

Resolution

Relics and Symbols of Totalitarian Regimes

Recognising that:

- The totalitarian regimes of the last century do no longer exist in Europe and were replaced by democratic governments with the exception of Belarus,
- Communist, fascist, national socialist totalitarian regimes have a significant impact on the 20th century and the common European history,
- Totalitarian regimes were responsible of different wars, persecution of minorities and marginal groups, genocides, ethnic cleansing and for the killing of millions of people,
- Thanks to the aspiration of the European population for freedom and democracy we are able to celebrate this year the 20th anniversary of the fall of the iron curtain.

Considering that:

- Some relics, monuments, symbols and other signs of the totalitarian regimes are still present in Europe without any commemorative plaque or similar,
- There are still radical movements in today's Europe sympathising with extreme ideologies of the old totalitarian regimes,
- Extreme right- or leftwing ideologies often arose in times of economic instability.
- To be aware that acts, tributes or demonstrations which are glorifying these totalitarian regimes are still taking place in many countries.

YEPP calls on the EU and its Member States:

- To install signs to explain and to dissociate themselves from the historical background of monuments of totalitarian regimes so as to ensure that future generations are informed as to the futility of extreme left- or rightwing ideologies and the devastation caused by those regimes,

YEPP is clearly against extreme left and right ideologies and hopes that all governments disassociate themselves from movements which are sympathising with the ideas of the

totalitarian regimes. In each country a critical examination of the relevant history should be encouraged.

Adopted by the YEPP Council in The Hague, 5 September 2009