Stop historical revisionism in Baltic countries

Also this spring, the International Federation of Resistance Fighters (FIR) had every reason to protest again against two marches to the glory of the fascist policies and Baltic collaborators.

On 11 March marched several hundred neo-Nazis and veterans through Vilnius (Lithuania). Approved by the authorities and protected by the police, they were able to bring their propaganda at the floor that was directed particularly against the Soviet period of development of Lithuanian public. Their hatred is directed against the Russian-speaking population. Especially from the "Lithuanian Nationalist Youth" slogans such as "Lithuania for the Lithuanians" were shouted. On the march were also involved members of parliament from the governmental party "Home Union".

On 16 March followed the - since some years - traditional parade of SS-units through Riga Latvian. Led by the Latvian National flags and a priest in his robes, veterans of the Latvian Legion of the Waffen-SS and young neo-Nazis marched around the city. The parade ended at the cemetery of Lestene, where a memorial ceremony was performed. It is scandalous that even members of the ruling parties in this Nazi march attended. Because of the restriction by the Latvian authorities, there were only scattered protests against this march.

The Belgian member associations of FIR have condemned the recent march of veterans of the Latvian Legion of the Waffen-SS in Riga. Particularly serious was the participation of parliamentarians in the march, it has been said in a statement released in Brussels by the Committee. "We are outraged that a delegate of a country that joined the European Union and involves subsidies from the budget, participate in Nazi rallies," said the committee. The Belgian anti-fascists called on the Latvian president, not to allow any future gatherings of former SS men and neo-fascists. It reminded the Committee that the Nuremberg Tribunal, the Schutzstaffel (SS), including the end of 1939 established Waffen SS declared a criminal organization and made it responsible for numerous war crimes and crimes against humanity. This judgment of the international community was never repealed so far, it said.
Anti-fascist protests in Hungary

In recent weeks, the democratic and anti-fascist forces were able to set clear signals. In particular, our member organization MEASZ and the President of FIR Vilmos Hanti are actively involved.

Even the media denunciation by Hungarian neo-Nazis of Vilmos Hanti at the end of the year had caused a scandal, which also suggested an international waves. Now, increased the public criticism of the planned appointment of two well-known anti-Semites, namely Csurka Istvan and Gyorgy Dorner, for the management of the New Theatre in Budapest.

Because the authorities turn a deaf ear to critical words, Hungarian artists and anti-fascists decided on 1 February 2012, the date of establishment of the extreme right in their function, to perform in front of the theater an anti-fascist demonstration. MEASZ took over the registration and organization of the rally, while well-known artists and writers in public statements to the international media documented their rejection.

The political mobilization was successful. About a thousand demonstrators gathered on 1 February in front of the new theater. Speakers of the rally were Vilmos Hanti and Frusina Magyar. They insisted: "We must be unite against this extreme murderous ideology. To protest is not only a political question but a question of morality."

At the same time the city council approved in the immediate vicinity a gathering of JOBBIK, which was directed against this anti-fascist protests. And under the eyes of the police 50 supporters of Jobbik were able to position themselves near the arena of the protest and interfere with heckling and chanting the demonstration of anti-fascists. That was the moment when the police marched with massive forces into the protest rally - formally, to separate the different groups. That the police hindered the protest against Doerner, the chief of the operation obviously accepted.

At the end of the manifestation, the anti-fascists were conducted by the police to Kossuth ter, where the right-wing forces continued their provocations.

A new, powerful signal against the current right-wing government became on 15 March, the national holiday, the demonstration of democracy movements. Approximately 100,000 people, in particular from Budapest and the region, demonstrated against the Constitution and a further restriction of civil liberties. This was even more impressive than the government had tried to prevent this parade by officially assignment of all central gathering places in Budapest.

Ulrich Schneider

Miklós Radnóti Anti-racism Award for General Secretary of FIR

On March 21 in Budapest in the 12th Year the award ceremony of the Miklós Radnóti anti-racism price took place. The Hungarian organization MEASZ again elected several personalities from culture and politics that have been honored with this award.

