

NEWS



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Bulletin of the International Federation of Resistance Fighters (FIR) – Association of Antifascists

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The political work of FIR continues - despite Corona

In the middle of November 2021, a meeting of the Executive Committee of FIR took place in Berlin. It was the first real meeting since the successful Congress of FIR in Reggio Emilia. However, unfortunately also in this situation the pandemic problems limited us. Not all elected members could attend the meeting. Our comrades from Russia, Greece and one member from Italy could not travel to Berlin. For them, the conference was organized hybrid - they participated in the deliberations via zoom system. Of course, there were already several video conferences until spring 2021, but there is no substitute for a real meeting.

As we had not spoken for such a long time, all elected members of the EA were able to report on their manifold activities in the sense and on behalf of the FIR. President Vilmos Hanti reported about his trips to different Balkan countries, to Italy and to Slovakia. It was also of great importance for the member associations visited that the FIR personally participated in such important national commemorative events. Vice President Filippo Giffrida reported on an impressive meeting in Barcelona, where also the 70th anniversary of the foundation of FIR was celebrated. The list of the Secretary General of the FIR from the past six months included speeches on the occasion of the 80th anniversary of the invasion of the USSR, preparation of materials and press work for the 70th foundation anniversary of the FIR, various greeting letters to member federations on the occasion of their national consultations, the participation as a speaker at various online conferences as well as other publicly perceived actions in the sense of the FIR. Also the other members of the Executive Committee could report about important and impressive activities in cooperation with their national federations, about educational events, political commemorative actions or protests against the extreme right, on which the FIR was visibly present. For this a big thanks goes to all members of the EA.

In a second step, the plans for the year 2022 were discussed. Unfortunately, we had to learn that the effects of the pandemic either hindered or even questioned many of our considerations. We received an important piece of information from Jean Cardoen and the War Heritage Institute in Brussels. **The planned “Train of a Thousand” to the Auschwitz Memorial in May 2022**



has to be postponed again. The health risk for the young people who are to participate in this action is too high under the current conditions, so that a realization in the coming year cannot be planned responsibly.

However, after it had to be cancelled this year, we are planning the public presentation of the **Michel Vanderborcht Award** for late spring 2022. Details will be sent to member associations early in 2022.

The Executive Committee also unanimously decided that the regular FIR Congress, which according to the Statutes should take place at the end of 2022, will be postponed to 2023. We want it to take place as a congress with real meeting between the member federations.

An intensive discussion led the Executive Committee about the proposal to create a European support structure for the work of FIR and the ideals of antifascism and democracy.

We discussed about possible social partners, which should not be identical with parties, about the tasks of such a network, but also about concerns, which concerned the independence of the FIR and its member federations. It was agreed to hold initial discussions and to evaluate their results continuously within the governing body.



As it is good tradition, the meeting was connected with a tribute to anti-fascists. First, we visited the graves of Fritz Beyling and Kurt J. Goldstein at the cemetery of the socialists. Both were functionaries of the FIR for many years.

Finally, we visited the Soviet memorial in Treptower Park in honor of the Soviet soldiers who gave their lives during the liberation from fascism.

Germany: Dignified birthday celebration 100 years Albina Moimas in Kassel

On October 30, 2021, at the invitation of FIR, representatives of the Society and political friends congratulated Albina Moimas, a 100-year-old survivor of the Auschwitz concentration camp and a comrade-in-arms of the Italian Resistenza in Kassel.

Under the conditions of the Corona rules, it had to be a small gathering. Nevertheless, the vice-president of the International Auschwitz Committee, friends of the Italian partisan organization ANPI, who also brought the congratulations of ANED, representatives of the city of Kassel and the Foreigners Advisory Council Kassel, a member of the Hessian Parliament, friends from the VVN-BdA Kassel, the Peace Forum and the Stolperstein



Association, as well as a representative of the Catholic Church, who brought the greetings of the Bishop of Fulda, came to this birthday celebration. The Volkswagen Academy and active people involved in commemoration and remembrance work with Auschwitz also offered their congratulations.

