



STATEMENT

The formation of the “State of National Solidarity” Commission by the Polish Sejm, with the votes of the ruling coalition, is a sign of disrespect for the adopted standards and parliamentary procedures. Avoidance of substantial discussions within the confines of permanent, specialized commissions jeopardizes the quality of the instituted law and seems to testify to disrespect for knowledge and reason. This is first and foremost evidence of the extreme instrumentalization of legislative procedures in the name of the interests of the ruling parties. The first socially important example of this is the draft Act on the System of Education, which inter alia limits access to textbooks for dozens of years to come. The project is being considered by the Sejm with disregard for the substantial commissions and field consultations. We object to such practices. The existence of the “State of National Solidarity” Commission and the first effects of its work constitute a resurgence of the infamous recollection of the Silent Sejm.

Warsaw, 13 March 2007

The Members of the Helsinki Committee in Poland:

Teresa Bogucka, Halina Bortnowska-Dąbrowska, Janusz Grzelak, Zbigniew Holda, Jacek Kurczewski, Wojciech Maziarski, Michał Nawrocki, Marek Antoni Nowicki, Danuta Przywara, Andrzej Rzepliński, Marek Safjan, Stefan Starczewski

Confirmed and signed by

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Marek Antoni Nowicki