Among them were popular writers, actors, a Lutheran theologian as a moderator of the Christian-Jewish dialogue, the chairman of the Mahatma Gandhi Society, the President of the Hungarian Auschwitz Committee, and - as an international award winners - the Secretary General of the FIR. The event was performend by popular artists, actors and journalists.

Although the present Hungarian government had rejected the realization of this event in Parliament, the winners were welcomed by the Vice President of the Hungarian Parliament to a private reception.
"Final sprint" for the International Youth Meeting in Auschwitz

In early May 1000 young people will be traveling from many European countries with the "train of remembrance" to Auschwitz and then deal with the history of the Nazi extermination camp, the memory of the victims, with anti-fascist and future prospects. This meeting is being organized as a joint action by the Belgian "Institut des Veterans", the Belgian Auschwitz - Foundation and the International Federation of Resistance Fighters (FIR). The largest number of participants is from Belgium. Other large groups from Portugal, Russia, Germany, Denmark and Greece are also taking part.

The program includes a visit to the Auschwitz-Birkenau and Auschwitz, a joint memorial ceremony on 8 May, cultural events, discussions with witnesses and dealing with issues of the day. As we repeatedly in recent weeks reached inquiries and bookings, here again, the technical key points:
The train will start on Lunchtime in Brussels – Schaerbeek in May 5, 2012 and ends on Evening of May 10 there as well. A stopp to join the train is in Frankfurt / Main too.
The cost of participation (travel from Brussels, hotel accommodation and full board in Krakow) amount to 250.00 €.

Some places are still available. If interested, please sign up immediately in the office of the FIR, Franz-Mehring-Platz 1, 10243 Berlin or electronically: office@fir.at.
The places are allocated in order of registration.

Letter of FIR to the new elected president of the European Parliament Martin Schulz

on behalf of the International Federation of Resistance Fighters (FIR) - Association of Anti-fascists and expressly on behalf of our president Vilmos Hanti (Hungary), I would like to congratulate You on Your election as President of the European Parliament.

The FIR and their national member federations have developed in recent years, good relationships with many of the parties represented in Parliament. I recall only two conferences that we could held in common with fractions in the Brussels premises.

In 2007, we organized such conference together with the socialist group, supported in particular by the Vice-President Magda Kósáné Kovács, where we discussed about the responsibility of passing on the historical experience to the future generations and about the common activities against extreme right in Europe.
We know from various explanations how strong You, Mr Martin Schulz, are yourself engaged in these issues. So we are glad about your election and hope You have a clear position against extreme right, against racism and right-wing populism as well as for preserving the memory of the achievements of the resistance against the Nazi regime, one of the foundations of today's united Europe.
We would hope that there could be in the next time the opportunity to exchange views with our President. We invite You in person in autumn to take part at the opening of the planned exhibition about "resistance fight against the Nazi regime in Europe" in the Brussels offices of the European Parliament. In this sense, we wish You every success in your work and hope to hear from You.

Martin Schulz answered in February 2012 in a personal response:

Dear Mr. Dr. Schneider,
many thanks for your greetings to my election as president of the European Parliament. I will do everything possible to fulfill the expectations that my colleagues in Parliament and the citizens of the European Union put into me.
Yours
Martin Schulz
The International Federation of Resistance Fighters – FIR - calls on European citizens:

1 – Whereas decisions taken in recent years by most governments in European countries have led to a continuous deterioration and severely affected civil, political, cultural, social and economic rights of their peoples;

2 – Whereas, as it is increasingly clear, European Union Institutions have shown to be incapable of avoiding this deterioration and overcoming social and regional asymmetries endangering stability, harmonious development and even the peace in this region of the globe;

3 – Whereas it is up to the United Nations Organisation to ensure the application of the rights enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights adopted in 1948;

The undersigned call on the United Nations Organisation to act with the governments of these countries in order to demand the full implementation of the rights set down in the Declaration of Human Rights and the reinstatement in their countries of all the withdrawn rights.