It was an altogether dignified event, which showed the jubilarian the social recognition she receives today as a member of the Italian Resistenza and Auschwitz survivor.

Italy: Commemoration of fallen, dead and missing Yugoslavs in Sansepolcro

The traditional ceremony was attended by the Mayor of the Municipality of Sansepolcro, Fabrizio Innocenti, the Slovenian Ambassador Kunstelj and representatives of ANPI Sansepolcro, A.N.P.I. Città di Castello, the Provincial Committee of ANPI Perugia and FIR.

This is an impressive tradition of antifascist internationalism.



70th anniversary of FIR Greeting letter of the new Prime minister of Israel



ראש הממשלה
PRIME MINISTER

August 5, 2021
כ"ו אב תשפ"א

Dear Friends,

As the world marks the 76 anniversary of the Allied victory over the Nazis and their collaborators, I take the opportunity to commend the Fédération Internationale des Résistants for your continued fight for peace, human rights and democracy.

As the magnitude of the horrors inflicted by the Axis powers during World War II began to become clear, the rallying call "Never Again" helped shape the post-war period. It became an ethos to be protected and upheld. Here in Israel, these two simple words are part of our national identity, and we will forever work to ensure that the world remembers the destruction that unbridled fascism and authoritarianism can sow.

Regrettably, the world is experiencing a worrying resurgence of fascism and authoritarianism. The most dangerous form of this fascism is that of extremist Islamism, like that exercised by the Iranian regime and terrorist movements like ISIS, al-Qaeda and their ilk. One of the best ways to fight fascism is through education, and indeed, Holocaust education is an integral part of Israel's school curriculum. All peace-loving nations and organizations must join together and clearly condemn all incidents of extremism, and especially the virulent strain found in the Middle East.

We appreciate FIR's efforts not only to share the lessons of its celebrated past, but also to shed light on the dangers posed by neo-fascism, extremism, xenophobia, antisemitism and terrorism today.

I wish FIR much success moving forward, as you work to make the world safer and freer.

Sincerely,

Naftali Bennett

Jerusalem, Israel

With some days delay we received on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of creating the FIR the attached greeting letter of the new elected Prime minister of Israel Naftali Bennett.

The delay can be understood because of the complicated debates about the new coalition and the establishing of the new government.

Realizing this, we are very happy that the new Israeli government honours the value of the FIR in this letter. We see in this positive mentioning in addition an high acceptance for our Israeli member federations and their intensive historical-political work.

Italy: Neo-fascist attacks on trade union office

With large indignation the FIR had to experience from the neo-fascist excesses in Rome against the central office of the Italian trade union CGIL. In connection with a march of Corona deniers and critics of the Corona measures, Italian neo-fascists attacked policemen and other security forces as well as stormed and demolished the trade union office purposefully.

This assault was not an expression of citizens' dissatisfaction with the Corona measures, but the emblem of the strategy of the Fratelli d'Italia, Forza Nuova and other neo-fascist parties, which are also trying to use violence to influence the election campaign for mayor in Rome. It is reminiscent of the "Biennio nero," when the Mussolini Black Shirts violently attacked workers' struggles and their organizations in the interests of the entrepreneurs, creating the conditions for the establishment of fascist rule.

Then as now, broad anti-fascist resistance is stirring. The FIR is convinced that the broad anti-fascist alliance which developed in Italy will develop its effectiveness in the common protest against this neo-fascist provocation and in the defense of the anti-fascist values of the constitution. The FIR and its member federations are in solidarity with the colleagues of the attacked trade union and with all anti-fascists and democrats in Italy.

In the same direction, a statement of the Forum of Anti-Fascist Associations and Resistance was published. It expressed its full and passionate solidarity with the CGIL in the face of the cowardly fascist attack on its national headquarters. The events are of unprecedented gravity and explicitly recall the Blackshirts' attacks on the union in the 1920s. It is time for all relevant authorities to clearly take responsibility: The neo-fascist organizations, starting with Forza Nuova, must be immediately disbanded. Attacks and intimidation can no longer be tolerated. Fascism has destroyed Italy and cannot have citizenship in this country. Therefore, they invited all democrats and anti-fascists to participate in the great national demonstration on Saturday, October 16, called by CGIL, CISL and UIL: NEVER AGAIN fascism! MAI PIU' FASCISMI!

