



World Association of Former Political Prisoners

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His Excellency the President of the Republic of Poland Andrzej Duda Kancelaria Prezydenta Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej ul. Wiejska 10 00-902 Warszawa Polska

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Poprad 5. 11. 2021

Protest by the World Association of Former Political Prisoners against the European Union's action against the Republic of Poland

http://www.szcpv.org/21/protest.html

Your Excellency, we are following with concern the diametrically different approach of the institutions of the European Union to Slovakia and Poland in matters of violation of the rule of law. Blaming Poland for threatening the so-called European values and the rule of law, I am particularly sensitive as chairman of the association, mainly because my mother was born in Krempachy near Nowy Targ. My mother's brother is now poor with Mgr. Karol Paluch, a member of Solidarity since 1980, has been the president of the Cor Aegrum Foundation and a friend of Adam Michnik of Solidarity, Poland. This extremely rare and humble man underwent severe heart surgery in the 1960s at an unsuitable and obsolete hospital in Kraków. He promised the surgeons who operated on him then that he would do everything possible to build a new and modern cardiology hospital for them. Nobody believed him then. However, he selflessly succeeded and together with Cardinal Macharsky - the then Archbishop of Krakow and Professor Dziatkowiak - founded the Cor Aegrum Foundation, which raised funds around the world. On June 9, 1997, the poor Pope St. Father John Paul II in Krakow, he consecrated the newly opened department of the Institute of Cardiology, where dozens of heart transplants are performed today.



From left: Mgr. Karol Paluch President of the Cor Aegrum Foundation, Cardinal František Macharsky, Vol. Father John Paul II



Visit of St. Father John Paul II. in Krakow on June 9, 1997 and the consecration of the clinic

Since half of my family lives in Poland, we have had enough objective information about what has been happening in this country since 1990.

Unlike Slovakia:

- banks did not go bankrupt in Poland
- Polish citizens did not lose lifetime savings in state-legalized non-banking companies than thousands of Slovak citizens
- the Polish secret service has never been misused to kidnap the ex-president's son, and its members, unlike the Slovak SIS, do not trade in intelligence and protect the mafia linked to political parties
- The chairman of a political party and parliament, who according to the records of the former Security Information Service of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic transported heroin across the border and had demonstrable contacts with the most famous Slovak mobsters, does not appoint its nominees to the Polish secret service.
- Polish Prosecutor General's Office does not cover economic and corruption crimes and its Prosecutor General has never been prosecuted
- a corruption case has never been revealed in Poland in connection with the privatization of strategic enterprises and the privatization of water in violation of the Constitution of the Slovak Republic of such dimensions as the case called "Gorilla", which no government in Slovakia wants to investigate

However, the European Commission and the European Parliament respond to any complaint and suggestion of a violation of the rule of law in the Slovak Republic by claiming that European legislation does not allow interference with the legislation of EU member states because the basic principle of the rule of law is that the prosecutor's offices and courts are independent.

In contrast, the European Commission and the European Parliament respond disproportionately and hysterically to any complaint against the actions of the Polish Government and interfere with the independence of the legislation of the Republic of Poland and the decisions of the Polish Constitutional Court.

In the appendix, we attach as evidence of the diametrically divided approach of the EU the response of the Chief European Prosecutor to our "Notice of Violation of the Rule of Law by Covering Serious Crime by the Prosecutor's Office of the Slovak Republic sent to the Chief European Prosecutor", published on our website http://www.szcpv.org/pd/monitor/m4.html

The alibi response of the Chief European Prosecutor confirms that everything that happens in the Slovak Republic is in accordance with the principles of the rule of law and the European Public Prosecutor's Office cannot interfere with the independence of the authorities of the Slovak Republic. The Main European Prosecutor's Office, the European Parliament and the Council of Europe did not even respond to the "CALL FOR POLITICAL PRISONERS OF THE GOVERNMENT AND MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL The Office of the Inspection Service and the Slovak Information Service must be independent institutions", published on our website. http://www.szcpv.org/21/vyzva2.html

In contrast, all complaints against the current Polish government's actions to clean up the former communist judiciary by judicial reform and protection of the traditional Christian family and children are seen by the EU as a threat to the rule of law, punishing Poland with millions in fines and suspensions also to the financial markets, which devalue the Polish zloty, for which Polish citizens pay extra by increasing the prices of energy and oil, which is bought in USD.