This declaration has been accepted in the last EC-meeting in March 2012 with clear majority

Memorials and victims' associations against a commemoration on 23 August

At a special meeting of the Working Group on the Berlin-Brandenburg Memorials on 13 January 2012 the members of victims and advocacy groups as well as memorials to the victims of Nazism both states, together with the representatives of the Central Council of Jews in Germany and the American Jewish Committee have discussed about a resolution of the European Parliament with the proposal, to introduce in all countries a common day of remembrance for all "victims of authoritarian and totalitarian regimes". This day should be every year on August 23 committed on the occasion of the signing of the Hitler-Stalin pact in 1939. We reject this proposal unanimously and decisively.

We refer especially to the "legacy" of the presidents of the association of survivors of the Holocaust and concentration camps, this have passed in January 27, 2009 to the President of the German Bundestag and the Federal President. We also refer to an equal letter of the presidents in this matter addressed to the Members of Parliament and members of the EU Commission's, the survivors handed over on 11 November 2011 personally in Brussels to the Commission Vice-President, Mrs. Viviane Reding.

The main points are:
• The target of the initiators of the memorial day to commemorate the equality "of all victims of authoritarian and totalitarian regimes" leads to unhistorical equations, and relativization.
• The introduction of this commemoration is therefore not contribute to reconciliation and amicable dialogue between victims, their families, different communities and countries, but it deepens contrasts, tearing up old wounds again and leads to new conflicts and confrontations.
• Of course, we recognize not only the suffering of the millions of victims of communist terror, but also accept the effort to establish an international memorial day for them. Whether the date of August 23 is acceptable cannot be decided by governments and parliaments. This should do especially those who have not only in the period of validity of the Hitler-Stalin Pact, ie 1939-1941, but at least since the October Revolution of 1917 to the peaceful revolution in Europe in 1989 / 90 suffered under the communist dictatorships.

We are concerned that the voices of survivors of Nazi terror seems to be hardly heard. We are dismayed and ashamed of the bitterness that many victims of Nazi persecution just feel so at a time when we must speak of a gradual end to the ordeal of witnessing. Coming soon will be again on the anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz prisoners remembered the victims of the Nazis. The commemorative events on 27 January are a good opportunity to be heard the "legacy" of the last survivors of the Holocaust and Nazi terror and to join their appeal, where it states:
“Rather than impose our ideals of democracy, peace, tolerance, self-determination and human rights, history is often used to sow discord between people, groups and peoples. We will not accept that debt counted off against each other, experience of suffering brought in a hierarchy, victims are brought into competition and historical phases are mixed together.”

Support the political work of the International Federation of Resistance (FIR) - Association of Antifascist!

The political work of international anti-fascist organization requires large resources. Since civil society organizations do not have national or institutional grants, the organization depends on contributions and donations.

Bankaccount: Postbank Berlin BLZ 100 100 10 , Kontonummer 543 054 107, Kontoinhaber: FIR
Donations from foreign countries only with IBAN DE 04 1001 0010 0 543 0541 07 SWIFT-BIC: PBNKDEFF

Common letter to the International Federation of Resistance (FIR) - Association Antifasciste, the National Association of Saxony of the Association of Victims of the Nazi regime - Association of Anti-Fascist (VVN-BdA) and the Czech Union of Fighters for Freedom (CSBS) at the German Bundestag and the Saxon State Parliament.

Again the memory of the bombing of 13 February 1945 on Dresden should be misused by a march of neo-Nazis on 18 February 2012, thousands of those unteachable want to distort history and march with their right-wing slogans through Dresden.

We protest against this provocation and ask you as political responsable:

How long do we have to rise together admonishing our voice and point out the countless German and Czech comrades and the comrades of many other nations who were fighting against fascism, giving their lives in the hope that the repetition of fascism and war will be never again, and all people of good will tries to create an anti-fascist, democratic society?

How long will this haunting brown given the permission, to mock the memory of thousands of victims of the 13th February 1945 and demonstrate openly its right-wing slogans?

How long courageous democrats, anti-fascists and all peace-loving citizens will be exposed by brown terrorist, while the police protects neo-fascist parades?

