

RECEIVED BY Andrius Kulikauskas, [ms@ms.lt](mailto:ms@ms.lt)  
FROM savevilna@gmail.com ON June 24, 2020 20:42

Prof. Andrius,

I'm the contact person for media, on the Save Vilna site. I have been forwarded your email and respond accordingly.

My mandate is to take accurate and correct information and present it to the world - information which is consistent with the Save Vilna goals and that reflects the truth. This I understand is the same goal which you and Prof. Dovid Katz embrace.

We connect with news agencies, news outlets, bloggers and freelancers to achieve that goal. Many of the freelance writers I follow are closely associated with Human Rights organizations. They are contributors to their newsletters and websites. Additionally they frequently contribute to mainstream media outlets like the FT, NYT, Huffington Post, Washington Post, WSJ and many more. On some occasions they use pen names.

These freelance writers are encouraged to write articles, representing accurate information about our cause. The articles are then circulated by them to the world through news agencies and media outlets which number more than 250+ in number. Sometimes that number can exceed 2,000+ The written material is frequently picked up by other bloggers and sometimes by mainstream media.

On many occasions the writers include the organizations and publications they may be associated with and to which they are frequent contributors. On several occasions I have communicated with these human rights organizations personally. They are very sympathetic to our cause and have expressed a willingness to help.

The possibility of presenting our cause with factual information to millions of readers across the globe is a new vista which has relatively recently arisen. The concept of opposing the Lithuanian Government in their efforts to construct the conference centre is a cause which we appreciate you have been fighting for close to a decade. The measured success we have been able to achieve in getting our message to the world, is in no small part a consequence of the sterling efforts that you and Prof Dovid Katz have made.

However, you claim that you no longer want to be associated with Save Vilna, because you perceive that we are proliferating fake news. This is puzzling. Fake news by definition is news which is false. It consists of false information which perpetrators use to achieve usually an unjust cause. Accusing us of being purveyors of false news is incorrect and hurtful. Nothing could be further from the truth. We have always waved the flag of integrity and truth. Accusing us of violating the principles which we hold close to our souls and hearts is beyond the pale.

Secondly, you take issue with us because the article (which reported only the truth) appeared on a blog which is hosted in the Philippines. That same article also appears in about fifty or more other countries. We see no relationship

between the fact that the writer chose to publish his article on a blog in the Philippines and fake news. Nor do we see any discrepancy in the fact that the writer is a close associate and contributor to several human rights organizations. You accuse us of misrepresenting the writer's association when in fact we play no role in choosing the specific organization with which the writer may have an existing relationship.

We are committed towards fighting the Lithuanian Government in its efforts to construct the conference centre. We will do all we can fight that struggle, with the highest level of integrity possible. We are uncompromising in our goal of using the truth to fight the enemy. It is our strongest weapon and there is no place for compromise. We are hoping that you will be partners with us in that struggle, in a way where truth, honesty and integrity are paramount.

I am positive that on reflection you will appreciate the sentiments I have expressed, that your perception of us having acted in an underhand manner, G-d forbid, is an oversight. Therefore, we pray and hope that you and Prof Dovid Katz, will join us in our holy quest to stop the construction of the conference centre, to be part of the winning team, which acts at all times with truth and integrity close to our hearts at all times.

Very sincerely

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