



THE DEPUTY SECRETARY-GENERAL

23 December 2013

Dear Mr. Klein,

Thank you for your letter dated 7 December 2013, conveying your concern and materials on recent developments in Croatia, especially with regard to the upholding of agreements negotiated between the United Nations, the Contact Group and the Government of the Republic of Croatia.

Your observations are important, and I have asked the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights to review the materials you provided and to look into the veracity of the information contained therein.

Yours sincerely,

Jan Eliasson

Mr. Jacques Paul Klein  
McLean

13-11275 / 13-11113

POL/04/001



United Nations



Nations Unies

Executive Office of the Secretary-General  
Cabinet du Secrétaire général

*CDC through ODSG*  
To: DSG, *ODSG.*

Please find attached for your approval and signature,  
a reply letter to Mr. Jacques Paul Klein, former SRSG for  
the UN Mission in Eastern Slavonia thanking him for  
conveying his concerns on the region and assuring him  
that the UN will look into the matter.

Political Unit  
19 December 2013

Received in ODSG

*20 December 2013*

Seen by:

*BR*

13-11275

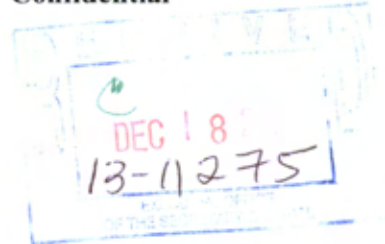
ACTION

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COPY

DDG  
CNC

Confidential



Note to Ms. Eliasson

✓ | **RESPONSE LETTER TO THE FORMER SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF  
THE SECRETARY-GENERAL FOR THE UNITED NATIONS MISSION IN  
EASTERN SLAVONIA**

✓ Please find attached, for your approval and signature, a letter of reply to  
Mr. Jacques Paul Klein, former Representative of the Secretary-General for the United  
Nations Mission in Eastern Slavonia, thanking him for conveying his concerns and  
assuring him that the United Nations will look into the matter.

— See 13-1113

Jeffrey Feltman  
18 December 2013

POL/04/001

XX December 2013

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Jan Eliasson  
Deputy Secretary-General

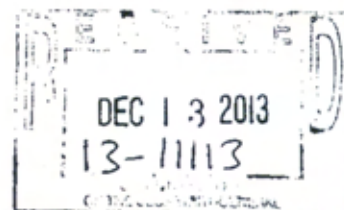
Mr. Jacques Paul Klein  
Former Special Representative of  
the Secretary-General for the United Nations  
Mission in Eastern Slavonia  
McLean

ACTION *Feltman*

COPY DSG

*Ladsous*

*AG*



December 7, 2013

Mr. Jan Eliasson  
Deputy-Secretary-General of the United Nations  
The United Nations  
1 United Nations Plaza  
New York, New York 10016

Dear Mr. Deputy-Secretary Eliasson:

I have just returned from Osijek, Croatia where I was made an Honorary Citizen of the city. This award was largely based on the work done by my colleagues and I with the United Nations Mission in Eastern Slavonia (UNTAES). A copy of my acceptance speech and a brochure depicting the work of the Mission are enclosed.

During my visit, I was approached by Dr. Vojislav Stanimirovic who, as political leader of the Serb ethnic minority, played a key role in the peaceful reintegration process. Most troubling was his concern that there has been a continuing erosion of support by local authorities of the agreements negotiated between the United Nations, the Contact Group and the Croatian government. The recent demonstrations against the Cyrillic alphabet and other actions by extremists reinforce this perception.

Since the United Nations was key to the negotiation and approval of these agreements, it would seem useful to examine the seriousness of this matter. I am enclosing Dr. Stanimirovic's non-paper for your review.

Please let me know when you plan to visit Washington. I would be delighted to host a lunch or dinner and invite our mutual friends Alan and Inge Parker to join us.

With best personal regards,

Jacques Paul Klein  
SRSG/UNTAES

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

**JACQUES PAUL KLEIN**

Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations (Ret.)