ANPI - Associazione Nazionale Partigiani d'Italia

AICVAS - Associazione Italiani Combattenti Volontari Antifascisti di Spagna

ANED - Associazione Nazionale Ex Deportati nei campi nazisti

ANEI - Associazione Nazionale Ex Internati

ANFIM - Associazione Nazionale Famiglie Italiane Martiri

ANPC - Associazione Nazionale Partigiani Cristiani

ANPPIA - Associazione Nazionale Perseguitati Politici Italiani Antifascisti

ANRP - Associazione Nazionale Reduci dalla Prigione

FIAP - Federazione Italiana Associazioni Partigiane

FIVL - Federazione Italiana Volontari della Libertà



**16 OTTOBRE MANIFESTAZIONE
CGIL CISL UIL**



80 years ago - the war crime of Babyn Jar

With a newsletter, the FIR remembered one of the worst crimes in the fascist war of extermination against the Soviet Union, the massacre at the end of September 1941 in the gorge of Babyn Jar near Kiev (Ukraine). This commemorative article was widely circulated in the electronic media.

The FIR remembers in these days one of the worst crimes in the fascist extermination war against the Soviet Union, the massacre at the end of September 1941 in the gorge of Babyn Jar near Kiev (Ukraine). With the beginning of the invasion, murderous actions against Jewish people, political opponents, partisans and supporters of the Soviet power took place by the advancing Wehrmacht and in the back of the front by SS task forces as well as nationalist collaborators.

The details of the crime have been known for years. Ostensibly because of fires and explosions in the center of Kiev, the commander of the 6th Army, Field Marshal von Reichenau, the city commander of Kiev, Major General Eberhard, the commander of Einsatzgruppe C, SS Brigadier Otto Rasch, and the commander of Special commando 4a, SS-Standartenführer Paul Blobel, agreed to kill the Jews who remained in the city and to disguise this plan as an "evacuation action."

In German bureaucrat-speak, "Ereignismeldung No. 106" reported to Berlin: "On September 28, 1941, notices of an evacuation were issued to the Jews of Kiev. They were to gather near the train station the following day and bring warm clothing, money, and personal documents and valuables. More Jews than expected responded to this call. In groups, they were led out of the city and to the ravine, where they were forced to remove their clothing and were then systematically shot by machine gun and submachine gun fire in accordance with the "Order of Einsatzgruppe No. 101". During the shootings on September 29 and 30, 1941, 33,771 Jews were killed within 36 hours, according to the event report of SS Einsatzgruppe C of October 2, 1941."

The belongings of the murdered were distributed to Volksdeutsche and collaborators, and the clothes were taken to the German Reich by more than 100 trucks and handed over to the Nazi Volkswohlfahrt. After German pioneers camouflaged this mass grave by blasting it in 1941, in the summer of 1943 - during the retreat of the Wehrmacht - concentration camp prisoners had to dig up and burn these bodies and other Soviet citizens murdered in the vicinity of the ravine, thus eliminating the evidence of the crimes.

The crime of Babyn Yar was legally tried both in the Soviet Union, but especially at the Nuremberg Main War Crimes Trial, in Trial No.9 (Einsatzgruppen Trial). The commander of Special commando 4a Paul Blobel was sentenced to death in 1948 and actually executed in 1951. No Wehrmacht officer involved in the crime ever had to stand trial.

Despite this dimension of the crime, it took decades before there was a first memorial to the "murdered Soviet citizens and prisoners of war." It was not until 1991 that the erection of a menorah as a memorial sign showed that there were predominantly Jewish victims in Babyn Yar.

