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**From:** Dov Levin

**Sent:** Saturday, September 17, 2011 9:38 PM

**To:** Jonathan Brent

**Subject:** Letter to YIVO

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Dear Jonathan Brent,

I have been closely following the recent debate over the event planned at YIVO to commemorate the Vilna Ghetto and must say that I was shocked and deeply disappointed that an eminent Jewish institution like YIVO, which has played such an important role in East European Jewish history, will dishonor the memory of the Jews murdered in Vilna by inviting the Lithuanian Foreign Minister and local ambassador to participate in this event.

Anyone acquainted with the policies of the Republic of Lithuania regarding Holocaust-related issues, knows of the ongoing failure of the Lithuanians to fully acknowledge the scope and extent of Lithuanian complicity in Holocaust crimes, their failure to punish unprosecuted local Nazi war criminals, the campaign they waged to bring to trial Jewish anti-Nazi partisans (with whom I personally fought in the forests), and most recently their efforts to promote the Prague Declaration which seeks to falsely equate Communist and Nazi crimes.

I urge you to reconsider your decision and thereby salvage the honor of the important institution you head.

Sincerely yours,

Prof. Dov Levin

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

***Prof. Dov Levin***

**Work. 972(0)25882487**

**Home. 972(0)25633792**

**Mobile. 972(0)524712018**

**Fax. 972(0)25671623**

**[dovlevin@cc.huji.ac.il](mailto:dovlevin@cc.huji.ac.il)**

**57 Tchernichovsky Street**

**Jerusalem 92587 Israel**