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ACTION *Feltman*

COPY *DSG*

*Ladscus*

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*HL*

*(ER)*

*Follow up*

*pls - check drop ready*

December 7, 2013

*in my name, pls*  
*/19*

Mr. Jan Eliasson  
Deputy-Secretary-General of the United Nations  
The United Nations  
1 United Nations Plaza  
New York, New York 10016

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With best personal regards,

*Jacques Paul Klein*  
Jacques Paul Klein  
SRSG/UNTAES

Honorary Citizen Presentation  
Croatian National Theater Osijek  
1 December 2013

Prime Minister Milanovic  
Foreign Minister Pusic  
Minister of the Economy Vrdoljak  
Member of the European Parliament Borzan  
Member of the European Parliament Sarkanjac  
Mayor Ivan Vrkic  
Mr. Anton Djapic, President of the Osijek City Council  
Ambassador Merten  
Ladies and Gentleman  
Friends and Colleagues

It is a very singular honor and privilege to be here with you today on this very special occasion honoring such a wonderful and historic city.

I am also in your debt for making me an Honorary Citizen of Osijek and making me one of you and allowing me to share your history.

Let me begin by thanking Mr. Ivan Vrkic, the Mayor of Osijek, and Mr. Anto Djapic, President of the Osijek City Council, on behalf of all the awardees being honored here today.

Shortly after my arrival in Croatia, I was informed by the office of the President that Mr. Ivan Vrkic had been named as the President's personal liaison to the UNTAES Mission. He was the perfect choice and the perfect fit. Mr. Vrkic became the ideal interlocutor. While there were many others who played constructive roles in making the Mission a success, his role was key. He single handedly drove the process. His personal courage and decency coupled with extraordinary political skills went far towards making the Mission the success that it ultimately became. Croatia owes Mr. Vrkic a large measure of gratitude for his singular efforts during that historic period,

We have come such a long way since those days. What is so remarkable is that Croatia, a Nation which only a few years ago hosted a United Nations peacekeeping mission, has in such a short time become a full-fledged member state of the United Nations, the Council of Europe, NATO and the European Union. A remarkable achievement for which you collectively deserve a great deal of credit.

One can only hope that the rest of South Central Europe follows in your footsteps. In many ways, the region is still a work in progress with some elements still in opposition and opposed to change. Although the majority of the regions' politicians, intellectuals and media no longer promote what one wartime editor



characterized as an industry of hate, the leadership of many of the multi-ethnic successor states of South Central Europe never fully comprehended that a common identity could only be achieved by persuading all citizens that they are equally justified regardless of their diverse cultural attributes.

I have come to understand first-hand during my forty-year military and diplomatic career that States are like organisms – that there are viruses more dangerous to them than any armed enemy. States can become ill, they can become infected by tribalism, racism, nationalism, fascism, and xenophobia. These viruses are far more devastating when the body politic is already weak from the effects of authoritarianism and corruption – or when the state apparatus has corrupted the natural defenses normally represented by the rule of law, an independent media or a critical academic environment. In the former Yugoslavia it was only a small step to move from politician to demagogue, thereby unleashing the darkest forces of human nature. When we find ourselves confronted by the detritus of the past, the goal is not just to excise the evil, but to construct a collective future that will satisfy all our hopes for peace, justice and the space for human dignity to prevail.

As my colleague, Professor Charles Ingrao, has written in his seminal piece on national identity, individual identity is not only a malleable commodity, but a multifaceted construct capable of housing multiple, mutually compatible identities not just on linguistic, but on confessional, regional, ideological, professional, and other cultural attributes. Rather than accepting the inevitability of group conflict, it would appear both more logical and socially constructive to recognize that societies can freely choose between nurturing a single imaged community that accommodates all citizens, or one that segregates them into mutually hostile camps.

If many modern multi-ethnic democracies of Western Europe have been spared from this process of disaggregation, it is because they have embraced and internalized democratic principles that embody a full complement of Enlightenment values. The most important attribute is the rule of law and the respect for the rights of the individual, to the point that it mandates toleration and acceptance of diversity, even though certain groups may be subject to prevailing stereotypes and extra-legal patterns of discrimination or preference. Indeed, in the most stable democracies, the majority accepts as the price of its electoral preeminence the need not merely to passively tolerate, but to actively accommodate special pleading by the minorities in its midst, even when it involves the granting of considerations not strictly mandated by law or the principles of equity. Such forbearance by the majority stems from the recognition that a certain degree of inter-ethnic tension and fear will always exist with a diverse society, but that it can be kept below the surface of everyday life by the protection afforded by the rule of law and by the goodwill generated by voluntary accommodation.