To this day, there is historical-political dispute about this memorial site. A Babyn Yar Holocaust Memorial Center (BYHMC) planned with state support has come under national and international criticism. Experts accused the concept of creating a 'Holocaust Disney' rather than a place of remembrance and reflection. Nationalist forces advocating Bandera glorification criticize that Ukrainian victims are not remembered enough here - as if the Kiev Jews were not residents of Ukraine. Ukrainian President Zelensky does support the memorial, but probably more out of foreign policy interest. Anti-fascist forces in Ukraine declare in this context: They support a memorial at the historical site of Babyn Yar, which takes into account the special character of the crime and at the same time honors the struggle of the partisans and the Red Army to liberate the country. Credible advocacy for such a memorial can only come from those who fight against the growing excesses of anti-Semitism and historical revisionism in Ukraine. Here the Ukrainian government still has considerable deficits. The FIR welcomes all serious efforts to redesign the memorial in Babyn Jar and supports the demands of the Ukrainian anti-fascists.

Ukrainian antifascists commemorate the Babyn Jar tragedy

In Kyiv, the Anti-Fascist Committee of Ukraine (AFKU), with the support of the Kyiv City Committee of the Communist Party of Ukraine and public organizations in the city, held a commemorative rally for the victims of Nazism under the slogan "Babyn Jar - 80 Years of Tragedy." The rally was opened and presided by Mikhail Kononovich, AFKU Deputy Chairman and First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Komsomol of Ukraine. In his opening speech, he pointed out in particular that during the occupation of Kiev by the German Nazis and their accomplices from among the Ukrainian nationalists, according



to various estimates, about two hundred thousand Soviet citizens were killed in Babyn Jar, and not only Jews.

"In the first place, and not only along ethnic lines, were the communists of various nationalities, as well as the soldiers of the Red Army and the Red Army. Here lie Jews, Roma, Russians, Uzbeks and representatives of many other peoples of the USSR. This is a tragedy not only for Kiev and Ukraine, but for all mankind. After all, the Holocaust began with the June Jewish pogroms in Lviv, perpetrated by Ukrainian Nazi bandits as part of Hitler's "Eastern" plan. And above all, everyone should remember that it was thanks to the Communists that the Holocaust could be ended," Kononovich said.

Obituary of Roel Walraven (1930-2021)

Roel Walraven, born into a working-class family, experienced the German occupation of his homeland as a child. He was too young to fight in the Resistance during World War II, but to the end of his life, he stood up for those women and men from the Resistance who were later ostracized because of their communist stance. In the post-war period, after training as a machinist, he became involved in the communist youth organization ANJV, of which he was chairman for several years. In this context also political contacts with the later FIR president Michel Vanderborght, who was active in the communist youth in Belgium, developed.

Roel Walraven became a member of the Central Committee and Organizing Secretary of the CPN. In Amsterdam, he represented the party for many years as a council member and eventually as a city councilor in the capital for



one term. Until old age, he was active in political and social initiatives, from allotment associations to squatters. He was one of the initiators and co-founders of the Resistance Museum in Amsterdam. Shortly before his death, a portrait of him was donated to the Resistance Museum. The day before, with great difficulty, he had dictated a speech that was read there. It was very clear and began with the salutation: "Comrades!"

At the end of November last year, he criticized a commemorative newspaper for Hannie Schaft, in which, in his view, the dangers of today's fascism and the racism of a Geert Wilders were too little illuminated. He kept his communist conviction, although he was often attacked for it.

The Dutch anti-fascist association AfvN and the FIR will keep an honorable memory of him.

Obituary retired Colonel Zoltán Viczián (1928 - 2021)

We have to say goodbye to our comrade Zoltán Viczián, who died at the age of 94 after a long illness.

Already at the age of 16, he fought on the side of the Red Army against Hitler and Hitler's Hungarian troops from Salgótarján to Berlin until the day of victory. He told that when the Soviet soldiers learned that the war was over, they threw up their caps in joy and shot at them. That meant everything for us. The joy of not being annihilated in the XX century during the barbarism, of being able to go home to their loved ones, of people being able to live in peace.

