



Ukraine
IVANO-FRANKIVSK OBLAST COUNCIL

**The Fifth Democratic Convocation
(Special Thirty-Sixth Session)**

DECISION

of 03.03.2010 № 1013-36/2010

Ivano-Frankivsk city

**About Appeal of Ivano-Frankivsk
Oblast Council to the European
Parliament Concerning the
European Parliament Resolution
about situation in Ukraine**

Oblast Council

has made the following Decision:

1. To approve Appeal of Ivano-Frankivsk Oblast Council to the European Parliament concerning the European Parliament Resolution of February 25, 2010 about situation in Ukraine (enclosed).
2. The Decision shall be sent to the President of Ukraine V. Yanukovich, the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine.
3. The text of this Appeal shall be published in newspaper "Halychyna", promulgated via other mass media and placed on official website of Oblast Council.
4. Control over Decision execution shall be exercised by Senior Deputy Head of Oblast Council Z. Berehovskyy and Oblast Council Standing Commission for Culture, National & Spiritual Revival (B. Ostafiychuk).

Oblast Council Head

Ihor Oliynyk

**Appeal
of Ivano-Frankivsk Oblast Council
to the European Parliament
Concerning the European Parliament Resolution
of February 25, 2010 about situation in Ukraine**

Ivano-Frankivsk Oblast Council expresses its anxiety concerning Clause 20 of Resolution about situation in Ukraine, which was adopted by the European Parliament on the 25th of February, 2010, and condemns Decree of the President of Ukraine Viktor Yushchenko about awarding the title of Hero of Ukraine to the Ukrainian Nationalists Organization Head Stepan Bandera (posthumously) and recommends new Ukrainian administration to reconsider Decision of its predecessor.

For three decades a famous public man, statesman, ideologist of the Ukrainian National Liberation Movement Stepan Bandera had been fighting for Ukrainian people's right for its own sovereign statehood, having revealed indestructible will, self-sacrifice and loyalty to his people, having given up his life for it.

A working team of leading historians, formed at the History Institute of Ukraine at the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, was occupied with thorough research of Ukrainian Nationalists Organization and Ukrainian Insurrectional Army activity. The result of this research was summarized by works, published for nation-wide familiarization. In addition, Stepan Bandera, took the third place in the Ukrainian television project "Great Ukrainians" (2008) which foresaw Ukrainian citizens' interactive questioning about place and role of outstanding statesmen, politicians, cultural and religious figures in national and world history.

We consider that accusing Stepan Bandera of collaborationism does not correspond to historical truth, as from the beginning of July, 1941 to October, 1944 he was imprisoned in Hitlerite concentration camp Sachsenhausen, and his two brothers were tortured, executed in death camp Auschwitz-Birkenau. Suchlike accusations, addressed to one of the famous fighters against Nazism and communism, are all the more strange on that background that Europe condemned these totalitarian regimes crimes.

It is surprising that the European Parliament casts doubt on Solution of Nuremberg trial in which criminals and collaborationists were named, and the very notion of "collaborationism" was defined. Neither Stepan Bandera nor the Ukrainian Nationalists Organization headed by him, nor Ukrainian Insurrectional Army fell under notion "collaborationism", designated in Nuremberg trial. We have to remind that the movement headed by Stepan Bandera had the slogan: "Be peoples free! Be human free!".

It is well-known that when Hitler came to know about Statement Declaring Independence Renovation in Ukraine dated from June 30, 1941, initiated by Stepan Bandera, he issued an edict to destroy this movement at once: "It was beyond doubt found out that Bandera's movement was preparing a rebellion in Reich Commissariat (Ukraine), which was aimed at creation of independent Ukraine. All activists of

Bandera's movement must be immediately arrested and after thorough interrogation secretly killed as robbers". (International Military Tribunal (IMT) Der Prozess gegen die Hauptkriegsverbrecher vor dem Internationalen Militargerichtshof. – Nürnberg, 1945-1946, 42-vol. /014-USSR (No 7) XXXIX, ss. 269-270). Another document of Nazi Germany – "SD Report on Events in Ukraine" (secret), which was kept in German Archive under number BA R 58/222, contained the following notification, P. 26 of 23.10.1942: "Bandera's Organization evidently took a fighting position against Germany and struggles with all means, including armed struggle, for independence renovation in Ukraine".

As a bright example of the Ukrainian Nationalists Organization struggle against Nazism and lack of "cooperation" between the Ukrainian Nationalists Organization and Nazi Germany we state the fact that European Community representatives expressed their sympathy in connection with perfidious assassination of Ukrainian Nationalists Organization leader Stepan Bandera by Soviet Secret Service agent on October 15, 1959.

Ivano-Frankivsk Oblast Council, as an authorized representative of local government body of the oblast where Stepan Bandera was born, studied and built up his national outlook, together with Oblast Councils of five oblasts of Ukraine became an initiator who awarded him the title of Hero of Ukraine. Participants of International Scientific Conference "Stepan Bandera in Ukrainian National Liberation Movement of the XXth Century", which took place on December 11, 2008, addressed the President of Ukraine Viktor Yushchenko with the same petition. The mentioned decisions were based on detailed research of Stepan Bandera's role in national liberation struggle of Ukrainian people in the XXth century.

On ground of the above-mentioned, Ivano-Frankivsk Oblast Council considers that the European Parliament Resolution concerning Clause about awarding Stepan Bandera the title of Hero of Ukraine, is based on stereotypes that were consciously formed by totalitarian regime of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republic in order to discredit Ukrainian national liberation movement and does not take into account present historian research works.

We, deputies of Ivano-Frankivsk Oblast Council, appeal to the European Parliament to reconsider Clause 20 of the adopted Resolution.

**Made at Special Thirty-Sixth Session of
Ivano-Frankivsk Oblast Council
March 3, 2010**