In reality, democratic, multi-ethnic states can be made viable but only if their political and cultural elites learn from the reasonably successful experiences of other contemporary societies. The great principle of democracy is that you do not



have to agree on everything – except on the ground rules of how you will disagree. And minority groups are more likely to pursue their interest through legitimate means if laws guarantee their essential rights and their voices are protected and welcomed.

We have learned over time that tolerance and successful multi-ethnicity do not come naturally. They must be nurtured and supported and reinforced. And when they are challenged and threatened, each of us has a responsibility, based as much on self-interest as on morality, to stand and defend them. As Edmund Burke put it so eloquently, “It is necessary only for the good man to nothing for evil to triumph.” Historically, we have all too often been passive in the face of egregious wrongs, watched the slaughter of innocents and allowed the forces of evil to wreak havoc.

This self-destructive madness is not unique to the peoples of South Central Europe, Africa or the Middle East – few states have a history without aberration. Many other countries have also had histories of the mistreatment and exploitation of minorities for political, ethnic or religious reasons.

The Carnegie Endowment archives contain a report prepared by Count d'Estournelles de Constant in 1914 commenting on the first Balkan wars of the century. The report's conclusion still rings true today: “The real culprits in this long list of executions, assassinations, drowning, burnings, massacres and atrocities furnished by our report, are not, we repeat, the Balkan peoples. Here pity must conquer indignation. Do not let us condemn the victims. The true culprits are those who mislead public opinion and take advantage of the people's ignorance to raise disquieting rumors and sound the alarm bell, inciting their country and consequently other countries into enmity. The real culprits are those who by interest or inclination, declaring constantly that war is inevitable, end by making it so, asserting that they are powerless to prevent it. The real culprits are those who sacrifice the general interest to their personal interest which they so little understand, and who hold up to their country a sterile policy of conflict and reprisals. In reality there is no salvation, no way out for either small states or great countries except by mutual trust and reconciliation.”

In conclusion, I leave you with a parting thought. The history of Europe reaches far into the past, but the history of European integration is in the making. European identity is rooted in national diversity, and emerges at the point where countries in the region realize that they share a common future and that they all need to become an active participant in this process.

I have always operated under the dictum that we cannot change the past – but we can and should concentrate on what we can do together to bring about a better future. We know there will always be some spoilers and many naysayers. We need only remind them of the old Balkan proverb: “the dogs may bark, but the caravan moves on.” Our collective responsibility is to ensure that the caravan continues to move toward creating a just democratic society fully integrated in and part of the larger European family.



Prim. Dr. Vojislav Stanimirović, dr. med  
Specialist in psychiatry  
Vukovar, Županijska 90/39  
Vukovar  
1 December 2013.

**General Jacques Paul Klein**  
Former Transitional Administrator for  
Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and western Sirmium (UNTAES)

Respected Mr General,

You have earned the decoration of an honorable citizen of Vukovar that has been awarded to you five years ago, on 12 of November 2008. and in the opinion of Serb community it truly belongs to you. Five years later you have been awarded as an honorable citizen of city of Osijek thanks to your agility, tenacity and commitment to work, you have done jointly with mayor of Osijek Ivica Vrkić.

I honestly congratulate you for both of your decorations. I would like to use this opportunity to welcome you to the eastern of Croatia, to your UNTAES region where you, as an transitional administrator had an important role and important UN mission - reintegration of eastern Slavonia, Baranja and western Sirmium into constitutional and legal order of the Republic of Croatia.

I would like to highlight the importance of the UNTAES mission which prevent destruction and deaths, stop the war and created preconditions for peace and started the dialogue to resolve a number of open and unresolved issues.

Today, when we look at and analyze the Erdut Agreement (signed on 12.11.1995.) the Resolution 1037 of the UN Security Council (signed on 15.01.1996.) the Letter of Intent signed by the Croatian Government on the implementation of the peaceful reintegration (signed on 13.01.1997. ) ending the peaceful reintegration (15.01.1998.) and other numerous documents, we can note that apart from the successful de-mobilization and de-militarization, we are satisfied with the integration of public institutions and state-owned enterprises into the legal and economic system of the Republic of Croatia, the retention of a number of employees in public institutions (schools, hospitals, judiciary, police) and much less in the public and state owned enterprises (Water supply company, Electric company, Utility company, City Council, County Councils etc...). In other parts of Croatia, unlike in the former UNTAES region, the presence of the Serb minorities in police, justice, education, and health care institutions is absolutely inadequate in comparison with the percentage of Serb population living in the respective area..

