

**Follow up to the European Parliament non-legislative
resolution on Preserving the memory of the victims of the post
war communist period in Slovenia**

1. Rapporteur: Bogdan RZONCA (ECR/PL)

2. References: 2025/2575(RSP) / B10-0322/2025 /
P10_TA(2025)0147

3. Date of adoption of the resolution: 8 July 2025

4. Competent Parliamentary Committee: Committee on Petitions
(PETI)

**5. Brief analysis/ assessment of the resolution and requests
made in it:**

The European Parliament's resolution of 8 July 2025 was adopted in response to Petition No 0718/2023 by Slovenian historian Mitja Ferenc, which called for preserving the memory of victims of post-war communist violence in Slovenia. The petition referred to the recent abolition of the National Day of Remembrance by the Slovenian government as a denial of historical truth and reconciliation.

The Commission replied to the Petition that while safeguarding the memory of totalitarianism crimes is essential to safeguard EU values, fundamental rights, rule of law and democracy, as recognised by the EU day (23 August) of the memory of the millions of victims of totalitarian regimes, remembrance policies are under the competence of Member States and, thus, Slovenia's decision to revoke the national day falls outside EU law. The Commission also noted the financial support given to this matter under the Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values (CERV) Programme.

Drawing on this, the Parliament resolution condemns the removal of the commemoration and calls on Slovenian authorities to ensure dignified burials and to establish memorial sites, to integrate these historical facts into education, and to continue investigative efforts to document and disclose mass-grave sites, thereby ensuring these crimes are acknowledged and preserved in collective memory.

**6. Response to the requests in the resolution and overview of
the action taken, or intended to be taken, by the
Commission:**

Point 12. Recalls that the Commission is providing funding under the citizens, equality, rights and values programme to support remembrance actions and research and education projects that reflect on the causes of totalitarian regimes, in particular Nazism, but also fascism, Stalinism and communist regimes, and to commemorate the victims of their crimes;

Point 14. Calls on the Commission to continue the programme of historical remembrance taking into account all tragedies, to support

projects across Europe that address the history of totalitarian crimes, encourage remembrance and serve reconciliation; Reiterates that the crimes of the totalitarian Yugoslav communist regime are not limited to Slovenia and that victims exist in all former Yugoslav republics and autonomous regions;

The Commission considers that remembrance activities and critical reflection on Europe's historical memory are necessary to make citizens, in particular young persons, aware of their common history and values as the foundation for a common future. Remembrance activities should reflect on the causes of totalitarian regimes in Europe's modern history, in particular Nazism, which led to the Holocaust; fascism; Stalinism and totalitarian communist regimes and should commemorate the victims of their crimes.

Therefore, the Commission is fully committed to historical remembrance of defining moments in modern European history, such as the coming to power of authoritarian and totalitarian regimes, including the causes and consequences thereof. This commitment is signalled in the Regulation (EU) 2021/692 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 April 2021 establishing the CERV Programme.

Specific actions to implement this commitment are currently in force. A call for proposals for EU action grants in the field of European Remembrance under the CERV Programme is open for applications until 1 October 2025. This call has a budget of 2.4 million EUR for this specific priority.