How long Neo-nazis are allowed to make trouble and - protected by police and government - fighting to subvert our governmental system and to present open their anti-democratic views? Are the crimes and killings of Nazi-terrorist NSU not quite enough warning to prevent such a thing?

How long are initiators and violent neo-Nazis as well as their brown bat columns with impunity, while anti-fascists who are united in protest on 19 February 2011 against the fascist hordes stand in their way, are criminalized?

We are calling to stopp these rallies with all democratic means at their disposal and to expose their neo-fascist goals. We thank all the citizens who gave with their civic engagement a sign to the right.

We welcome the initiative of the Prime Minister of Saxony Stanislaw Tillich to ban the NPD and all required right-wing extremist organizations and associations, what we claim for years, and call for their immediate implementation.
On 13 February and on 18 February 2012 demonstrated in Dresden over 10,000 people in a variety of actions with human chains, a commemorative program and blockades against the planned Nazi activities. This again could be prevented through broad citizen protests this year that the neo-Nazis were able to carry out their provocation. The FIR thanks all anti-fascists and anti-fascists of this commitment. At the end of the demonstration, the Saxonian police arrested the 77 years old chairman of the VVN-BdA Prof. Dr. Heinrich Fink. The police suspected him to be a "ringleader" of the protests last year.

German and Greek anti-fascists
Together against EU blackmail and austerity at the expense of the people

Facing the massive political debates surrounding the stabilization of the Euro-region, German and Greek anti-fascists take in common action the floor, to protest against imperialist policy and nationalist campaigns.

We declare:
German and Greek people were and are not enemies, but allies for a socially just and democratic Europe. Therefore, we reject the blackmail politics of the troika, the German federal government and other European countries against Greece, which prevent with new demands at the expense of the Greek people the disbursement of promised funds. We know that the social and economic cuts against the people of Greece will soon return as "austerity" to Germany.

We call instead for an economic and financial policy, which does not align its assistance to the interests of international banks, but gives the Greek people actually work opportunities and fair payment and in that way a chance to overcome the consequences of the current disastrous economic policies that was approved for decades by the EU.

We recall that in particular the German Federal Government has a political and moral obligation to stand by the Greek people for help. Because it were German Wehrmachtseinheiten which were responsible for heavy material damage during the occupation and the killing of thousands of Greeks. In contrast, there were German anti-fascists on the side of the EAM, they persevere the honor of the German people at that time. Now to act again with the air of an occupying power, as it does the Merkel government, is contrary to the spirit of historical responsibility.
We propose as FIR to face the problem in its real dimension, because the dictatorship of monopolies is being applied to all peoples of the Euro-zone, although at this moment hitting with special rudeness Greece and other countries of the South. They assert that Greece faces a problem of external debt and therefore the country is going through a great crisis.

However, even very developed countries like the USA, Germany, Japan and others, face a real big problem of debt. They say that in Greece wages are very high, but in Portugal and Spain too, measures against working people are applied as well, in spite of the fact that wages are lower there. High unemployment rates exist in other countries of the EU too, although wages are lower there than in Greece. Even outside the EU there are countries with high development rates, but with very high unemployment rates as well.

Consequently it is just the dictatorship of monopolies justifying their smashing of the peoples and increasing their profit even under conditions of big capital’s crisis.

However, they want even more profit, when the crisis is over and therefore the measures being taken at the cost of working people are not for the time being, but permanent. …

Either in crisis or under development the working people in the EU as well will continue living in hell. We are faced with a war being launched internationally by the monopolies causing lots of victims amongst the working class.

We all know how many homeless died of cold in the countries of northern Europe. Suicides of poor and unemployed people not being in the position to face the need of their families have increased very much in all countries going through a crisis. We should not be indifferent towards this situation. Some people, who disagree that capitalist development and imperialism is the cause of what’s happening, should give us an answer to the question why regardless of the level of development of the countries in this system the numbers of the poor are growing and on the other hand the rich gather more and more wealth. In Greece, country of more than one million unemployed and three million living in poverty, rich men’s bank deposits only in Switzerland surpass the 600 billion Euros.