The security situation was virtually equated with the other parts of Croatia, until one year ago, when it deteriorated after the announcement of the census. (Census was carried out in 2011 and results given in 2012). Situation worsen in eastern Croatia, particularly in Vukovar but also in the other returnee areas, where the majority of the population, as shown by the

results of census, had a right to exercise the implementation of the Minority Rights law .

Serb community has managed to maintain representation in the Parliament, (even though still inadequate with respect to the number of Serbs), a high-ranking positions in the executive authorities at the state level, in the Government and the ministries, in accordance to the Letter of Intent on peaceful reintegration. However, Serb representatives were allowed to do so until the new Government was formed two years ago, since the new government challenged the vested rights from the internationally recognized obligations and relevant documents .

The issue of restitution of private property is slowly coming to a resolution, we have been waiting for it for 15 years, i.e. since the end of the peaceful reintegration.

The issue of dead and missing persons is one of the most important and most difficult obligations, which are before us and in this regard there are important developments in cooperation between Serbia and the Republic of Croatia.

The issue of housing for former tenancy right holders, specifically members of the Serb community, it has not been solved to this day. There are still obstructions and discrimination in the realization of the fundamental right - the "right to a home ." The difficulties were evident in the areas affected by the war but even more so in urban areas where there was no war because the former tenancy right holders did not get and till this day do not have the equal opportunities to obtain their right to buy off their tenancy right as it was done in the rest of the country (about 25,000 seized apartments belonging to citizens of Serb ethnicity has been seized and sold as it was treated if 'one abandoned on his/her own free will' the state could sell it).

The issue of the judicial reform and prosecution of war crimes are still serious obstacles to return. You, Mr Klein are aware of the list that Ministry of Justice sent to the President Tudjman and you as an Transitional Administrator, with a figure of 150 suspected for war crimes in the former UNTAES region. Well, after the end of peacekeeping mission 780 people have been prosecuted in this region and for the entire Croatia the number is 3 800. Today, after years of efforts and cooperation with the Government and the State Attorney's Office and in cooperation with the Prosecutor of the Republic of Serbia, that number is reduced to a 1 575 of suspects and convicted persons (the list has been officially given to the Justice Ministry of Serbia and the Prosecutor's Office for War Crimes in Serbia), those suspects were mostly trialed in absentia and thus prevent their return and return of their families.

Registration of schools in the language and script of the Serb national minority has not been accomplished to this date, which makes their work almost illegal in the communities with the majority of Serb population. Please note that other national minorities in Croatia do not have this problem. Other minorities in Croatia have a right to have registered schools with native language and script, and continue to do so (Italians, Hungarians, Czechs and others) all but Serbs.

Huge number of citizens, especially in other parts of Croatia, were not given the right to obtain citizenship and other documents, the argument is they were not born in Croatia but in other Republics of FRY although they lived in Croatia for decades, attended school, were employed, paid and invested into their future retirement funds but unfortunately they are not



members of the majority of people what is actually the 'real reason' that forbids them to obtain citizenship.

Last year the Citizenship Act, liberalized for this category of the population but what we have seen in practice at the local level is very often not implemented and depends on the political will rather than the application of the rule of law.

Unfortunately, the one of the most weak members of the Serb community – pensioners have been denied their right to paid pensions (acquired property right), during the period 1991 - 1997. which to this date have failed to materialize and so far none of the Croatian Government has shown understanding or showing good will to solve the problem of property rights - retirement, for their fellow citizens of Serb nationality.

Representation of minorities in the state media, (particularly Serb minority), is completely inappropriate and unacceptable, except at the local level in Eastern Croatia, through radio broadcasting programs in minority languages.

There is small, tiny not significant progress in printed media representation, both at local and national levels .

To this date there was no adequate registration of the Joint Council of Municipalities, as required by international documents, and as a result Erdut Agreement and peaceful reintegration. Two years ago Government provided a budget to fund the same.

Also to this date the adequate registration of the Serb National Council with head office in Zagreb has not been completed despite the Letter of Intent by the Croatian Government. However two years ago a Government started to provide a budget to fund them.

Analyzing stated above, I would like to conclude that the most difficult but crucial issues still remain open and not resolved.

Today Croatia is a member state that belongs to the EU, and our community has a great contribution in the pre - accession negotiations. Mr Klein as you might know the condition to even the start the negotiations Croatia had to bring a few important the pro- minority and pro-European Acts, which was done long ago and let me remind you all of some of them:

The Law on Amnesty, September 1996.

