

HE Hon. Anne E. Derse  
U.S. Ambassador to Lithuania  
United States Embassy Vilnius  
Akmenu g. 6  
Vilnius LT-03106

Sept.16,2010

Dear Ambassador Derse,

As Chairman of the Association of Lithuanian Jews in Israel, the largest and most active association of Litvaks anywhere in the world, whose core continues to remain our own generation of Holocaust Survivors. I myself am a survivor of the Kovno (Kaunas) Ghetto.

We have been gravely concerned by the lack of information concerning the recent grant of some 64.000 euros to Holocaust education in Lithuania. As you know, there is in Lithuania a powerful elitist antisemitic establishment that is well-endowed with state funds to distort, minimalize and relativize the Holocaust, most prominently by way of support for revisionist history that seeks to persuade the entire Europe to accept a model o Double Genocide (Nazi and Soviet). It would be a huge and painful blow to Holocaust Survivors, and to the memory of the victims, if even one single euro were granted to those engaged in pursuing and promoting this antisemitic revisionism under the guise of local Holocaust education.

To clear the air, we ask that the embassy reveal all details of disbursement of this grant without further delay.

My sincere thanks in anticipation.

With all good wishes from Tel-Aviv

  
Joseph A. Melamed, Esq.

Chairman,

Association of Lithuanian Jews in Israel