According to our option FIR, if insisting in fighting only against neo-nazism and racism, is missing its target, which is disrespectful towards the millions of victims of war and resistance. Everybody – even Merkel – declares himself to be against neo-nazism. However, at the same time they denunciate neo-fascism, they equate fascism with socialism in order to defame the last, so that working people can’t see any way out of today’s disastrous policy of the dictatorship of monopolies. …

Today in all countries we see fascist parties growing and everyday neo-fascists committing crimes, almost without being disturbed, against non-native and other workers raising the banner of racism and anticommunism. However, in no countries their activities have been forbidden. On the contrary, in many countries the activities of communist parties fighting for social liberation and the abolition of exploitation of men by men, have been forbidden and criminalized, although fighting for a better future without hunger and war. This reality must become the banner of our struggle …

With such a struggle we can say, that we honor the struggle and sacrifices of the resistance fighters and the victims of the Second World War.

News from Member federations

European Resistance Assembly April 20 to 22 in Correggio//Italy
Come to the European Resistance Assembly in Correggio!

In entire Europe women and men fought against the violence and destruction of fascism. Today, like yesterday, we agitate in favor of anti-fascism in different European countries.

We propose to bring together everyone, women and men, adolescents and adults, to keep alive our history, to discuss our situations today and to celebrate the European partisans and other resistance fighters.

The whole event will be cost free, you will not have to pay for the concerts, lessons, conversations with the time witnesses and so on, but for your place to sleep that weekend and for the food you want to eat. There will be the possibility to buy food from the Bio-Bar and also from other snack bars. There is the possibility to sleep cost-free in a gym.
If you are sure that you want to participate in the European Resistance Assembly, it would be nice to send us an Email, so that it is easier for us to organize the logistics.
Info: info@resistance-assembly.org

FIR decided to participate in this conference with a delegate. Heinz Siefritz, who represented FIR in the last year at the national festival of ANPI will be representative of FIR in Correggio.

65 years VVN - an internationalist power

In the fascist camps and detention places developed an international solidarity that resulted in the spring of 1947 in establishing an umbrella organization of anti-fascist fighters FIAPP (Fédération Internationale des Anciens Prisonniers Politiques, International Federation of former political prisoner). Member of the FIAPP were - as Karl Raddatz, in a report for the VVN wrote - "the survivors of the glorious partisans armies, which won on the side of the Allied the victory over Nazi Germany, the survivors of the International Brigades in the freedom struggle of the Spanish people, the vast number of illegal fighters against Nazism and then victims of all religious and national reasons, who escaped the hell of the Nazi concentration camps and prisons." (Unser Appell, July 1, 1948)

After the establishment of local and regional organizations of former resistance fighters and victims of fascism since 1946 the first common meeting of the "Association of Victims of the Nazi regime" (VVN) of all four occupation zones happened at March 17-18, 1947.

Its aim was to give the former victims of persecution and anti-fascist fighters a political voice. The VVN helped the persecuted ones in their social and medical claims, and it worked for the memory of the victims of fascism and the underground resistance groups. In May 1948 VVN was accepted as an equal-right member of the FIAPP. This has been at that time a political sensation, because German organizations were in the international arena essentially excluded. For the fighters against fascism, however, was the common experience of the illegal war into the concentration camp, the basis for the trust that the VVN got by the international structure.

As in the summer of 1951 from the FIAPP resulted the International Federation of Resistance Fighters (FIR) with the headquarters in Vienna, also German delegates were attended at the founding congress, one of theses the former Buchenwald inmate and anti-fascist journalist Emil Carlebach from Frankfurt / Main. In this and the coming decades, the VVN was fighting in Germany against the resurgence of Nazi organizations and the renazification of the FRG, against remilitarization of Germany and to conclude a peace treaty with the Allies. VVN stood against any attempts to relativize the Nazi regime and the rehabilitation of the fascist criminals and their crimes. In addition, it was a task of the VVN that the memory of the men and women in society from the resistance should be appreciated and the time of persecution would be appropriately compensated.

