



20 September 2024

Dear Mrs. Subašić and Mr. Tahirović,

I wish to thank you for your letter dated 10 September 2024, in which you inform me of your concerns regarding amendments to the school curriculum in the *Republika Srpska*, which, *inter alia*, will now teach pupils that Mr. Radovan Karadžić and Mr. Ratko Mladić are “heroes” and merely waged a “Patriotic Defensive War” in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

This latest distortion of the facts as judicially established by the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) and the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals (Mechanism) is particularly distressing as it seeks to indoctrinate children and use them to continue the spiral of hatred and resentment. Moreover, this development, sadly, will further fuel genocide denial, historical revisionism, and glorification of convicted war criminals; phenomena that are gaining momentum across the region of the former Yugoslavia.

I am limited in the action I can take in my capacity as President of the Mechanism, which is an independent court of law. Nevertheless, rest assured that I will continue to condemn these trends in the strongest terms in my interactions with stakeholders and leverage relevant partnerships to ensure that history is not rewritten in the minds of the next generation.

Consolidating the legacy of the ICTY, the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, and the Mechanism remains one of the key priorities of my Presidency and is critical for countering the forces of hatred, division, and disinformation. Now, more than ever, there is a need for increased public access to the judicial records of the Mechanism and its predecessors, as well as educational and other initiatives such as those undertaken by the Mechanism’s Information Programme for Affected Communities, which is funded by the European Union. I will continue to support and promote these efforts wherever possible, and I extend my gratitude to you for your own contributions towards safeguarding the precious legacy of the ICTY and the Mechanism.

Mrs. Munira Subašić
President of the Association of Mothers of the Srebrenica and Žepa Enclaves

Mr. Murat Tahirović
President of the Association of Victims and Witnesses of Genocide

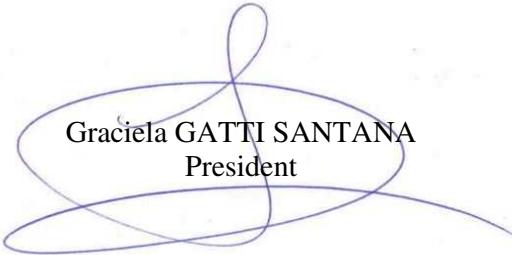


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In closing, I thank you once more for your letter and express my appreciation for our engagement on these matters.

Yours sincerely,

Graciela GATTI SANTANA
President

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "GATTI SANTANA". The name is enclosed within a large, roughly circular, hand-drawn oval.



20. septembar 2024.

Poštovani gospodo Subašić i gospodine Tahiroviću,

Želim da vam zahvalim za vaš dopis od 10. septembra 2024. kojim me obavještavate o vašoj zabrinutosti u vezi s izmjenama školskog nastavnog plana u Republici Srpskoj, kojim će se sada, između ostalog, učenicima predavati da su g. Radovan Karadžić i g. Ratko Mladić "heroji" i da su u Bosni i Hercegovini samo vodili "odbrambeno-otadžbinski rat".

Ovo najnovije iskrivljavanje činjenica koje su Međunarodni krivični sud za bivšu Jugoslaviju (MKSJ) i Međunarodni rezidualni mehanizam za krivične sudove (Mehanizam) sudske utvrdili posebno je zabrinjavajuće, jer ima za cilj da indoktrinira djecu i koristi ih da nastave spiralu mržnje i ogorčenja. Štaviše, ovim razvojem događaja će se, nažalost, dalje podsticati poricanje genocida, historijski revizionizam i veličanje osuđenih ratnih zločinaca - pojave koje uzimaju maha širom regije bivše Jugoslavije.

Ja sam ograničena u onome što mogu da preduzmem u svojstvu predsjednice Mehанизma, koji je nezavisan sud. Ipak, budite uvjereni da ću nastaviti da najoštrije osuđujem ove tendencije u svojim kontaktima sa zainteresovanim stranama i da koristim relevantna partnerstva kako bi se osiguralo da se historija ne piše iznova za buduće generacije.

Konsolidovanje naslijeda MKSJ-a, Međunarodnog krivičnog suda za Ruandu i Mehанизma ostaje jedan on ključnih prioriteta mog predsjedničkog mandata i od presudnog je značaja za suprotstavljanje snagama mržnje, podjele i dezinformisanja. Sada je, više nego ikada, potreban širi javni pristup sudske spisima Mehанизma i njegovih prethodnika, kao i obrazovne i druge inicijative kao što su one koje je preuzeo Program Mehанизma za informisanje zajednica pogođenih sukobima, koji finansira Evropska unija. Nastaviću da podržavam i promovišem ove napore gdje god je to moguće, i zahvaljujem vam na vašim trajnim doprinosima očuvanju dragocjenog naslijeda MKSJ-a i Mehанизma.

gđa Munira Subašić
Predsjednica Udruženja Pokret Majke enklava Srebrenica i Žepa

g. Murat Tahirović
Predsjednik Udruženja žrtava i svjedoka genocida



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Na kraju, zahvaljujem vam još jednom za vaš dopis i cijenim našu zajedničku saradnju po ovim pitanjima.

S poštovanjem,

Graciela GATTI SANTANA
predsjednica