

Outline of Work Plan

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE EVALUATION OF THE CRIMES OF THE NAZI AND SOVIET OCCUPATION REGIMES IN LITHUANIA

29 August 1999

Initially, the Commission's work will be limited to the period until 1953, when the first phase of the second Soviet occupation ended. The second phase of the second Soviet occupation will be the object of the Commissions further research.

The history of the foreign occupations of 1940-1941 and 1944-1953 will be handled by the subcommittee/working group on Soviet crimes, while the occupation of 1941-1944 and the events of the Holocaust will be the responsibility of the subcommittee/working group on Nazi crimes. It is intended by this to clearly distinguish between the crimes committed by the two occupation regimes and to avoid superficial analogies during their analysis and evaluation.

In researching the Nazi and Soviet crimes of 1940-1953, the Commission will analyze the role of the occupation and local authorities, the problem of collaboration, as well as the goals and methods of the repressions carried out by the occupying powers and their helpers. The Commission will also evaluate the characteristics of the different victims of repression and genocide, the reaction of Lithuanian society to the crimes carried out by the occupying powers, and the role of armed and passive resistance. The Commission will base its work on an analysis of available sources and historiography but will also authorize additional specialized studies as the need arises.

As a part of its initial work and during the course of its research, the Commission will define and clarify the most important historical terms and concepts, such as Holocaust, genocide, collaboration, occupation and resistance. In defining the concept of crimes against humanity, the Commission will utilize the terminology and definitions put forth in the 1948 Rome Statute. The conceptual framework of the Commission's historical research will be based on the most recent juridical norms as expressed in international law as well as scholarly literature. The work of the Commission shall follow accepted scholarly practices, including peer review by internationally recognized scholars.

The Soviet and Nazi occupations of 1940-1953 will be divided according to the following periods:

I. Introduction:

- Lithuania on the eve of the Second World War;
- The effects of the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact: the loss of statehood.

II. The First Soviet Occupation, 1940-1941

1. Crimes of the Soviet Regime:

- 1.1 The occupation/annexation and Sovietization of Lithuania;
- 1.2 Arrests and other forms of repression;
- 1.3 Mass deportations;
- 1.4 Murders of military and civilians by the Soviets;
- 1.5 The suppression of cultural, religious and economic life. The confiscation/nationalization of property.

2. The criminal system of occupational policy – the role of occupational political, police, military, public and legal structures and collaboration with them.

III. The Nazi Occupation of 1941-1944. The Holocaust and other Nazi Crimes

1. The preconditions of the Holocaust in Lithuania.

2. The persecution of Jews

2.1. Murders and other crimes carried out during the first days of the Nazi - Soviet war;

2.2. The organized destruction of Lithuanian Jewry;

2.2.1. The summer and fall of 1941;

2.2.2. The period of ghettoization 1941 - 1944;

2.3. The extermination of the Jews as a spiritual and cultural community;

2.4. The confiscation and/or destruction of Jewish property and assets.

3. The persecution of non-Jews

3.1. Murder of civilians;

3.2. Murder of POWs;

3.3. Concentration camps;

3.4. Forced labor to Germany;

3.5. Confiscation of property and the suppression of cultural life.

4. The role of institutions and individuals participating in the political, police, military, social and legal structures of the occupying power.

5. The role of Lithuanians and others in the local population as perpetrators and/or collaborators in the Holocaust.

IV. The Second Soviet Occupation – First phase (1944-1953)

1. Crimes

1.1. Murder of civilian inhabitants, the burning of villages, and punitive actions;

1.2. Forced mobilization;

1.3. Suppression of armed resistance;

1.4. Mass deportations;

1.5. Mass arrests and torture;

1.6. Expropriation of property and collectivization of Lithuanian farms;

1.7. Suppression of religious and cultural life.

2. The role of the political, military and legal occupational structures of the Soviet Union, their local units and collaborators in perpetrating crimes.

V. The Second Phase of the Second Soviet Occupation 1953-1990

(The second phase of the second Soviet occupation will be elaborated during the Commission's further research).

Note: This text has been prepared in both Lithuanian and English. Both texts are authentic.

Chairman of the Commission **Emanuelis Zingeris**

Executive Chairman of the Commission **Liudas Truska**