The VVN was playing in the international work an important role. Here are just a few officials of the VVN called, who were officials in the ranks of FIR:
Hans Schwarz, political secretary of the VVN was a member of the General Council of the
FIR, Marcel Frenkel was a member of the General Council of the FIR. Dr. Joseph Rossaint, Catholic resistance fighter and president of the VVN was from 1959, Vice President of the FIR, Max Oppenheimer, an historian was member of the FIR – Office the same as Hans Jennes, a member of the Secretariat of the VVN was member of the FIR – Office too. Also, the committee of the anti-fascist resistance fighters of the GDR has been active: Fritz Beyling, until 1959 Vice President of the FIR, Otto Funke, vice president of the FIR, Georg Spielmann, Vice President of the FIR, Hans Seigewasser, 1965 Member of the FIR – Office, Heinrich Toeplitz, a member of the General Council Wolfgang Bergold represented, in 1969 Secretary of the FIR and Kurt Goldstein, 1982-1991 Secretary of the FIR.

In many political campaigns, conventions and events VVN and FIR were united. In Cologne and Strasbourg they organized mass demonstrations against fascist tradition and rehabilitation of the SS-veterans organizations. In Frankfurt / M. organized FIR and VVN a historical conference on the sharing of experiences to future generations. Together they organized demonstrations against “Berufsvorbote” (interdiction of profession) and against Nazi activities in various European countries.

Almost 10 years ago FIR decided unanimously to move the seat of the organization to Berlin. Therefore VVN - BdA has taken a greater responsibility for the continuation of the international work of FIR.

On the occasion of the anniversary event in Frankfurt, President Vilmos Hanti brought the greetings of FIR to the guests of VVN-BdA. The Committee of the Russian war veterans presented as a gift of their organization an honorary dagger.

Ulrich Schneider

OPEN LETTER OF SUBNOR TO DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN PUBLIC

In March we received a letter signed by the president of SUBNOR Serbia, Prof. Miodrag Zecevic. The organization protested against historical revisionist tendencies and the rehabilitation of Chetniks' commanders, they have been condemned in earlier trials as criminals of war. In this letter is written:

SUBNOR of Serbia as successor and follower of antifascism and freedom loving traditions addresses this letter to domestic and foreign public in conjunction with indications of possible legal rehabilitation of accomplices in war crimes committed by the Nazi occupiers of our Country in the World War II. Consequences of a shameful attitude of the present Government, hiding behind ostensibly independent Judiciary, will be far-reaching for the People and State of Serbia. Adjudication, i.e. amnesty of Chetniks' commander Dragoljub Draza Mihailovic has already met condemnation in the neighborhood and can not be acceptable among European and overseas Allies who, side by side with Yugoslav Partizans from 1941 till 1945, crashed Hitler's fascistic terror and terror of his obstinate and loyal local collaborators.

... Present day Authorities of Serbia, last few years, pushed for almost complete rehabilitation of Nazi-fascist quislings and collaborators during WWII. Most of what respected Partizans did in their freedom fighting - and what not one history book repudiate – is now being pushed aside in Serbia. Brilliant star of the antifascist democratic World is now subject to transforming it into an appendix of the fascist encampment. While some countries of former Nazi-fascist block are trying hard to get rid of its stigma of the past, actual authorities of Serbia are imposing with zeal a fascist cover on it. What is pushing theme, what kind of instincts and whose interests, in such a morbid direction?

... It is expected that the voice of all antifascist forces in the country, ever stronger also in the EU, will be heard at the forthcoming general elections. Serbian respectful place for its struggle by Partizans in the WWII is secured and no government or ideologically colored processes and political decree can exclude Serbia from the family of Allied antifascist countries.

SUBNOR is determined to claim the safeguarding of the historic truth of the WWII from the anti-Hitler's Allied Coalition who cherish tradition of freedom, from the organizations of Veterans of the world who are respectful of Partizans struggle, from the UN and the EU who have set criteria of antifascism. Against incomprehensible rehabilitation of Nazi collaborators in Serbia we shall addressed our claim to the Court in Strasbourg.
Protest against international racist meeting in Aarhus/ Denmark

On Saturday, 31 March 2012, the racist English Defence League initiated in cooperation with the Danish Defence League a demonstration against the Muslim population in Aarhus, Denmark. The aim of such racist provocation is to win political influence with populist slogans. The Internet sides of the Nazis announced several hundred participants from across Europe. However, only about 200 arrived from several European countries.

