

## PROTEST FROM THE SCIENTIFIC DISCUSSION

We have been lately, unfortunately, the witnesses of attempts to deny the genocide (against Bosniacs) in Bosnia and Herzegovina at the end of XX century, especially the crime of genocide in the UN safe heaven Srebrenica in July 1995, through various forms and ways of activities and behavior, both inside Bosnia and Herzegovina, but also outside the borders of the country, involving numerous quazi-scholars, and many other holders of office in legislative, executive and even judicial authorities, not only those from Bosnia and Herzegovina, but also some structures of political and other authorities of Europe and the America.

The holders of these activities (denial) are various and versatile, individuals and groups, various associations, institutions, and others, whose interests and objectives are different and it is sometimes difficult to articulate them, detect, identify, and define them in a unique manner. We identify them as not well-intentioned, tendentious, and counterproductive, with potentially grave, long-lasting implications for the victims of genocide, and study of genocide and other forms of crimes against humanity and international law in general. It has been particularly worrying the statements and attitude of genocide denial by some of the ICTY judges, who are directly a part of criminal prosecution of crimes against humanity and international law.

Such attitude is, among other ways, manifested through public statements, like the latest one made by Judge Christoph Flüge in his interview given to a German magazine *Spiegel International* (9 July 2009), who in the most direct manner denies genocide by stating that “**strictly speaking the term ‘genocide’ is applicable only to Holocaust**”, whereby the evidentiary procedure in the proven genocide (by ICTY, ICC, and numerous scholars), in the UN safe heaven Srebrenica in July 1995 wonders “**if we need the term genocide to describe such crimes**”. According to Judge Flüge, only holocaust is genocide, and only genocide is holocaust, and the term genocide should be replaced with “massive murders”, which is wrong. It is a historic truth that the destruction and extermination of Jews by the Nazis was clearly a planned, organized, targeted, and most systematic genocide committed in the human civilization, and that destruction and extermination is the basic model of what genocide is, and essentially that it is.

Such assessment made by Judge Flüge, a member of Trial Chamber in the case against Radovan Karadžić, shocked all the scholars of holocaust and genocide, particularly the victims of genocide and they may well affect all the cases of prosecution and final

judgments, giving them completely different connotations and implications from those realistically expected.

Essentially, in the opinion of the participants in this scientific discussion, this is an utterly not well-intended, unprofessional, and immoral statement that gives support to Radovan Karadžić, thus making it the worst forgery of the historic fact, whereas the postulates of science and scientific findings on genocide are totally ignored. At the same time, in addition to the abovementioned Judge, there are numerous open and public significant financial funds which give support to various associations, so-called research institutions that aim to show the aggression and genocide committed in Bosnia and Herzegovina as a tragic accident that happened to us. In other words, they use wording to show the aggression and genocide which do not correspond to the facts of social reality. We are also facing the commissioned researches, publication and promotion of works and books that confirm everything we talked about earlier, and therefore they directly negate the aggression against the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the genocide against Bosniacs, systematically committed with the intent and in accordance with the genocidal plan in all the occupied places and towns under siege, which was all corroborated by ample relevant evidence on systematic and continuous practice of policy of massive murders and other forms of crimes against humanity and international law against Bosniacs in the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Especially worrying are the statements and attitude of the part of representatives of political, legislative and executive authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina and other European countries, which in their statements and behavior transmit certain messages that not only insult the piety of victims, but they also raise the most serious concerns, because they are based in forgeries, lies, and deception and in this way they try in the case against Radovan Karadžić achieve the final end, which is the Judgment that exonerate him from any liability for the genocide, not only in the territory of the entire Bosnia and Herzegovina, but also in the territory of UN safe heaven Srebrenica in July 1995.

Truthfully, the simple logic, ample and versatile most relevant and most important documentation, as well as numerous authentic and reliable sources, the experiential knowledge of the surviving genocide victims speak in favor that this is a genocide being the gravest form of crimes against humanity and international law. We are facing an apparent collusion of politics and (international) judiciary, which is also confirmed in the Judgment or better to say a political decision of ICJ in the case of *Bosnia and Herzegovina v. Serbia and Montenegro*, of 26 February 2007. We wonder if this is the message to the small, weak, and

unprotected that they may expect to be exterminated at the time designated by the powerful and strong dictators. Furthermore, we also wonder if the 21<sup>st</sup> century is the century of democracy, human rights, and freedoms – is this a new world order, in which a crime of genocide is rewarded, and the victims are additionally and completely punished.

Honorable scholars of holocaust and genocide,  
the friends of justice and the biggest human and civilization values,  
unconditionally devoted fighters against the worst forces of evil,

We invite you not to allow the jointly incriminated political actions become an international standard for the institutions of justice in Europe and worldwide, that will in their name acquit or significantly lessen the Judgment for genocide for one of the most wanted and the globally most renowned criminal, Radovan Karadžić. All the genocide victims impose the obligation upon us not to allow, in the name of future of mankind and the best human and social values, freedoms and rights, civilization and cultural goods, and to prevent all the attempts by which the crime of genocide is rewarded and victim continuously punished.

The participants of this discussion raise their voice against genocide, and they send a message that will, hopefully, influence and affect the conscience and the moral of the responsible powers, so that they can save the modern mankind and civilization, preserve the highest human values, human rights and lives of all, especially the unprotected, small, and weak. The current and future generations have to learn finally, from all the genocides committed so far, in the interest of future of the contemporary mankind and civilization, the historic **lesson** on the need to strengthen, develop, and unify all the antifascist forces, regardless of their national, ethnic, racial, religious, ideological, or political affiliation, in the strategy of prevention and punishment of crime of genocide.

Only the scientific findings may be permanent basis for the development of our capacities for the timely detection, identification, prevention, and punishment of crime of genocide, where the scholars of holocaust, genocide, and other forms of crimes against humanity and international law play the historic role and have the accountability. It is the duty of the scholars and researches, as stated by the Nobel prize winner Elie Wiesel, to speak in the name of victims, remind of their suffering and tears, and suppress the fear from oblivion.