After his return to Hungary, Zoltán Viczián quickly became involved in the removal of the ruins and the revival of the country. He first helped in Salgótarján as a guardian and social worker, advocating for the lives of poor and orphaned children. He founded the Heves County Football Club, was an employee of the Heves County Civil Command, was active in MEASZ for several decades as a county leader, and was in addition a member of the MEASZ National Presidium.



He was proud to have been a member of the Honorary Presidium of FIR. He received many awards for his work, including the Miklós Radnóti Anti-Racist Award. In July this year, a delegation from the MEASZ Presidency honored him with the SUBNOR Award from our Serbian sister organization in Eger. That was the last time we met him. We keep his memory as an example to follow. Rest in peace!

65 years of Russian Veterans Association

In 1956, on the initiative of Victory Marshals Zhukov G.K., Vasilevsky A.M., and the legendary pilot hero of the war and the Soviet Union A.P. Maresyev, the country's first veterans' organization, the Soviet Committee of War Veterans, was founded. It became a reliable pillar of the state in the restoration of the national economy destroyed by the war, the building of the social and cultural life of Soviet society, and the patriotic education of youth. The Soviet Committee has made a great contribution to strengthening international veterans' relations and the struggle for peace. For its services to the country, the Veterans Association was awarded the Order of the Great Patriotic War, First Class.

The Russian Veterans Association carries on the traditions of its fathers and grandfathers with dignity, cares for veterans, and works with young people, and initiates many peace-building actions together with its foreign colleagues.

Like the Soviet Committee of War Veterans, the Russian Veterans Association enjoys high prestige in society, among the country's leaders and in the regions, and works closely with other civil society organizations and youth movements to preserve the historical memory of the Great Patriotic War and victory.

The 65-year history of the organization includes many difficult and glorious pages. The history of the Soviet Committee of War Veterans is continued by those, who are currently working in 73 regions of Russia with 84 collective members - legal entities - selflessly and dedicatedly, without regard to time or health, continuously organizing work with veterans, volunteers and young students.

This was emphasized by Colonel General Vitaly Mikhailovich Azarov, First Deputy Chairman of the Russian Veterans Union, in his introductory words at the opening of the festive event marking the 65th anniversary of the Russian Veterans Union.

The program of the event also included the presentation of the first version of a documentary film on the history and development of the Russian Veterans Association, which is currently being produced by the media group "Date with Russia".

The meeting was attended by members of the Russian Veterans Committee, staff, chairmen of regional branches and guests, including a representative of the Veterans Organization of the National People's Army of the GDR, Colonel (ret.) Friedemann Munkelt. In addition, the FIR had sent an extensive greeting message to the meeting, in which the important role of the Soviet and Russian war veterans in the context of the FIR was reminded.

Greetings and wishes for a speedy recovery were conveyed to the chair of the Russian veterans' association, army general Mikhail Alexeyevich Moiseyev.



Belgium: ceremony of solemn tribute in Rebecq

May 20, 2020, a planned ceremony attended by the representatives of the Belgium King to memory six in Belgium fallen groups of Air-Soldiers of the 550 Squadron and commemorating the 75th anniversary of the End of WWII was canceled and postponed to September 29, 2021.

Speech by André Flahaut, Minister of State, Rebecq, September 29, 2021

Today's ceremony is dedicated to memory and the ongoing work that must be done to keep it alive. The Memory is a link. It unites yesterday and tomorrow. It signals to the past as well as to the future. It illuminates the present. Our duty is to maintain it.

The solemn act of remembrance that we are presenting this morning, particularly in honour of the airmen of

the Royal Air Force, is all the more important given the social and political context.

In Belgium, as elsewhere, we are living in dark times. Racism and xenophobia, the rejection of the Other, continue to fuel hatred and violence. When Memory is erased, all rewriting of History is possible. For forgetting – which some purposely support – leads to trivializing the pernicious and deadly ideologies of yesterday.