In contrast Danish mobilized Democrats and anti-fascists on the occasion of various actions that day. Under the motto “Aarhus for Diversity” was held on Saturday in the center of the city a popular festival. At the same time a variety of direct actions carried out against the meeting of the racists. The organizers say 4000-5000 participants in the anti-fascist activities.

These activities were supported by a coalition of various political grassroots organizations, trade unions, youth organizations, anti-fascist organizations and initiatives, and smaller parties. Also from Great Britain, Norway and Germany anti-fascists took part in these protests.

Unfortunately, on the outskirts of the action it came also to clashes with the police, what had nothing to do with the broad anti-fascist protest.

The victims of the Distomo Massacre are not vindicated

The Panhellenic Union of National Resistance and Democratic Army of Greece (P.E.A.E.A. – D.S.E.) condemns the Hagen International Court of Justice decision, which rejected the juridical decision of the Italian court which said that the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany is obliged to compensate the descendants of the Distomo Holocaust victims during the Nazi Occupation of Greece. (We remind that Distomo is not the only village which was destroyed by the Nazis, and its residents are not the only ones that were massacred. The same happened to Kalavrita, Chortiatis and about 1200 villages more).

This decision, once more, exposes the role of the international tribunal, that supports imperialism and validated Germany’s objections, which claimed that such a case could not be tried outside Germany. This shows that a status of extraterritoriality is imposed. The delusions of the pro – European Union left parties, which believe that the imperialist institutions and organisations can be used to defend peoples’ rights, now collapse.

We also have to condemn the policy of the Hellenic government, which does not raise claims of compensations over Germany, leaving the Greek people without vindication for the huge destructions in human resources and infrastructure, caused by the Nazi Occupation during World War II.

Germany has not returned even the obligatory loan that Nazis took from the Hellenic Central Bank. The total amount of money owed to Greece by Germany as war compensations is 164 billion euros, without interest.

The Hellenic people, will not resign from the claim of war compensations by Germany and will continue fighting with the National Committee of Claiming of German Compensations until its final vindication.

This is a struggle in which, P.E.A.E.A. – D.S.E. also joins its efforts. We also call for support by F.I.R., to help us and send by the Greek peoples’ efforts to claim compensation by Germany to Greece, according to international meetings and the councils of London and Paris. We note that Greece is the only country that was not compensated for the destructions made by Nazi Germany during World War II.
In recent years there was a great growth in the number of ethnic and religious conflicts throughout the world. The number of radical groups is rising and the scope of their activities is expanding. The positions of the radical right, that uses the aggravation of social contradictions against the background of the global economic crisis and the globalization of world economy, as well as the ideological vacuum created by the collapse of communist ideology, are reinforced year after year.

Against these tendencies an International Human Rights Movement "A World Without Nazism" (WWN) established, which has set for itself the following objectives:

1. Creating the conditions for interaction and dialogue among the various anti-Nazi organizations, giving a new dimension to the world anti-fascist movement, including Russia.
2. Consolidation of the international community in support of the relevance and enduring value of the verdict of the Nuremberg Tribunal, which condemned Nazism.
3. Promotion of denazification in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe, where it was not carried out in the postwar years, or was censured after the collapse of the Soviet Union and Soviet bloc.
4. Countering the glorification of Nazism, Nazi criminals and their accomplices, countering the revision history of the Second World War and the spread of Nazi ideology.
5. Countering Holocaust denial.
6. Protecting the rights of ethnic, religious and cultural minorities.

