

# PLATFORM OF EUROPEAN MEMORY AND CONSCIENCE

## Invitation to the international conference “Legal Settlement of Communist Crimes“ on 5 June, 2012 in the European Parliament in Brussels



Raising the issue of justice for the most serious crimes committed by the Communist dictatorships in Central and Eastern Europe from the national to a European level, the Platform of European Memory and Conscience is convening an international conference in the European Parliament under the auspices of a number of prominent MEPs including former Presidents of the Parliament Mr Hans-Gert Pöttering and Mr Jerzy Buzek.

The conference is responding to growing calls for strengthened international justice formulated e.g., in the Prague Declaration on European Conscience and Communism of 3 June, 2008, in the European Parliament resolution on European Conscience and Totalitarianism of 2 April, 2009, in the Declaration on Crimes of Communism of 26 February, 2010, in the European Council's Stockholm programme of 4 May, 2010 and in the Warsaw Declaration of the Justice and Home Affairs Council of the EU of 23 August, 2011 as well as an international call by former political prisoners "Declaration 2012".

The conference will bring together legal experts, representatives of institutions and organisations dealing with the totalitarian past, associations of victims as well as important European institutions from at least 16 European countries. Its aim is to seek a new model of international justice which could finally settle the ethical, moral and legal debt which the European Union has toward its citizens who suffered severe violations of human rights under totalitarian Communist rule and toward the perpetrators who committed them. The objective of the conference is to contribute toward supporting equal rights for all EU citizens, upholding the values anchored in the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, and thus to contribute toward strengthening the process of reconciliation and integration of Europe.

The Platform of European Memory and Conscience cordially invites those interested to attend the event.

Please see [www.memoryandconscience.eu](http://www.memoryandconscience.eu) for the **programme** and **registration** for participants.

### Partners:



offices of Ms Sandra Kalniete, Mr László Tökés and Mr Milan Zver, Members of the European Parliament