The Law on official use of languages and scripts for the national minorities, from 16 May 2000.

The Law on education in the language and script for the national minorities, from 16 May 2000.

The Constitutional Law on National Minorities, from 23 December 2002.

Truly believing into the implementation of the legislation, regulating the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms. As well as the proper and full member state of the European Union the Serb community hoped that the implementation of the legal framework and legislation will be in force as it works in a democratic and civilized countries .

However, these great expectations did not come true. Unfortunately what has happened in Croatia in a last year was raise of non democratic processes that impair the atmosphere of peace, tolerance and the rights of the Serb minority through non-compliance with the constitutional and legal framework.

Open campaigns of war veterans associations called Headquarter for defending the Croatian Vukovar, extreme right-wing and conservative political parties and the open support by the Catholic Church against the use of the Cyrillic script and the language in the town of Vukovar have stirring the atmosphere just like at the early nineties before the war started. Using the sufferings of the war, especially the suffering of Vukovar. This attempt has brought into question the international peace process, the peaceful reintegration of eastern Croatia, who became the subject of dispute and destruction and endangering the acquired results and minority rights of the Serb people in Croatia. These aggressive, anti-civilized and anti-constitutional attacks on one letter, the Cyrillic script, which is for months being demonized, called the script of the aggressor and criminals remains unsanctioned causing uncertainty, fear and more over it sends a clear message to the Serbs in Vukovar and Croatia they are not acceptable and they are not welcome in Croatia.

Dear General,

I believe that you are very familiar with the challenges we are facing today, and I strongly hope as you have sufficient authority, will and strength to support the fundamental human right to freedom so we can send a clear message today, message we all work for all these years. Strong message of peace and respect of human rights instead of failure to comply with laws and international obligations which could take our country into the abyss with no return.

Truly yours,

dr. Vojislav Stanimirović

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'V. Stanimirović', written over a faint, stylized graphic element.



Prim.dr.Vojislav Stanimirović,dr.med  
Specijalista psihijatar  
Vukovar, Županijska 90 /39

Vukovar 01.12.2013.god.

G-din.general Jacques Paul Klein  
Ex transitional Administrator for  
Eastern Slavonia,Baranja and Western Sirmium  
( U N T A E S )

Poštovani gospodine generale,

zaslužno odlikovanje **Počasnog građanina grada Vukovara** uručeno Vam je prije pet godina, točnije 12.11.2008. god. koje Vam i po mišljenju srpske zajednice zaista pripada, a pet godina nakon toga odlikovani ste za **Počasnog građanina grada Osijeka** i to zahvaljujući agilnosti, upornosti i posvećenosti poslu, koji ste zajedno obavili, gradonačelniku Osijeka **Ivici Vrkiću**. I za jedno i za drugo odlikovanje i ovaj put izražavam Vam iskrene čestitke. Prilika je da Vam poželim dobrodošlicu u Istočnu Hrvatsku, u „Vašu“ UNTAES regiju, gdje ste kao prelazni Administrator vršili veoma važnu i odgovornu UN misiju, reintegraciju istočne Slavonije, Baranje i zapadnog Srijema u ustavno-pravni poredak Republike Hrvatske. Želim i ovom prilikom istaći značaj misije UNTAES, koja je na ovim prostorima spriječila daljnja razaranja i pogibije, **zaustavila rat i stvorila pretpostavke za mir**, te otvorila put dijalogu za rješavanje brojnih otvorenih i neriješenih pitanja.

Danas kada analiziramo Erdutski sporazum(12.11.1995.god.), Rezoluciju Savjeta bezbednosti 1037 (15.01.1996.god.) Pismo namjera Vlade RH o mirnoj reintegraciji (13.01.1997.god.), završetak Mirne reintegracije (15.01.1998.god.) i druge brojne dokumente, možemo konstatirati da smo osim uspješne demobilizacije i demilitarizacije, zadovoljni i integracijom javnih institucija i državnih poduzeća u ustavno-pravni i ekonomski sistem RH, zadržavanjem velikog broja zaposlenika na radnim mjestima u državnim institucijama (školstvo, zdravstvo, pravosuđe, policija), a znatno manje u javnim i državnim poduzećima. U drugim dijelovima RH, za razliku od bivšeg UNTAES regiona, zastupljenost u policiji, pravosuđu, školstvu, zdravstvu je apsolutno neodgovarajuća i neadekvatna procentualnoj zastupljenosti Srba u ukupnom stanovništvu i postoji u zanemarivim postocima.