In this regard, the main tasks of the new organization are:

1) Cooperation with international and European political and judicial structures on combating Nazism.
2) Promotion and dissemination the anti-Nazi values and intensification of discussion on contemporary issues related to the distortion of history, glorification of Nazi collaborators and collaborators throughout the world.
3) Monitoring of neo-Nazism - collection and processing of information from the field, getting it to the general public, as well as giving special reports to international organizations (PACE, OSCE, etc.)
4) Initiating the process of political de-Nazification in Eastern Europe.
5) Introduction to the education system of countries - members of the Council of Europe's mandatory standards for teaching the history of World War II and the Holocaust.
6) An analysis of international practice to combating Nazism and wide dissemination of this experience to other countries worldwide.
7) Spread of anti-fascist ideology to the newly independent states, discreditation and weakening the political forces in the West that promote the concept of placing equal responsibility for the outbreak of World War II on Nazi Germany and the USSR.
8) Legally combating radical and neo-Nazi forces in European and international courts, including the filing of claims in the European Court of Human Rights, providing the materials gathered by our movement to the OSCE and the Council of Europe.

One of the immediate tasks of the movement will be to organize an international monitoring of modern Nazis and the facts of discrimination based on nationality, religion, culture and geographic origin, as well as the annual publication of the "White Book of Nazism."

International human rights movement, "A World Without Nazism" fully agrees with the stand of the Council of Europe, the United Nations and other international organizations on the dangers of Nazism and its revival and is willing to cooperate with all governmental and nongovernmental organizations who share this concern.

Following various conferences in Berlin, Moscow and Minsk in the past the International Human Rights Movement „World Without Nazism“ prepares in October 2012 a General assemble in Strasbourg. FIR and some of its member federations have been invited to this meeting. The executive committee of FIR decided to accept the invitation for participation. A representative delegation will take part and use this meeting for talks about the possibility and the way of political cooperation with WWN.
Literature for Anti-fascists
The roots of Europe in the Buchenwald concentration camp

It is an indisputable fact that the Buchenwald concentration camp - founded as a German concentration camp - in the course of time became a European place where the vast majority of prisoners came from the countries occupied by the German fascism. At this place developed the roots of the "anti-fascist International", which were visible later in the cooperation of the illegal International Camp Committee and the International Military Organization and led successful the self-liberation on 11 April 1945. The Oath of Buchenwald is still the common basis of anti-fascist groups and organizations across Europe and internationally.

"In ten Parisian talks with former Polish and French prisoners, who took her home after the liberation in France, the authors tried to examine the question in which way the idea of a united Europe had its roots in the concentration camp Buchenwald," says the blurb of this new book on this topic. The volume is introduced by a detailed reflection on the understanding of Europe and the connected ways of the authors to their interlocutors. It is shown that the concentration camps are of central importance as a European "milieux de mémoire" and that it must be an European memory and politic of history.

The list of dedicated conversation partners reads like a "who's who" of the political survivors of Buchenwald: Floréal Barrier, Jacqueline Fleury, Bertrand Herz, Stéphane Hessel, Charles Palant, Jorge Semprun, Walter Spitzer and others. They keep demanding that their own experiences are not forgotten. Buchenwald, the crimes of German fascism against humanity, must remain part of the collective memory. This must be a "culturalization" (Hessel) accompanied the economic and political process of European integration. And Floréal Barrier formulated significant criticism in today's European reality. "In a Europe of solidarity, the workers in France, Spain, Poland or any other European country have the same living conditions. Everybody must be able to live on their wages." Even Stéphane Hessel, in his little pamphlet "Outrage you!" expressed similar. Bertrand Herz points out in his interview in this new Europe one must be active against exclusion in the different countries.

Based on these examples it is clear that the survivors of Buchenwald face Europe not "abstract", but actually in effect for the people. And they give in their answers guidance from their historical experiences how today's generation can carry out through their actions the idea of an unified Europe of the people. This is also how the concept of internationalism is relevant for the future, a pleasing alternative model to a Europe of the financial capital and the mighty. Only criticism is to say that the interviewers sometimes pretend their view of the history of concentration camp to the survivors, for example by the question of self-liberation. Jorge Semprun gave on this topic a clear answer during his last speech in April 2011 in Buchenwald telling everything you need to know. Following this, would be done justice to the survivors.

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