

Respected,

I am asking you to help me understand the reasons for your non-reaction, passive attitude and thus tacit approval of anti-Semitic incidents that took place in October 2019 in and in front of the synagogue complex in Belgrade and which have not been adequately addressed to this day.

Your relevant answers that are of vital importance to us, a significant part of the Jewish community which, contrary to the Constitution and laws of the Republic of Serbia, is not the subject of interest and is not in the sight of the Government of the Republic of Serbia.

Your answers are also vital for the Jewish community as a whole, for its survival, for its role and the reasons why it has existed in Serbia, we proudly point out, for more than 100 years. I am convinced that the answers to my questions do not concern and are not only important for our Jewish community, but also for society as a whole.

When, in a period of several years, there are no answers to the questions of the Government of the Republic of Serbia, relevant line ministries and state institutions properly and in accordance with the Law, the questions multiply and the problems are not solved.

I will try to explain what these questions are and why there are no logical answers to them, although there are clear, evident, unambiguous facts-evidence that impose truths, but for state institutions, unpleasant answers. A large number of my questions are joined by the question of your attitude towards these unsuspecting anti-Semitic events, as well as your incomprehensible reaction.

At a press conference (Wednesday, February 17, 2021) at the Media Center in Belgrade, I publicly asked the following questions regarding these anti-Semitic events. To date, I have not received any answers. I also sent a letter, with legal and legitimate questions to the Minister of Police in Serbia, who and why issued an order to the police to prevent Jews who survived the Holocaust from professing their faith, contrary to the Constitution, the Law and the European Declaration. You guess I didn't get an answer from the minister either.

1. What are the real reasons for the Serbian police, which was in charge, trained and paid for that, to guard the synagogue in Belgrade, and which was present and a passive observer, when members of the mob/hooligan group "Alcatraz" on October 25, 2019, they broke into the synagogue complex and vandalized Jewish property, desecrated our biggest holiday, the Sabbath, did not preserve the Synagogue?
2. What is the interest of the Serbian police in preventing Jews from professing the faith, contrary to the law? In all other states, the police have the opposite role. It protects the guaranteed religious rights of its citizens. I believe that it is necessary to shed light on the wider social interest, because the cordon of the intervention brigade prevented Jews, especially those who survived the Holocaust, from entering their synagogue peacefully. Thus, the cordon provided members of the "Alcatraz" mob/hooligan group and denied the right of Jews to peacefully, in accordance with the Constitution, the Law, human rights and the European Convention, use the guaranteed freedoms of religion and religious observance. When about ten of us in our eighties wanted to enter the synagogue peacefully the cordon of the Intervention Brigade stood in front of us and physically prevented us from entering our synagogue. And when they are members of the "Alcatraz" mob/hooligan group on October 25In 2019, they broke into the synagogue complex, and the Serbian police did not stop them. These sad photo evidence have travelled the world. The crucial

question is who and why issued an order to the police, contrary to the Constitution, the Law, the European Declaration, to prevent Jews who survived the Holocaust from professing their faith.

3. I believe that it is necessary to clarify why the cordon is of wider social interest intervention brigades prevented Jews, just Holocaust survivors, from doing so they enter their synagogue peacefully. So the cordon provided the members of the mob/hooligans groups "Alcatraz" who stayed undisturbed, for days, under hoods synagogue complex and denied the right of Jews to peacefully, in accordance with the Law, human rights and the European Convention, use guaranteed freedoms confession of faith and performance of religious rites.

I am convinced that you, the European Jewish Congress, respect the definition of the term "Anti-Semitism", which was adopted in 2016 by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA). Accordingly, the European Jewish Congress had to investigate the case of the closed synagogue in Belgrade and determine who and why issued an order to the Serbian police, contrary to the Constitution of Art. 43. Constitution of the Republic of Serbia (Official Gazette of the RS, No. 98/2006), Law Art. 131 st. 1. in connection with Art. 61st st. 1. in connection with Art. 33 of the Criminal Code. Art. 1, Art. 2 and Art. 3 of the Law on Churches and Religious Communities, Art. 9. European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, to prevent Jews and deprive them of their freedom to practice their religion and perform religious rites.

To conclude,

I am sure that there are very strong and unjustified reasons that prevent us from learning the truth from responsible people who are in responsible positions in the Republic of Serbia,

The Government of Serbia also adopted the definition of Anti-Semitism of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA), so it is logical that it understood it and did not react in accordance with its obligation.

I believe that the material for the investigation is extensive. I believe, I don't even know why, but I also believe that there will be no investigation.

That is why the European Jewish Congress had to investigate the case of the closed synagogue in Belgrade and that inexplicable anti-Semitic show, which is still going on, because there is still no final verdict of our courts that would sanction this anti-Semitic event.

Because of all the above, please explain to me whether you have a definition of anti-Semitism that allows you not to react to these anti-Semitic events in Belgrade.

If you have your own definition of anti-Semitism, which should certainly differ significantly from the definition of IHRA, please forward it to me, so that I can explain to myself the reasons for your non-reaction, passive attitude and thus tacit approval of these anti-Semitic incidents. Or at least explain to me why, for you, these events are not anti-Semitism and why it is not a denial of religious freedom?

It is obvious that the great and important European Jewish Congress and my childhood do not share the same values when it comes to the Holocaust and anti-Semitism. Of course, that does not mean that I am right with my views. This, to my regret, only means that our views are diametrically opposed.

I wish you all the best and success in your work.

Aleksandar Nećak

Serbia.

A Jew who survived the Holocaust in

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Best regards,

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