In this regard, Mr Wilfred Burie, tireless craftsman of Memory, took the initiative a few months ago to alert on the existence of a monument inaugurated in 2018 in the commune of Zedelgem. Called “Latvian Hive”, this monument, whose references to “freedom” are misleading, undermines the image of our country because it honours members of the Waffen-SS, an organization condemned in Nuremberg. Whatever its defenders say in Latvia as in Belgium, the «Beehive» of Zedelgem encourages revisionism and contributes to distort the History of the Second World War. With Mr Burie, I hope to see our country soon liberated from this monument of shame and dishonour. I hope to see history and memory again respected in their rights.

Today we are given the opportunity to recall our commitments to the past, but also to do the work of Resistance.

RESIST, this is what we did this Sunday in Breendonk by inaugurating a monument composed of a big boot symbol of oppression in all its forms, that of yesterday and that of now.

RESIST is what we do when we fight against withdrawal and stigmatization of differences: colour, customs, beliefs or religion.

RESIST, this is what we do day after day by reaching out to those who come from elsewhere.

RESIST is what we do by building a more human world.

RESIST, this is precisely what we are doing this morning at Rebecq.

Athens: We are not afraid and we do not forget! We are fighting fascism and the system that gives rise to it!

A message all corners of the country at the anti-fascist rallies and concerts that took place on Thursday, October 7, a year after the decision to condemn the criminal Nazi Golden Dawn. Athens, Piraeus, Thessaloniki, Peristeri, Kallithea, Patras, Alexandroupoli, Xanthi, Crete ... The youth and the workers sent a strong message “We are not afraid. Even if fascists come out of their holes, with the backs of state and other mechanisms, carrying out brazen attacks. They do not intimidate us”.

We are here again. A year after the day when all the streets around the Court of Athens resounded with anti-fascist slogans, with the desire of an entire people for justice to prevail.

The strength of the people, the workers’ movement, the youth, the resolute stance of the trade unions and student associations, played a decisive role in revealing the true character of the criminal fascist organization, in shedding light on its relations with big businessmen, in convicting its leadership.

A year later, the fist of the people, of the workers movement, of the youth remains raised and alert against the fascists and those who nurture them.



We are here and we are sending a message against the mobilization of the unhistorical and provocative theory of the “two extremes”, which acquits the perpetrator and arms his hand. Because the system needs it as a weapon against the struggles of the workers’-peoples movement, the youth, who claim to live according to their modern needs. The needs of the people and the youth, who are suffocating for the profits of the monopolies. Their very lives, which are threatened by the country’s growing involvement in, in imperialist competitions. The big anti-fascist rallies - concerts all over the country sent the message yesterday: The fight against fascism continues and will continue as long as there is the rotten system that gives birth to it! In the concert of Athens present was also Magda Fyssa, the mother of the murdered antifascist Pavlos Fyssas. During the concert the people held a moment of silence in honor of the victims of fascism and raised a banner in honor of Pavlos.

Slovakia: FIR President in Banska Bystriza

Once again, Vilmos Hanti as FIR President and President of the Hungarian Association MEASZ was invited to the central celebration in Banska Bystriza on the National Day of Slovakia, where the 77th anniversary of the Slovak anti-fascist uprising was commemorated.

The event was broadcast live on television. In addition, the President of the Republic Zuzana Čaputová, the Speaker of the Parliament and the Head of Government, were present and spoke.

On behalf of FIR and MEASZ, President Vilmos Hanti laid a wreath together with the Slovak and Czech anti-fascist organization.

After the ceremony, an antifascist conference took place in the Museum of the National Uprising, where Vilmos Hanti also had the opportunity to speak. In addition, the Russian Veterans Association was represented with a greeting by the vice-president of the FIR, Vladimir Romanenko.



Support the political work of the International Federation of Resistance (FIR) - Association of Antifascist!

The political work of international anti-fascist organization requires large resources. Since civil society organizations do not have national or institutional grants, the organization depends on contributions and donations.

Bank-account: Postbank Berlin IBAN DE 04 1001 0010 0543 0541 07, Owner: FIR
Donations from foreign countries only with IBAN DE 04 1001 0010 0543 0541 07 and
SWIFT-BIC: PBNKDEF

International Ceremony in Barcelona

The third weekend of October has a special meaning for Barcelona, because every year we remember the passing of the International Brigades, which took place in Barcelona in October 1938.



