

March 3, 2020

To whom it may concern,

We are deeply troubled at the decision taken earlier this year by the Slovenian Supreme Court to annul the August 30, 1946 sentence of the wartime fascist leader, Leon Rupnik, and to return it for retrial. The role and responsibility of Leon Rupnik as a Nazi collaborator and someone responsible for the arrest and deportation of Jews and others to their deaths are well-documented and attested to by eyewitnesses at the time of his trial, none of whom are alive today.

We truly are puzzled by this decision, as the facts of the case are not in question. We share the skepticism already voiced by the Jewish Cultural Center in Ljubljana, which fears this reflects a “politically motivated” effort to rehabilitate a “criminal collaborationist regime.”

As early and strong supporters of Slovenia’s (and neighboring countries’) efforts to join NATO, we recognized the principled stand your government and others took in addressing forthrightly the complicated Holocaust-era history and the contributing role played by local authorities and collaborators at the time. Thus, it is all the more troubling when we see today new efforts to distort the historical record.

I appreciate the opportunity to share these views with you and with all those who are monitoring these developments.

With sincere regards,



Rabbi Andrew Baker
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