of the engineering achievements of the U.S.S.R. before wishing their descendants peace and international cooperation.

“Life is so beautiful and amazing, and you have to make it even more wonderful, so don’t waste your time … Live your life the same way that the bright sun shines on everyone, so that your thoughts and deeds warm and delight everyone,” the message reads.

“May you have friends all over the world. May there always be peace!”

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The letter's now-elderly authors read the message themselves on stage, the Sibir Media outlet reported.

Russia celebrated Thursday the 100-year anniversary of the Young Pioneers — the Soviet youth organization whose members ranged from age 9 to 15 — with events including costumed parades and speeches at schools.

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