Sigurnosna situacija je praktično bila izjednačena, sa drugim dijelovima u RH, do unazad jednu godinu kada se pogoršala nakon objave popisa stanovništva, u Istočnoj Hrvatskoj-Vukovar ali i u drugim povratničkim krajevima, gdje su procentualna većina i gdje konzumiraju prava na primjenu manjinskih zakona.

Srpska zajednica je uspjela očuvati zastupljenost u zakonodavnom tijelu RH-Saboru, (mada i dalje neadekvatno s obzirom na zastupljenost u stanovništvu RH), a visoke položaje u Izvršnoj vlasti na državnom nivou-Vladi RH i ministarstvima, prema Pismu o namjerama o mirnoj reintegraciji, konzumirali smo do unazad dvije godine, tj. do formiranja nove Vlade, koja osporava stečena prava iz međunarodno relevantnih obaveza i dokumenata.

Pitanje povrata **privatne imovine** se privodi kraju, na što se čekalo punih 15 godina, tj. od kraja Mirne reintegracije.

Pitanje **poginulih i nestalih** je jedno od najvažnijih i najtežih obaveza, koje su pred nama. I na ovom planu ima bitnih pomaka u suradnji Republike Srbije i Republike Hrvatske

Pitanje **stanova za bivše nositelje stanarskih prava**, posebno pripadnike srpske zajednice, nije riješeno do današnjeg dana. I dalje postoje opstrukcije i vrši se diskriminacija pri ostvarenju temeljnog prava- „prava na dom“. Teškoće su evidentne u ratom zahvaćenim područjima, ali još više u urbanim sredinama gdje nije bilo rata, jer se bivšim nositeljima stanarskog prava ne osiguravaju jednake mogućnosti za useljenje u stan i otkup istog, kako je to rađeno prema većinskom narodu (radi se o 25000 oduzetih i uzurpiranih stanova koji su pripadali građanima srpske nacionalnosti, jer su iste napustili „svojom voljom“ i u njima nisu boravili više od 6 mjeseci).

Pitanje reforme **pravosuđa, te progona za ratne zločine** i dalje su ozbiljna prepreka povratku. Poznat Vam je spisak koji je Ministarstvo pravosuđa uputilo Predsjedniku Tuđmanu i Vama kao Prelaznom upravniku, sa brojkom od 150 osumnjičenih za ratne zločine u bivšem UNTAES regionu, da bi se nakon završetka Mirovne misije, za isti region vršio progon za 780 osoba, a za cijelu RH taj broj je bio oko 3800. Danas, nakon višegodišnjih nastojanja i suradnje sa Vladom i Državnim odvjetništvom RH, te suradnjom sa Tužilaštvom Republike Srbije, taj broj je sveden na cifru od 1575 osumnjičenih i osuđenih osoba (službeno uručeni spiskovi Ministarstvu pravde RS i Tužilaštvu za ratne zločine RS ), kojima se najčešće sudi u odsutnosti i na taj način sprečava bilo koji povratak i njima i njihovim porodicama.

**Registracija škola**, na jeziku i pismu srpske nacionalne manjine nije do današnjeg dana učinjena , pa se nastava gotovo nelegalno odvija u općinama sa većinskim srpskim stanovništvom. Napominjem, da druge nacionalne manjine u RH nemaju taj problem, jer imaju registrirane škole i nastava se redovito odvija na manjinskom jeziku i pismu (Talijani, Mađari, Česi i dr.)

Velikom broju građana, posebno u drugim dijelovima RH, nije osigurano pravo na **državljanstvo i ostale dokumente**, jer su porijeklom tj. po rođenju iz drugih bivših republika SFRJ, u RH živjeli desetljećima, pohađali školu, bili u radnom odnosu, ali na žalost nisu pripadnici većinskog hrvatskog naroda što je zapravo „pravi razlog“ da im se državljanstvo onemogućava. Istina, prije godinu dana je Zakon o državljanstvu, liberaliziran za ovu kategoriju stanovništva, što na lokalnom nivou vrlo često nije praksa i zavisi od političke volje, a ne primjene zakonskih propisa.

