

Translation from:

<http://www.delfi.lt/news/ringas/politics/r-cekutis-atsakymas-minciu-policijai.d?id=47167383>

Reply to the Thought Police

by Ričardas Čekutis, chairman of the Lithuanian Nationalist Center

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Ričardas “You want a piece of this?” Čekutis
(c) DELFI (photo: A. Solomin)

From the very time of the March 11th march, which united people of nationalist persuasion, attacks organized by cosmopolitans against me as much as the place where I work — the Center for the Study of the Genocide and Resistance of the Residents of Lithuania — have been ceaseless.

There began at that time a constant stream of complaints, not unlike in Soviet times, demanding various sanctions upon me, from “considering position in the work collective” to actual “legal judgment”.

The most recent instance was a letter sent this week, addressed to CSGRRL [Genocide Center] director general Teresė Birutė Burauskaitė; parliamentary chairwoman Irena Degutienė; Emanuelis Zingeris, International Commission for the Evaluation of the Crimes of the Nazi and Soviet Occupational Regimes in Lithuania; the same commission’s head of secretariat Ronaldas Račinskas; and Prime Minister Andrius Kubilius.

Liberal Union chairman Eligijus Masiulis, member of the board of directors of the same party Eugenijus Gentvilas, Euro-parliamentarian Leonidas Donskis and Lithuanian Jewish community chairman Simonas Alperavičius signed the letter.

The letter demands that my activity be judged, but doesn’t say regarding what. Actually, the authors of the letter mention that Čekutis has, according to them, “consistently and regularly expressed statements and opinions of marginal (radical) nationalism, xenophobia and openly incited ethnic discord in public and on popular social networking sites.”

The righteously indignant authors of the letter could only base their statements, however, on statements taken out of context having nothing in common with the accusations made against me and [originating] from an anonymous grouping calling itself “Antifa.”

I truly wouldn’t pay attention to such petty attacks if the complainers weren’t trying to ruin and demean the reputation of the institution where I work. For example, the authors of the letter tried to initiate an “inquiry”: “...Did employee Čekutis, in violation of CSGRRL (Genocide Center) rules of behavior for employees, not take advantage of his status as a public servant, and was CSGRRL archival material not used on R. Čekutis’s personal wall (scanned archival documents)?”

In truth, I have posted more than once archival documents and historical photographs on my wall on a social network and I pledge to continue to do the same, even if complainers of various stripes really don’t like it. But I responsibly state: no photograph posted, no document posted ever belonged to the CSGRRL or any other Lithuanian state institution — all of it is my

personal archive, collected over many years from publicly accessible open sources as well as others not in any way connected to this matter. Over the whole of my long career at CSGRRL I have not taken or used for personal purposes any document, photograph or any other object and therefore all attempts by the complainers to discredit a state institution through my person are pitiful and at the very least unethical.

I also see a lack of consistency in the thoughts of the complainers: in one instance they explain that social networks are a public place, in another that they are private and personal.

Further on, the authors of the complaint don't say anything new, they just state that it is "incomprehensible [to us] that an employee of an institution subordinate to Parliament, an institution which researches crimes against humanity committed in Lithuania, propagates the [same kind of] views that are the reason such crimes even took place."

The thought police, of course, don't trouble themselves with presenting evidence [or "proof"] of my "horrid" or "inappropriate" views, except for the bugbears from the aforementioned "fighters" of fascism, a tendentiously selected collection of quotes which also don't say anything. But the genre of complaint, it seems, doesn't demand evidence, in the most progressive traditions of the modern Communist Youth .

I just want to remind the complainers that the laws of the Republic of Lithuania forbid discriminating against or persecuting [a person] over political views, although that is no argument, of course, to the thought police. Therefore I will join in solidarity with them: it is incomprehensible to me also how people, one of whose most important activities is to make complaints against the state at international venues over the contents of merely proposed legislation, can represent that same state of Lithuania.

I do not know whether it is coincidence or not that the attacks against the CSGRRL and against me personally became remarkably more intense after the Center began officially releasing KGB operational documents and after [the Center] actually began to carry out the project on the damages from the partisan war, and also as the 70th anniversary of the June Uprising was being organized, which for many counterfeiters of history and privatizers of suffering is a real splinter in their soft armchairs [or "a real pain in the butt as they occupy plush posts" — Trans.].

In conclusion I want to mention what is to many an obvious fact: all of my public activity has nothing to do with my work at the CSGRRL. Not to see that is something that is only possible for those for whom no values exist except the value of “good sense” measured by the sum of 5,000 litas per month, since, according to one of the coauthors of the complaint, it is this sum that defines the border between the clever and the idiotic in our state.

And another thing. In order to quell unnecessary interpretations, I stress: all of this is my personal opinion, which is not subject to any government institutions or thought police when they are not at work writing complaints.