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The Hague, 16th of September 2008

To Whom it May Concern:

In her book “La Caccia – Io e I Criminali di Guerra” in 10th chapter “Zagabria, dal 1999 al 2001”, on page 254, Ms. Carla Del Ponte says:

“One of the prosecutors of the Tribunal, a Canadian, well-known in his circle for his wit and anecdotes, had an aphorism that did a good job capturing the difference between the Serbs and the Croats who attempted to obstruct the work of the Tribunal: «The Serbs are bastards», he used to say. «In contrast, the Croats are perfidious bastards»”.

1. This Prosecutor of the Tribunal, a Canadian, speaks hatefully.
 - 1.1. Del Ponte uses the phrase “he used to say” which means that it was not a “witty remark”, once used, but the habitual, chauvinistic and racist characterization of CROATS – as “perfidious bastards”.
 - 1.2. Carla Del Ponte repeats the words of one of the Prosecutors of the Tribunal with no restrictions, which means that she completely agrees with such an opinion. Moreover, she agrees on an ongoing basis in accordance with the meaning of the phrase “he used to say”.
2. The lack of any reaction to such a pro-fascistic manner of speech about one nation is completely unclear to me. I am interested whether the indictment against me itself was composed within the atmosphere of such opinion. I am asking for this to be examined. I am asking for this issue to be examined and established through the court procedure before the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia in The Hague.

If I, by any chance, Slobodan Praljak, had written or said such qualification, no matter when, in any form whatsoever, in relation to any nation or group during the war in the territories of the former Yugoslavia, I would have been sentenced to 5 years of prison for it only. I wish to know whether in the Tribunal in The Hague “*Quid licet Iovi, non licet bovi*” is held true. I wish to find out whether the international organizations, which established the Tribunal and which ensure that it is just, support the position mentioned in the aforementioned book.

Slobodan Praljak

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