

Vilnius, October 11, 2021

MP Mr. Emanuelis Zingeris Chair of the The International Commission for the Evaluation of the Crimes of the Nazi and Soviet Occupation Regimes in Lithuania

Copy to:

HE Mr. Gitanas Nausėda President of the Republic of Lithuania

HE Ms. Viktorija Čmilytė-Nielsen Speaker of the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania

HE Ms. Ingrida Šimonytė Prime Minister of the Republic of Lithuania

Mr. Gabrielius Landsbergis Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Lithuania

Mr. Ronaldas Račinskas Director of the International Commission for the Evaluation of the Crimes of the Nazi and Soviet Occupation Regimes in Lithuania

Ms. Ingrida Vilkienė Deputy Director of the International Commission for the Evaluation of the Crimes of the Nazi and Soviet Occupation Regimes in Lithuania

THE ROAD OF MEMORY 1941 - 2021

Dear Mr. Zingeris,

I would like to express my deep appreciation for the very impressive conduct of the series of commemoration events under the title THE ROAD OF MEMORY 1941 – 2021 which were organized at your initiative by the International Commission for the Evaluation of the Crimes of the Nazi and Soviet Occupation



Regimes in Lithuania together with local municipalities, schools and public institutions and took place in summer and autumn of 2021 in dozens of Lithuanian towns and villages.

I personally took part in a number of these events, side by side with fellow diplomats from the US, German, Canadian, Estonian, French, British and other embassies, and I was truly touched by the devotion of yourself and your colleagues. I feel a special honor and duty to thank the director Mr. Ronaldas Račinskas of the Commission and the deputy Ms. Ingrida Vilkienė for their personal involvement and spirit, investing time and good will – in the heat and in the rain – to organize the local communities and the youth to participate in the Road of Memory.

I was encouraged to see many pupils and teachers participating in these events across the country and reading the names of innocent victims - a powerful moment of the ceremonies.

The true highlights of these events were the participation of HE Prime Minister Ms Ingrida Šimonytė in the opening event in Gargždai and in Vilnius, HE Speaker of the Seimas Ms. Viktorija Čmilytė-Nielsen in Paneriai, and Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr. Gabrielius Landsbergis in Alytus, but all other ceremonies were also memorable and very important for the future education. I do believe the impact which these commemorative events have made on the towns and municipalities is truly meaningful and lasting.

Yours sincerely,

Yossef Levy Ambassador