

Protest letter of Zeljko Milicevic for not request to proceed with the invitation of Mr. Michael Parenti (supporter of war criminal Slobodan Milosevic and genocide denier) as guest speaker for the Peace Center's 31 May fundraising event

As a Bosnian Christian I find it repulsive that you would offer a political platform to a certain Michael Parenti so that he can continue in his promotion of lies and hatred against Bosnia and Herzegovina in particular, and against Bosniaks, Bosnian Muslims, in particular.

His public record of hate against anything and everything which is not "communist Yugoslav" is but abominable. His hatred of the popular vote of 1992 which gave the mandate to the then government of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina to establish an independent country, a country independent of the Yugo-Serbian, Yugo-Montenegrin and Yugo-Croatian failures of history and their neighbours, speaks volumes of the person who is severely limited in his grasp of human values.

The Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina was established upon the same principle used in the establishment of the United States of America. It was the desire of people - people of all religions - to live free from hegemonic overlords. In the case of the United States it was liberation from the British Empire. In the case of Bosnia and Herzegovina it was liberation from the hegemonic machinations of Serbia, Montenegro and Croatia, and their shared hatred of Islam.

What differs between the creation of the United States of America and that of Bosnia and Herzegovina is the fact that Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Bosnian Muslims in particular, were subjected to genocide based upon ethnic and religious hatred. Michael Parenti's denial of genocide and his hatred of Bosniaks would, in a normal environment, deserve prosecution and jail term for spreading hate propaganda as a minimum.

I have not been to San Jose recently so I do not know if it still is a normal environment. Given that someone like Michael Parenti is invited to spread his lies and religious hatred, I may want to question whether San Jose still is a normal environment.

Zeljko Milicevic

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