

To
The Members of the Institute Council
Institute for the Study of Totalitarian Regimes
Siwecova 2
130 00 Praha 3
Czech Republic

OPEN LETTER

Den Haag, 13 November 2013

Dear Members of the Institute Council,

The Council of Members of the Platform of European Memory and Conscience discussed the situation at the Institute for the Study of Totalitarian Regimes, one of our founding Members, on 13 November 2013 in The Hague.

Serious concern was voiced by the Members about the following facts:

- that Director Pavla Foglová was appointed in April 2013 without a public competition,
- that Director Foglová has been carrying out large-scale personal changes at the Institute and the Security Services Archive,
- that a public competition for the Director's office will be conducted only in spring 2014, which in our opinion is too late,
- the ongoing plans to disrupt or prevent the work of the Institute's outstanding digitisation department,
- the appointment of five former members of the Communist party of Czechoslovakia to the Scientific Council, which might represent a violation of the Code of the Platform,
- the refusal of Director Foglová to assist the Platform in establishing the facts about the past of these former Communists.

One Member organisation has declared their intent to cancel their Membership in the Platform if the Institute does not stop employing former Communists. The Institute played an instrumental role in the establishment of the Platform and we would very much like to continue having the Institute as a Member, however at the same time, we cannot accept these worrying developments.

In view of the above, the Council of Members requests you to provide the details on the members of the Scientific Council which we had asked for in order to assess the possible violation of the Code of the Platform, at the latest by 31 December 2013. Should the Institute decide not to cooperate or should the information indicate a violation of the Code of the Platform, the Membership of the Institute in the Platform shall be suspended until further notice, meaning that the Institute would cease to enjoy the rights ensuing from the Platform Membership.

The Platform hopes for a constructive solution to this embarrassing situation.

Yours truly,



Göran Lindblad

CC: Presidents of the Senate, Chamber of Deputies and Prime Minister of the Czech Republic

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The Platform of European Memory and Conscience is an interest association of legal persons founded according to the Civil Code of the Czech Republic and registered at the City Hall of Prague under reg.-No 23/11. Id.-No.: 72559071.

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