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To  
Mr Klaus Werner Iohannis  
President of Romania

by e-mail: [procetatean@presidency.ro](mailto:procetatean@presidency.ro)

Prague / Timisoara, 28 December 2015

## Appeal to support justice for the international crimes of Communism and to de-classify the records of the Romanian revolution of 1989

Dear Mr President,

On 19 December 2015, we, the undersigned, organised and participated in a conference in Timisoara called "**JUSTICE 2.0**". During the event, which was attended by the broad interested public and media, we discussed the eponymous project of the Platform of European Memory and Conscience aimed at achieving international justice for the gravest crimes of Communism for which the perpetrators are still alive and have never been taken to court.

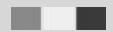
On 27 May 2015, the Platform of European Memory and Conscience launched an international "Call for Justice 2.0" in the European Parliament, which was responded to by Estonia in the Tallinn Declaration of 23 August 2015. We are truly pleased that Romania has joined further 10 European post-Communist countries in an international working group led by the Estonian Ministry of Justice, which is to discuss the creation of a new supranational institution of justice for the non-prescriptible crimes of 20<sup>th</sup> century totalitarianism.

Dear Mr President, we would like to draw your attention to this important international process and kindly ask you to support it with all the might of your office. The countless victims of the gravest crimes of Communism whose right to justice, guaranteed i.a. in Article 47 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union has not materialised for over 25 years, could finally have a chance for satisfaction and legal redress if the international community joins forces and tackles the issue efficiently together.

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The Platform of European Memory and Conscience is an interest association of legal persons founded according to the Civil Code of the Czech Republic and registered at the Municipal Court of Prague under section L, insert 58675. Id.-No.: 72559071.

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with the legacy  
of totalitarianism  
on European soil

Along these lines, we are taking the liberty to address you in a related issue: During the conference, the participants, many of whom were the initiators of the democratic change in Romania 26 years ago, raised the issue of the classified archival documents from the Romanian revolution of December 1989 and the events that unfolded after the seizure of power by the Front of National Salvation (15 – 30 December 1989).

Many grave crimes were committed then against unarmed civilians, over 1 100 people died, over 3 500 were wounded. More than 25 years later, the archival documents from these days are still classified. In these 26 years however, Romania has become a stable democratic country, it has joined the NATO and the European Union, and Romanian citizens are enjoying the same fundamental rights and freedoms as the citizens of Western European countries. There seems to be no justification for keeping the historical documents from the Romanian revolution of 1989 a secret.

Without access to the historical records and their study, it is not possible to investigate and persecute the perpetrators and to give legal redress to the victims. Without historical truth, there can be no justice and without justice, no reconciliation and healing are possible in society. Thousands of victims of injustice are still waiting today in Romania for their right to justice to materialise.

Besides re-instating justice, historical truth is also essential for drawing lessons from the past and teaching the coming generations, so that democracy can be strengthened and any possible future threats to democracy can be prevented.

Dear Mr President, we are therefore kindly appealing to you as President of the Supreme Council of National Defence to de-classify the records of the Communist Party, the Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of Interior and other branches of the state power pertaining to the violent days of the change of regime in 1989. We trust that you share our view on the issue and thank you in advance for heeding our call.

Wishing you continuing success in your important work for democracy we remain,

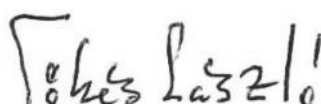
Yours truly,



Göran Lindblad  
President  
Platform of European Memory and Conscience



Florian Razvan-Mihalcea  
President  
Timisoara Society



László Tökés  
Member of the European Parliament