

**TO:**  
**MRS. JORDANKA FANDAKOVA**  
**MAYOR OF SOFIA MUNICIPALITY**  
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**COPY TO;**  
**MR. BOIKO BORISOV**  
**PRIME MINISTER OF THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA**

**MRS. TZETZKA TZACHEVA**  
**CHAIRMAN OF THE PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA**

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**MR. MICHAEL PRIVOT**  
**THE DIRECTOR OF**  
**THE EUROPEAN NETWORK AGAINST RACISM (ENAR)**

### **PROTEST LETTER**

From NGOs, members of  
The European Network against Racism (ENAR), Bulgaria

Dear Mrs. Mayor,

We, Bulgarian members of European Network against Racism (ENAR), express our disagreement and protest against Lukov March that is to be held on Saturday, 16 February 2013 in Sofia.

For the tenth consecutive year with your permission, the organizers and supporters of the Lukov March with torches and military uniforms will march along the main streets of Sofia and will publicly demonstrate their cult toward Fascist and anti-Semitic views of general Hristo Lukov. As a minister of war (1935-1938) and Head of the Union of Bulgarian National Legions (UBNL) he was known as anti-Semite and supporter of the German Nazi ideas. After the accession of Bulgaria to the Tripartite Pact during WWII General Lukov thought that Bulgaria's legislation is not enough anti-Semitic and so he led efforts to passage of laws closer to those of

Hitler. Specialists in the field of nationalist movements in Bulgaria determine UBNL as the first Bulgarian organization "with fully formed fascist character."\*\*

Therefore we consider unacceptable public celebration and giving honor and admiration to General Hristo Lukov - one of the prominent advocates of the misanthropic ideology. Many of the participants in the march with the official permission of the Sofia Municipality openly identify themselves as supporters of neo-Nazism. According to media sources, members of neo-Nazi and neo-fascist groups from other countries: Germany, Russia, Belgium, Romania - usually officially banned in their own country, are also participating in Lukov March.

We condemn and distinguish between the values of so called "patriotic organizations", who are organizers and participants in Lukov March: Bulgarian National Union (BNU), National Resistance, Blood and Honor, etc. We expose their demagogic techniques to use patriotic ideas for the celebration of its patron - General Hristo Lukov and turn the torchlight procession in public demonstration and propaganda of racism, neo-Nazi and xenophobic ideas.

We protest against placing the name of the national hero Vasil Levski (Bulgaria's most famous 19th century revolutionary) along the name of General Hristo Lukov under the poster "Heroes do not die." We consider absolutely unacceptable equating anti-Semitic ideology of General Lukov with universal values of equality and peaceful coexistence of people of all ethnicities professed and selflessly defended by Vasil Levski: "Bulgarians, Turks, Jews and etc. will be equal in every respect - whether in faith or in nationality, either in civil terms, either in what was" (from "Draft of workers for the liberation of the Bulgarian people" by Vasil Levski).

We demand to be banned the statement in facebook page Lukov march 2013 that the procession of people with torches and military uniforms February 16, 2013 "helps Sofia-candidate for European Capital of Culture 2019." (<http://www.facebook.com/Lukovmarsh>)

We expect you to apply a power of the Law Meetings and Marches and disable conducting the scheduled for 16 February 2013 Lukov march as an event "that threatens Sofia public order" (Article 12, paragraph 2, item 2) and "violates the rights and freedoms of categorically is distinguish and condemn "Values" of other citizens" (Article 12, paragraph 2, item 4) fueled by hatred and ethnic hatred, racial, religious and anti-Semitic basis.

We urge you not to allow the provision of the streets of Sofia for antidemocratic events and outdoor preaching the ideas of neo-Nazism, extreme nationalism and anti-Semitism.

Sofia, 10 February 2013

ENAR, Bulgaria