The European Central Bank (ECB) so-called through quantitative easing, in other words only the pushing of uncovered money, has contributed to rising inflation and the devaluation of citizens' savings, as Member States, including Poland, are forcing. With this economically irrational and counterproductive step, it has shifted speculative investment into the real estate market, making housing unavailable to young families with children in demographically dying Europe and launching a new mortgage bubble. Only the National Bank of the Czech Republic has decided to reduce inflation and increase prices by raising interest rates.

Under the slogans of protecting the rule of law and protecting the values on which the EU stands, the EU institutions have imposed financial sanctions on Poland and are preparing others. We consider this blackmailing approach of the EU to be inadmissible and an insult to the victims of communism and political prisoners who died in executions and Stalinist labor camps for their convictions, faith and ideals of freedom.

We quote from the Declaration of Solidarity with Publicly Famous Slovak Personalities with Poland of November 4, 2021:

Few nations have contributed to the fact that, after the fall of communism, we can now live in a united Europe like Poles. It is absurd that Poland, with its tradition of defending freedom, is being pushed into the position of a troubled country. For decades, Poland has been facing a hostile media campaign that creates a false image of its political life in a country where democracy is allegedly threatened by an authoritarian regime.

The EU institutions have a role to play in escalating the conflict. European Parliament resolutions attack Poland and demand demands from it in areas where decision-making under both Polish and EU law falls within Poland's competence. These resolutions contain interpretations of what is happening in Poland in the field of protection of life and family that do not correspond to the truth.

Post-communist justice is a problem in all post-communist countries after the change in the political system, but the EU is not interested. It is therefore hypocritical for Poland to try to address this issue as a step against the independence of the judiciary. No evidence of the loss of independence of the Polish courts has been provided. Here, too, it is true that the judiciary falls within the competence of the Polish governments.

The method chosen by the EU institutions to put pressure on Poland is outrageous. It is a method of financial blackmail. Western countries experienced an increase in prosperity during the Cold War, while citizens of Eastern European countries made persecution in the fight against communism. After these victims bore fruit in the form of the fall of communism and the subsequent unification of Europe, the citizens of Eastern Europe suffered a painful economic transformation, with Western European countries expanding their markets to the east. And today, the rich west of the EU dares to penalize poorer member states financially. Because they have a different opinion on some things. Some representatives of the EU institutions lack a historical memory.

Our association is therefore on the side of Poland, which it considers a country that has won its freedom hard and at the cost of great sacrifices.

Bankové spojenie: Fio Banka, a.s., pobočka zahraničnej banky. Svetové združenie bývalých politických väzňov č. účtu v Slovenskej republike v EUR: 2400889071/8330, IBAN SK3983300000002400889071, SWIFT/BIC FIOZSKBAXXX

Europe has forgotten:

- on how the Poles resisted communism at a time when everyone was silent under the dictatorship of Moscow.
- She forgot about the strikes organized by the Solidarity movement,
- shot of workers in Gdansk Shipyard
- to the state of emergency declared by General Jaruzelski.
- Europe has forgotten about the murder of the priest Popiełuszko
- to the Polish Pope St. Father John Paul II, who contributed to the fall of communism in the former Soviet satellites.

St. Father John Paul II always called for Europe not to give up its Christian roots, because another path is the path that leads to the decadence and moral decay that caused the decay of ancient Rome. We are convinced that the Polish government is acting in the spirit of the legacy of St. Father John Paul II. and for the benefit of Polish citizens, as evidenced by the lowering of the retirement age and the payment of family allowances.

If Pope St. Father John Paul II he would certainly stand up for his homeland and his answer would be that European values cannot be based on gender equality, children's rights to sex, above-standard promotion of the rights of sexual minorities and cannot take precedence over the right to a dignified life for most European families with children, which is becoming secondary because many of them live on the brink of poverty at a time when there is a risk that in the European countries, due to the demographic crisis, there will be no one to retire.

We consider the real cause of the long-standing media and political pressure on Poland that, as has been the case in its history, Poland defends the right of its citizens to live in its own country and in Europe according to its long-standing historical traditions and proven values. These traditions and values are more enduring than fashionable political trends, which were only a few decades ago by foreign and current critics of Poland. We support Poland's efforts to defend this right of its citizens and express our solidarity with Poland.

