



*Inicijativa za REKOM*  
*Initiative for RECOM*  
*Иницијатива за РЕКОМ*  
*Nisma për KOMRA*  
*Pobuda za REKOM*

**President of Serbia, Mr. Boris Tadic**

**President of Croatia, Mr. Ivo Josipovic**

**Member of Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Mr. Nebojsa Radmanovic**

**Member of Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Mr. Zeljko Komsic**

**Member of Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Mr. Bakir Izetbegovic**

**President of Kosovo, Mrs. Atifete Jahjaga**

**President of Montenegro, Mr. Filip Vujanovic**

**President of Macedonia, Mr. Djordje Ivanov**

**President of Slovenia, Mr. Danilo Turk**

**Subject:** Establishment of RECOM

Sarajevo, Belgrade, Prishtina, Zagreb, Skopje, Podgorica, Ljubljana  
October 2011

Your Excellencies, Presidents and Members of Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina,

We believe that citizens of the countries of the former Yugoslavia have a need and the right to know all the facts about war crimes and other massive human rights violations committed during the wars of the 1990s. They also have the right and a need, we believe, to know the consequences of those wars. This is why we are writing to you.

For over a decade, since the weapons have been muted, post-Yugoslav societies have not been able to cope with the heavy legacy of the war past, largely because the fate of a number of those killed, forcibly disappeared, tortured, and persecuted – the people who suffered in so many different, horrible ways – remains unknown to date. Only a few names of those who died are known, but more than 13,000 families of forcibly disappeared persons are still searching for their loved ones. On top of this, there is no organized, systematic mechanism for the victims to seek and obtain fair reparation; and the lack of reliable facts about the victims is continually used for political manipulation, nationalist promotion, hatred and intolerance.

The Initiative for the founding of the Regional Commission for establishing the facts about war crimes and other serious human rights violations in the former Yugoslavia (RECOM) was launched so that the facts about victims are finally identified and accepted by all parties, and in order for our society to cease to deny and relativize the crimes committed in their name. This is an incentive for the public and for the states alike to recognize the injustices done to the victims, to finally hear the voice of survivors and families of victims, to allow them to publicly

express their suffering, to hear them with no mediators, to show them compassion and solidarity instead of concealment and humiliation.

Establishment of RECOM has been supported by a number of victims and their families, as well as war veterans and former prisoners from all post-Yugoslav countries, religious communities, non-majority ethnic groups, human rights activists, many lawyers, educators and historians, and especially a large number of youth.

With this letter we want to give a loud and strong support to the Initiative for RECOM, because we believe that the establishment, publication and acceptance of facts at the regional level is necessary for all of us, in order to create a foundation for restoring dignity to victims, to meet their needs and rights, to determine the fate of forcibly disappeared persons, and to prevent the horrors of our common recent past from happening again.

The Initiative for RECOM is the best opportunity to finally stop talking about the past as if it is still present. It is high time that we face it, and begin to remember and learn from it, rather than continue to live it.

Apart from its social potential, the Initiative for RECOM has the potential to be a fresh and authoritative source of data for the judiciary, for history and for the politics in the region, but especially for creative moral and psychological examination of the context we all emerge from and we all live in. It has the capacity to play a crucially important role for the future and for the conquering of the past in the name of this very future. The Initiative for RECOM can make better our communities, but above all ourselves.

In our own name and in the name of our professional ethics, we, for whom the war in the former Yugoslavia, with all the consequences, has become the subject of professional research and artistic vision, the occasion for reflection and concern about the fate of memory and truth, ask you to do everything in your power to enable the Initiative for RECOM to come to life and to begin its operation on the basis of the Statute which has been adopted by the Parliament of the Coalition for RECOM after years of consultations with the citizens across the region.

Sincerely yours,

Mirjana Karanovic, actress, Serbia  
Gorcin Stojanovic, director, Serbia  
Nikola Djuricko, actor, Serbia  
Aleksandra Jovicevic, teatrologist, Serbia  
Biljana Srbljanovic, playwright, Serbia  
Slobodan Sijan, director, Serbia  
Milena Dragicevic-Sesic, professor, University of Dramatic Arts, Serbia  
Kokan Mladenovic, director, Serbia  
Egon Savin, director, Serbia  
Branko Cvejic, actor, Serbia  
Radmila Lazic, poet, Serbia  
Bozo Koprivica, writer, Serbia  
Dejan Mijac, director, Serbia  
Nikola Samardzic, historian, Serbia

Branka Petric, actress, Serbia  
Svetislav Basara, writer, Serbia  
Vladimir Arsenijevic, writer, Serbia  
Iva Milosevic, director, Serbia  
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Stevan Filipovic, director, Serbia  
Lazar Stojanovic, director, Serbia  
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Jasmila Zbanic, director, BiH  
Nenad Velickovic, writer, BiH  
Haris Pasovic, director, BiH  
Ermin Bravo, actor, BiH  
Goran Samardzic, writer, BiH  
Selma Spahic, director, BiH  
Damir Uzunovic, writer, BiH  
Braco Dimitrijevic, conceptual artist, BiH  
Safet Zec, painter, BiH  
Danis Tanovic, director, BiH  
Dragan Jovicic, actor, BiH  
Zlatko Topcic, playwright, BiH  
Amir Imsirevic, writer, BiH  
Aliser Sijaric, composer, BiH  
Dejan Zoric, actor, BiH  
Jusuf Hadzifejzovic, conceptual artist, BiH  
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Alma Prica, actress – Prima Donna, Croatia  
Vilim Matula, actor, Croatia  
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Oliver Frljic, theatre director, Croatia  
Igor Stiks, writer, Croatia  
Predrag Lucic, journalist, writer and director, Croatia  
Rade Serbedzija, actor, Croatia  
Nenad Puhovski, director, Croatia  
Nadezda Cacinovic, philosopher, president of Croatian PEN, Croatia  
Slavko Goldstein, journalist, publisher and writer, Croatia  
Slobodan Snajder, writer and publicist, Croatia  
Miljenko Jergovic, writer and journalist, Croatia  
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Doruntina Basha, dramaturgist, Kosovo  
Enver Petrovci, actor and director, Kosovo  
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Veton Nurkollari, director, Kosovo  
Bekim Lumi, director, Kosovo  
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Varja Djukic, actress, Montenegro

Zaklina Ostir, actress, Montenegro  
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