The International Brigades were the pinnacle of internationalism and anti-fascism. This year there will also be another initiative of great political importance, the first foundation of the Spanish section of the ANPI in Barcelona.

Finally, on this anti-fascist weekend we will also commemorate the 70th anniversary of the founding of the International Federation of Resistance FIR, which unites all associations of partisans, resistance, ex-combatants, deportees and anti-fascist resistance fighters in Europe. In Spain, the FIR includes the Amical of Mathausen and other camps, the Amical of the International Brigades and the Association of Political Prisoners of the Franco regime.

Carlos Vallejo Calderon, President of the Associació Catalana d'Expresos Polítics del Franquisme brought the greetings of the anti-Franquists to the founding conference of ANPI Spain.

FIR Vice-President Filippo Giuffrida Répaci brought the greetings of the International Federation of Resistance Fighters (FIR) and of ANPI, the Italian partisan organization on the occasion of the celebration of the Despedida, the departure of the International Brigades of Barcelona.



Italy: Important meeting on the theme of internationalism - organized by ANPI, FIR, AICVAS, Unions

The last 30 October has been developed, in the center of the CGIL of Perugia, the important encounter on the theme of internationalism organized by the provincial ANPI with the sponsorship of the International Federation of Resistance Fighters (FIR), of the national ANPI, of AICVAS, of CGIL, CISL and UIL and of the SPI. Mari Franceschini, president of the provincial ANPI of Perugia and soul and organizer of the meeting, opened the works. Following has intervened remotely connected Ulrich Schneider, secretary general of FIR, who illustrated the seventy years of life and of international activity of the Federation, activity developed in the wake of the legacy left by the Resistance fighters. Remotely intervened European trade unionist Marta Scarpato, Italian-Argentinean, who spoke of the need to preserve the need to preserve memory to demand truth and justice, referring to the tragedies caused by the Argentine military dictatorship and the long popular battle to bring it down demolish it.

The part dedicated to the Italian antifascism in the Spanish war as an example of internationalist spirit and internationalist action



took place in presence. The first speaker was Enrico Acciai, professor at the University of Rome - Tor Vergata, on the global dimension of that war. Marco Puppini showed how at the time the cause of Republican Spain had become the cause for which the Italian and world anti-fascism believed right to fight, to ensure a future of freedom for all. Finally, Italo Poma recalled how the combatants of Spain have become after the end of that war partisan commanders throughout Europe, particularly in France and Italy.

The president of the national ANPI, Gianfranco Pagliarulo, closed the meeting. Tracing a broad historical overview, Pagliarulo recalled how internationalism was a constitutive trait constitutive of the history of the workers' movement and anti-fascist world. Moreover, how it continues to remain present in the consciousness of millions of men and women and fuel some important battles, for example for the environment and for peace, even if it has unfortunately disappeared from the lexicon and disappeared from the lexicon and debates of politicians. Federico Ciarabelli coordinated the various interventions.

SUBNOR Serbia: delegation visits Hungarian antifascists

A delegation of SUBNOR Serbia with President Vidosav Kovačević and other members of the Presidium visited the Hungarian Association of Anti-Fascists (MEASZ) at the end of September 2021 at the invitation of FIR President Vilmos Hanti. During an extensive conversation in the office of MEASZ in Budapest gifts and views on mutual cooperation were exchanged.

In Budapest, the SUBNOR delegation visited important places of the city. Gellert Hill, where the Statue of Liberty is located, a Jewish anti-fascist monument in the 3rd district (Budim), where a joint wreath of SUBNOR Serbia and MEASZ of the 3rd district was laid. Members of MEASZ of the third district gave information about the suffering of Jews and anti-fascists in the institution "Ciglana". The brickyard was a gathering place for



all anti-fascists and Jews. From there they were deported on foot to German camps. Those who were too weak to do so were killed on the spot at the roadside. Radnoti Miklos, a well-known Hungarian poet, writer, patriot and anti-fascist, the namesake of the "Radnoti Miklos" Award for Democracy and Anti-Fascism given by MEASZ, also suffered here.