We join the <u>Declaration of Solidarity with Polish</u> Public Figures of November 4, 2021, initiated by former Interior Minister Vladimír Palko, and call on the EU institutions to change their approach, to show reasonable restraint without escalating the conflict and without threatening Poland with further sanctions, and to call on them to to the steps that will resolve the conflict. Increasing pressure on Poland will not lead to a solution.

World Association of Former Political Prisoners

Appendix:

Your Excellency, the World Association of Former Political Prisoners is the successor organization of an association that, after the occupation of Czechoslovakia on August 21, 1968, was banned by the Ministry of the Interior and called an instrument of Western secret services to break communism. During the Cold War, it operated in Canada and Switzerland. We are the only one of the three associations representing political prisoners in Slovakia, which did not betray the legacy of the anticommunist resistance and whose member was never a collaborator of the communist State Security. For our activities in exposing the crimes of communism and economic crimes committed after 1989 by minions of the former communist regime, the State Security and the KGB, we are also a threat to current politicians. For political reasons, they punish us with the lowest subsidy for the activities of the association. For comparison, the pro-communist and promoskov Slovak Union of Anti-Fascist Fighters received a subsidy of 250,000 euros for 2021. The Minister of the Interior reduced the subsidy for our association to liquidation 4,000 euros. The Confederation of Political Prisoners

received € 80,000. For this reason, we have filed an anti-discrimination action for violation of the principle of equal treatment in the provision of subsidies, the English translation of which is published on our website. http://www.szcpv.org/21/zaloba.html. At the same time, we sent an "Open Letter to the Embassies and Institutions of the European Union concerning the liquidation of associations of political prisoners by the current government of the Slovak Republic and requested support for the publication of Svedomie magazine ", which is published at http://www.szcpv.org/21/otvoreny list.html

We also contacted the Polish Embassy in Bratislava with a request for support. We also did not receive a response to the request to the information in the anti-discrimination lawsuit that the Confederation of Political Prisoners is led by Peter Sandtner, 35, who has never been a political prisoner or relative. For this reason, he changed the statutes of the association without the approval of the general meeting at the time of Kovid and lockdown. He entrusted the management of the association to the vice-chairman Branislav Borovský, who is an entrepreneur and head of the District Office in Bratislava. He presents the title of Mgr., While he ran in the elections in 2020 without stating the title. He did not respond to the request under the Information Act to submit proof of the highest level of education obtained within the statutory period of 8 days, which raises doubts. Official request for information in accordance with the statutes of the Confederation of Political Prisoners of Slovakia pursuant to Information Act no. 211/2000 Coll. Is published on the website http://www.szcpv.org/21/zaloba.html#16

This association had and still has as members of former registered collaborators of the communist State Security, it is passive to political matters and its only goal is to make a living from state subsidies.

We therefore regretted the report on the awarding of the Vice-President of the Confederation of Political Prisoners of Slovakia Branislav Borovský with the Knight's Cross of the Council of Merit of the Republic of Poland, as confirmed by a photograph from the magazine Naše Svedectvo no. 3. 2021.

Side dish:

- Answer of the Chief European Prosecutor dated 22 September 2021
- article from the presentation of awards to the Polish ambassador 13 May 2021

Yours sincerely

SVETOVÉ
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ZORUŽENIE
BÝVALÝCH
POLITICKÝCH
VÄZŇOV

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František Bednár Chairman of the WAFPP

CO:

Európska komisia
Rada Európy
Európsky parlament
Predseda vlády Poľskej republiky
Predseda politickej strany Právo a Spravodlivosť
Veľvyslanectvo Poľskej republiky v Bratislave
Veľvyslanectvá členských štátov EÚ, USA, Kanady a Švajčiarska

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Bratislava

Pri príležitosti 230. výročia Ústavy v štátny sviatok 3. mája poľský prezident Andrzej Duda udelil štátne vyznamenania Rytiersky kríž Radu za zásluhy Poľskej republiky siedmim osobnostiam zo Slovenska, medzi ktorými sú aj členovia KPVS - politickí väzni: Silvester Krčméry in memoriam, Tomáš Konc, Branislav Borovský a Alojz Gabaj za pašovanie náboženskej literatúry cez poľsko-slovenské hranice. Kvôli opatreniam im odovzdal vyznamenania 13. 5. poľský veľvyslanec Krzysztof Strzalka v Bratislave.



Alojz Gabaj, Tomáš Konc a Branislav Borovský si prevzali poľské štátne vyznamenania Rytiersky kríž Radu za zásluhy Poľskej republiky. Bratislava 13. 5. 2021