



SEIMAS OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA

RESOLUTION

ON COMMEMORATING THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF GREAT LOSSES AND RESISTANCE TO OCCUPATIONS BY TOTALITARIAN REGIMES

15 June 2021 No XIV-390

Vilnius

The Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania,

commemorating the 80th anniversary of great losses and resistance to the occupations by two totalitarian regimes, when, in June 1941, the Soviets began the first mass deportations of Lithuanian residents, including Lithuanians, Poles, Jews and other nationalities, to Siberia and other territories of the Soviet Union in a systematic attempt to exterminate the most intelligent part of society and thus undermine the chance of restoration of an independent state in the future; when the nation rebelled in resistance to the Soviet occupation with a view to restoring a sovereign state, liberating itself from the Soviet occupation, and regaining freedom; when, following the occupation of Lithuania by Nazi Germany, the Nazis launched the genocide of Lithuanian Jews, thus opening the way for mass killings and violence leading to the loss of the major part of the Jewish community,

paying tribute to the victims of totalitarian regimes, the victims among, and memory of, Lithuanian citizens of Lithuanian and other ethnic origin as a result of the half-century-long Soviet occupation, and those who did not collaborate with the Soviet and Nazi occupying forces and did not go against humanity, but, on the contrary, rescued Jews by risking their lives, mounted resistance against totalitarian regimes, and fought for restoration of Lithuania's independence and statehood without surrendering to the grip of the Soviet occupation,

witnessing the narratives and disinformation spread by the propagandists of the Russian Federation in recent years with a view to provoking and dividing society, reducing mutual trust among citizens, attempting to rewrite our history, degrading the memory of the resistance fighters, and denying the fact of the Soviet occupation and the damage caused by it,

emphasising that Soviet and Nazi symbols are prohibited in most European states,

having regard to the importance of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations in 1948 for the freedom, equality and dignity of all people, and to the resolution adopted by the European Parliament in 2019 on the importance of European remembrance for the future of Europe,

condemns all forms of totalitarianism and its crimes;

proposes to continue and promote historical investigations into totalitarian crimes against humanity and war crimes, which would ensure the resilience of society and the state to disinformation spread by hostile states, reduce social polarisation and increase mutual trust among the citizens;

encourages stronger emphasis on civic education, patriotism and will for resistance in pre-school, formal and informal education;

calls for unshackling of Lithuania's public spaces from the symbols celebrating the totalitarian regimes that brought about occupation;

states the necessity to demand compensation for the damage caused by the occupation from the Russian Federation as a legal successor of the USSR, which occupied Lithuania.

Speaker of the Seimas

Viktorija Čmilytė-Nielsen