Pripadnicima srpske zajednice **nisu isplaćene mirovine (stečeno imovinsko pravo)**, u periodu od 1991-1997.god. koje do današnjeg dana nisu uspjeli ostvariti, a do sada niti jedna Vlada RH za taj problem ne pokazuje razumijevanje, niti pokazuje dobru volju za rješavanje problema imovinskog prava-mirovine, za svoje sugrađane srpske nacionalnosti..

Zastupljenost manjina u **državnim medijima**,( naročito srpske manjine), neprimjerena je i nedopustiva, osim na lokalnom nivou u Istočnoj Hrvatskoj, kroz radijsko emitiranje programa na manjinskom jeziku. Postoji napredak u štampanoj manjinskoj medijskoj prezentaciji, kako na lokalnom tako i na državnom nivou.



Do danas nije omogućena adekvatna **registracija Zajedničkog veća općina**, kako to nalažu brojni međunarodni dokumenti, a kao rezultat Erdutskog sporazuma i Mirne reintegracije. Tek unazad dvije godine osigurana je budžetska stavka za financiranje istog.

Nije omogućena adekvatna **registracija SNV (Srpskog narodnog vijeća)** u Zagrebu sukladno Pismu o namjerama hrvatske Vlade. Također, unazad dvije godine osigurana je budžetska stavka za financiranje istog.

Analizirajući gore nabrojano, moram konstatirati da su najteža, ali ključna pitanja i dalje ostala otvorena i ne razriješena. Hrvatska je danas država koja pripada EU, a naša zajednica je dala veliki doprinos u pred-pristupnim pregovorima da to što prije postane. Kao uvjet za početak ovih pregovora hrvatska je imala donijeti nekoliko važnih pro-manjinskih i proeuropskih Zakona, što je Hrvatski parlament i učinio ;

*-Zakon o općem oprostui iz 09.mj.1996. god.*

*-Zakon o službenoj uporabi jezika i pisma nacionalnih manjina iz 2000. god.*

*-Zakon o školovanju na jeziku i pismu nacionalnih manjina iz 2000. god..*

*-Ustavni zakon o pravima nacionalnih manjina iz 2002. God*

Vjerujući u primjenu svojih Zakona, koji reguliraju zaštitu ljudskih prava i temeljnih sloboda i zrelost za **punopravnu članicu u EU**, srpska zajednica je očekivala provođenje zakonskih okvira i legislative, kako se to radi u demokratskim i civiliziranim zemljama. Međutim, ta očekivanja se nisu obistinila, jer su se u Hrvatskoj počeli dešavati nedemokratski ulični procesi koji narušavaju atmosferu mira, tolerancije i unaprjeđenih manjinskih prava, kroz nepoštivanje ustavnih i zakonskih okvira. Ulične kampanje pojedinih braniteljskih udruga, ekstremno desnih i konzervativnih političkih stranaka te djela katoličke crkve, raspiruju atmosferu iz ratnog razdoblja početka devedesetih, time što koriste ratna stradanja, posebno stradanja grada Vukovara. Ovim pokušajima doveden je u pitanje međunarodni mirovni proces, Mirna reintegracija istočne Hrvatske, koji postaje predmet osporavanja i destrukcije i ugrožava stečene rezultate i prava manjinskog srpskog naroda u RH. Ovakvi agresivni, anticivilizacijski i protiv zakonski ispadi, kroz napade na jedno pismo, ćirilčno pismo, koje se naziva agresorskim i zločinačkim, najčešće ostaju nesankcionirani, što kod srpskog stanovništva izaziva nesigurnost, bez perspektivnost i strah, te šalje poruku da je srpski entitet neprihvatljiv i nepoželjan u RH.

Gospodine generale,

vjerujem da kao dobar poznavalac prilika u kojima živimo, imate dovoljno autoriteta, volje i snage da upoznate mjerodavne institucije u Vašoj zemlji ili značajne međunarodne institucije, iz kojih bi se uputio jasan signal hrvatskoj Vladi, ali i djelu većinskog naroda, da ovakvi procesi, kroz nepoštivanje vlastitih zakona i međunarodnih obaveza odvođe državu u ponor bez povratka.

S poštovanjem,

Vaš

dr. Vojislav Stanić



Vojislav Stanimirovic, MD.  
Psychiatrist  
Member of Parliament  
32000 Vukovar,  
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Tel: +385 98 / 606-300

In Vukovar, on March 5<sup>th</sup> 2012

Mr. General Jacques Paul Klein

Ex transitional Administrator for  
Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium

(U N T A E S)

**Subject: Request for help and protection of political prosecution.**

Dear Mr. General,

I am writing you this letter, because today is exactly fifteen years (15 years), since we have with your great help and support as a transitional administrator for Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium founded the Independent Democratic Serbian Party (SDSS), in the movie theater in Borovo/Vukovar.

