In response to the large number of inquiries from Russian citizens and foreign friends of Russia regarding the activities and statements by the Italian designer Carlo Alberto Maccan claiming the right to use the surname Romanov and the historical titles of the Russian Imperial House of Romanov, the Chancellery of the Head of the Imperial House of Russia wishes to make it known that:

1) Mr. Carlo Alberto Maccan, who calls himself “Maccan-Romanoff,” and who uses the title “His Imperial Highness Prince Carlo Alberto Maccanovic Romanov-Holstein-Gottorp,” is in fact not a descendant of the Romanov family.

No female members of the Imperial House of Romanov ever married anyone from the Maccan or “Maccanovich” family. Nor did any Romanov descendants—legitimate or illegitimate—even marry into the Maccan (or “Maccanovich”) family.
Therefore, Mr. Carlo Albert Maccan does not have the right to use the surname Romanov under Russian imperial law nor the historical titles associated with it, and, moreover, his use of the name and titles infringes the rights of the actual members of this historical Russian family—both the members of the Imperial House of Russia and their relatives who descend from morganatic marriages.

2) The improper use of the surname Romanov (Romanoff) and related titles violates the norms of Russian imperial law and is misleading.

3) At the present time, the Imperial House of Russia consists of only two persons: the Head of the Imperial House of Russia, Her Imperial Highness the Grand Duchess Maria of Russia, and her son and heir, His Imperial Highness the Grand Duke George of Russia.

These sole members of the Imperial House use the surname and titles by right of inheritance, in accordance with the dynastic house law of Emperor Paul I, issued on 5/18 April 1797.

Their dynastic status and titles have been recognized by the government of the Russian Federation and other countries, and by the Russian Orthodox Church and other religious denominations. They have also been repeatedly confirmed in academic publications written by prominent scholars in the fields of history and genealogy.
4) The Chancellery of the Head of the Imperial House of Russia, which is a registered non-profit organization in the Russian Federation and which represents the Imperial House of Russia in its relations with government agencies, the Orthodox Church and other religious groups, and with public and civil organizations, has the duty to inform the public of any people who use the name and titles of the Imperial House without right, including Mr. Maccan, and to defend always and vigorously the honour, dignity, and good name of the Russian Imperial House of Romanov.

Alexander N. Zakatov
Director of the Chancellery