



**UNIONE EUROPEA DEGLI ESULI E DEGLI ESPULSI
EUROPÄISCHE UNION DER FLÜCHTLINGE UND VERTRIEBENEN
EUROPEAN UNION OF EXILES AND EXPELLED PEOPLE**

Il Segretario Generale - Der Generalsekretär - The Secretary-General

ZWIĄZEK MIAST BAŁTYCKICH

Wpłynęło dnia.....3-09-2010

Trieste, 1st September 2010

Esteemed President,

I have the honour to address You as Secretary-General of the European Union of the Exiled and Expelled People, the international non-governmental organization, founded in December 2007 in Trieste by eleven major recognized national organizations, which represents more than fifteen million people expelled or exiled from their original lands during and after World War II.

The European Union of Exiled and Expelled People relies on member organizations based in Austria, Cyprus, Finland, Germany, Italy, Poland, United Kingdom, Ukraine and Hungary (as organizations from Estonia, Lithuania and Serbia have already begun the process of rapprochement for the accession), and works with advisory role with the major European governments, with the Russian Federation, with some European institutions, major international organizations, the Council of Europe and the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe.

The European Union of Exiled and Expelled People is also registered by the European Commission through accreditation in the Register of Interest Representatives.

The primary project of the European Union of Exiled and Expelled People, which acts as chartered contact on the diverse and complex situation such as that of the represented refugees, is the establishment of a permanent body at the European Commission, specifically devoted to the problems of refugees and expellees in order to initiate a formal dialogue at the highest European institutional levels on the still outstanding disputes, and identify, with the involvement of all parties concerned, the most appropriate and feasible concrete solutions to be suggested to the governments of the involved countries.

The European Union of Exiled and Expelled People planned for its three-year program of activities to develop interregional and international cooperation projects for monitoring and protecting the rights of ethno-linguistic minorities and for the preservation of cultural, artistic and religious heritage in the historical regions of Europe, counting on the creation of permanent observatories in which making to interact institutions at European level, the respective national authorities and those of local and regional levels.

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These projects, particularly those involving territories and institutions across the old "Iron Curtain" – that was separating the West from the Eastern European bloc –, are intended to reinforce and strengthen the existing cross-border and interregional cooperation protocols and they are thought as a resource which, together with the instrument of mediation represented by the same European Union of Exiled and Expelled People, could play a decisive role in line of the composition and the normalization of relationship among states and regional institutions also in macro areas of Baltic and northern Europe.

The European Union of Exiled and Expelled People, recognizing the role and functions of the Union of the Baltic Cities network as an important component in the framework of institutional relations that cooperate in the consolidation process of the EU enlargement and stabilization, it looks with interests to its direct involvement in some specific programs already underway or being planned, and, in this regard, I hereby ask You to express Your interest in these topics, even providing a meeting in the coming weeks in which I could deepen and illustrate in more details the activities and all the initiatives.

Awaiting for Your kind confirmation in this direction, and thanking for the attention You will certainly give to this note of mine, please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

The Secretary-General
Massimiliano Lacota



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