In the further course of the visit, a conversation with Prof. Dr. Zoltan Senes, Colonel General and retired full professor, who teaches at the Hungarian Military Academy - Department of International Security Policy, took place in the premises of MEASZ. Mr. Senes Zoltan informed about the current military-political situation in Hungary and region and then about the development directions of the Hungarian Armed Forces as well as about the plans to deepen the cooperation with the Serbian Army.

During the visit, a special ceremony was organized on the occasion of the annual presentation of the "Radnoti Miklos" award in the Association of Journalists of Hungary, where these recognitions were presented to dedicated anti-fascist personalities of Hungary. On this occasion, President Vidosav Kovacevic was presented with a "Charter of Gratitude" for mutual good neighborly cooperation. The President expressed his gratitude for the reception and appreciation with appropriate words and a suitable gift. After this ceremony and the cultural and artistic program, a meeting was organized in the sixth district of Budapest, where the guests from Belgrade were welcomed by the Deputy Mayor, Mrs. Timisoara Silvia. At the end of the visit, there was a common conviction to organize such meetings more often and at least once a year.

Republic of Northern Macedonia celebrated the 80th anniversary of the People's Uprising

At the beginning of the year, the Government accepted the initiative of the General Board of the Union of Veterans from the National Liberation and Antifascist War of Macedonia 1941-1945, to jointly mark the day under the auspices of the Prime Minister, Mr. Zoran Zaev. In that framework, a joint Program was prepared with a memorial to the heroes and victims who gave their lives in the anti-fascist liberation war, including the most numerous partisan warfare in the joint coalition and the winners.

The Union of Veterans from the National Liberation and Antifascist War of Macedonia, whose successors nurture the benefits of state-building traditions, freedom, anti-fascism and democratic development, was also honored to invite delegations of fighters, veterans and anti-fascists from close and neighboring organizations and associations, as well as members of FIR represented by comrade Vilmos Hanti.

The people's uprising started on October 11, 1941, when the First Prilep Partisan Detachment attacked the police station and the telephone-telegraph network in Prilep, and the next day, on October 12, the partisans from the Kumanovo Detachment also attacked.

With the decision to join the anti-fascist coalition, the country sided with progressive humanity, and against fascism as the darkest ideology in modern history and the strongest negation of general civilizational and democratic values.

On the occasion of the 80th anniversary of the uprising and the national holiday October 11, held in three cities in North Macedonia, Prilep, Kumanovo and Skopje, delegations of the state leadership, the Union of Veterans from the National Liberation and Antifascist War of Macedonia 1941-1945, the Army, diplomatic corps, and guests from abroad on 10th and 11th of October, marked 80 years since 11 October, 1941, when the National Liberation War and the completion of the birth of the Macedonian state began.

Prime Minister Zaev presented a plaque of gratitude to Dr. Nikola Stojanovski, President of the General Board of the Union of Veterans from the National Liberation and Antifascist War of Macedonia 1941-1945, and Borko Zafirovski, Vice President General Board of the Union of Veterans. The text was: "On behalf of the citizens and on behalf of the Government of the Republic of North Macedonia, we thank the fighters of the National Liberation War for their historic contribution to the creation of the state, the centuries-old dream for many generations, and bow to them for the historic decision in 1941 to be part of the great world anti-fascist coalition and thus to place our country among the progressive democracies in the world."



Day of the Uprising, October 11. Dinner with the Prime Minister and Mayor Prilep. Vilmos Hanti stated in his welcome that Europe could develop only on the basis of anti-fascist values, in which they act against all forms of racism. It is very appropriate that heads of state regularly believe in these values. On the left side of the group photo is the Minister of Health. At the commemoration of the National Day, the Prime Minister welcomed the President of FIR as the first of the international guests.



Imprint :

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The International Federation of Resistant fighters (FIR) has been designated by the Secretary-General of the United Nations as a «Peace Messenger». The Federation is accepted as NGO at the UNESCO, Paris, at the UN standing committee of disarmament, Geneva and the European council, Strasbourg.

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