



PLATFORM
OF EUROPEAN
MEMORY AND
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Press release

Platform sends protest letter to publisher of Die Zeit

Prague / Dresden, 11 March 2016. Representatives of the Platform of European Memory and Conscience sent a letter last week to the publisher of the Die Zeit newspaper in Germany, protesting an article which slandered Siegfried Reiprich, Director of the Saxon Memorial Foundation for the Remembrance of Victims of Political Tyranny, as well as the Platform itself.

Journalist and author **Anne Applebaum**, former Latvian EU Commissioner **Sandra Kalniete**, MEP, former Romanian Minister of Justice **Monica Macovei**, MEP, Polish historian Prof. **Wojciech Roszkowski**, former Czech Deputy Prime Minister for EU Affairs **Alexandr Vondra**, Slovenian MEP **Milan Zver** and Platform President **Göran Lindblad** signed a protest letter to Josef Joffe, publisher of the German weekly Die Zeit. On 11 February 2016, the newspaper had printed an article called "Wut und Willkür" (Rage and Despotism), an emotional attack against Siegfried Reiprich, who is also member of the Executive Board of the Platform of European Memory and Conscience.

The Saxon Memorial Foundation is the only public institution in Germany entrusted with commemoration of both totalitarian regimes and their victims. Mr Reiprich's work and leadership are broadly acknowledged, not least by his repeated appointment by the Free State of Saxony. The members of the Board of Trustees of the Platform asked the publisher of Die Zeit to explain the slander of the Platform.

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The Platform of European Memory and Conscience brings together 51 public and private institutions and organisations from 13 EU Member States, Ukraine, Moldova, Iceland, Canada and the USA working in the field of coming to terms with the legacy of totalitarianism on European soil. We represent about 200,000 Europeans and over 1,100,000 North American citizens with European roots.

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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 by the Municipal Court of Prague under section L, insert 58675. Id.-No.: 72559071

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