By this act we have opened the possibility for our community to participate in the local elections in the former UNTAES region, and participation in local government. Party in that time had planted a new seed of a new political life and work for our community in Croatia, which today results with 101 party branches across the country and with an about 10,000 members.

I want to emphasize the importance of the UNTAES mission in Croatia, which stopped the war in this region, prevented further destruction and death, and created conditions for peace.

It must be emphasized that government institutions, Government of RoC and President of RoC, just recently took over sponsorship of marking these important date, date when the Erdut Agreement was signed (12.11.1995.god.), and the end of the reintegration process (UNTAES mandate, 15.01.1998.god.), indicating that they had found the strength to recognize the importance of this most successful UN mission. Unfortunately, in the region are still living "ghosts" of the past, who are reaping the rich fruits of war on the tragedy of Vukovar, through a various veterans' associations and non-political right orientated associations, proving that the UN political mission is a failure of former Tudjman's government, because it provided an opportunity for "too many Serbs" to stay in this part of Croatia.

While your last visit to Vukovar on November 12<sup>th</sup> 2008. when you are deservedly have been awarded as an honorary citizen of the city of Vukovar, in which Serbian community had sincerely gratitude, as well as Honorary Doctorate, which was awarded to you by the Polytechnic institution JJ Strossmayer from Osijek, we introduced you to the open issues that are still slightly different from what was left behind. There are still unresolved issues of housing for former tenancy rights holders, issue of justice and the prosecution of more than 1,000 people suspected or sentenced in absence for war crimes, denial of citizenship rights to the citizens of Serbian nationality who are in the Republic of Croatia since they were born, educated and worked in RoC, but their parents "unfortunately" come from other republics of former Yugoslavia. We are the only minority (Serb) in Croatia to which registration of schools in minority language and script is not allowed, but same right was allowed to other minorities. Unpaid pensions to pre-war pensioners have not been returned and paid. Inadequately media representation of our minority in printed and electronic media. Inadequate funding and registration of minority institutions, etc.

While your visit in two occasions you have asked me "do you have some problems in Croatia?" , I told you that I have, but it is still possible to deal with them.

→ Patrick Carey  
FYI.



Today, 15 years after the UN mission ended, in which you were Administrator, I am writing to you that "these problems" I can not in person handle anymore and I am asking you for help and to inform the U.S. Embassy about it, because your country is a guarantor of peace and survival in this region. It is necessary to be indicated by you to the state institutions in Croatia, to stop the unfounded persecution and lynching, from the side of war veteran associations, false witness, and the political right parties. With many lies they are trying to connect me with Goran Hadzic, to impute the events of the war through false witnesses, and the complete political and moral destruction, what is suggesting on my physical disappearance from this area. Unfortunately, I do not get any adequate protection, but also some other important representatives of our community from official authorities, so we have an impression of organized activity in the weakening of our community, which is concentrated and very well organized in the former UNTAES region. Personally, my departure from this area, in one or another way would surely make some turmoil in the community, uncertainty and fear, and there would be satisfaction and achieved goals of those who appreciate the mission of UNTAES as politically damaging.

The prosecution and judgment of Branimir Glavas for war crimes against Serbian civilians in Osijek and its surroundings, as well as guiding the process against Tomislav Mercep for the same offense in Vukovar, Zagreb, Gospić, Pakracka poljana, makes them to be celebrated as heroes in the region. Members of our community, who remained in the region, and have been abolished for participation in an armed rebellion, and 20 years since the war began are taken on daily informative talks to the police, some individuals 10 times and more at various intervals, and everything depending on political moments and needs.

The above associations continually express their demands and collect signatures (petitions) for the abolition of the Law on abolition (Amnesty), what all together in our community causes distrust in the functioning of the state institutions.

Today, after all we went through, prior to your arrival, during the mission that you have run and the period after that, I am deeply thinking whether we have done a good and useful thing for our community or we left them the agony of surviving for the next few decades, until when they will not find peace and live as equal citizens of the Croatia.

Yours faithfully,

Dr. Vojislav Stanimirovic

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'V. Stanimirovic', with a stylized flourish at the end.