

**20 March 2008**

**SOCIETY – DEPORTATION – LETTER**

**Montenegrin officials unwanted in Bosnia and Herzegovina**

Srebrenica, (MINA) – Mothers from Srebrenica and Žepa enclaves declared today that all Montenegrin officials are unwanted in Bosnia and Herzegovina (B&H), until they give a clear explanation regarding the crime and send excuse for crimes, especially for deportation of refugees in 1992.

In the open letter to the state authority and citizens of Montenegro, they invited citizens for human and citizen solidarity and adherence to principles, in order to urge the process of transitional justice and to stop hypocrisy of their own politicians and decision makers, who are responsible for the arrest and deportation.

„We support initiatives of the civil society that represents an attempt for Montenegrin society to respond to the crimes and injustice committed to citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina, especially toward refugees who experienced the most horrible sufferings through the arrest and deportation“, it is said in the letter.

Mothers from Srebrenica and Žepa cited that they are strongly upset and offended by ignoring relation of Montenegrin highest state authority.

They pointed out that they are especially upset by „public attempts of Montenegrin president Filip Vujanović to revitalise the Bosnian suffering and to declare deportation of 86 people from Montenegro to be an unimportant event, which cannot shade traditional attentiveness and kindness of the part of citizens who sympathised with the suffering of Bosnian people during the genocide aggression on B&H and opened their homes to truly take care of them“.

„Such relation hurts, and we write on behalf of all arrested and deported people from Srebrenica, amongst whom there were our sons and brothers, who were arrested and killed just because they were Bosnians and members of the Islam“, it is said in the letter.

They cited that Vujanović did not use recent assembly of the Heads of Islam communities from several region countries, held in Podgorica, to declare clear and unambiguous repent and excuse to the victims of arrest and deportation, as well as to their families.

„Unfortunately, declaration of Vujanović additionally offended and disturbed the families, as well as all people in the region who support the restoration of dignity to all victims“, considered the members of that association.

They are asking Vujanović – why, if he really believes in his own words, did citizens of Srebrenica and other citizens of B&H who searched for salvation in Montenegro, and why refugees deported by Montenegrin police, did not find „acceptance of open heart and cordiality“.

„Is it about ordinary cheap politics, an attempt of the president Vujanović to represent Montenegro as ‘a good host’ in such manner, or is it about a true declaration?“, ask mothers of Srebrenica and Žepa.

They demanded from the president Vujanović to answer – where are their sons who searched the refuge in Montenegro, and why he asserted on the assembly that in Montenegro „they had second home, that they were accepted with open heart and full cordiality, and that help for their return home was given“.

(The end)