



POLISH LEAGUE AGAINST DEFAMATION

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Warsaw, 17.05.2018 r.

Krzysztof Skowroński
Chairman
The Polish Journalists Association
Warsaw

Dear Mr. Chairman,

The Spanish media and communications website Playgroundmag.net twice uses the phrase “Polish concentration camp” in its articles. Despite the intervention of the Good Name Redoubt and Internet users, this phrase has not been altered. On the contrary, Playgroundmag.net insistently holds onto its own “version” of history, maintaining the thesis about the existence of “Polish concentration camps.” All requests for correcting the inappropriate phrasing have been deemed a “harassment campaign,” whereas the Redoubt and our supporters have been described as “ultra-nationalistic”.

The editors of Playgroundmag.net have accused us of censorship. Meanwhile, is it not the Spanish editors who want to censor Polish history? Do freedom of speech and the wish to use verbal manipulation justify lies? The mass media are supposed to inform as well as teach and educate. We do understand that every medium pursues its own vision, often in terms of politics or the world view, but continuing with an obvious falsehood contravenes the code of journalistic ethics.

The editors of Playgroundmag.net have ignored historical arguments, and considered the request for correction made by 3600 people to be spam. They deem the “e-mail bombarding campaign initiated by Redoubt the result of the amended Act on the Institute of National Remembrance, and the “ultra-nationalistic” rule of the Law and Justice party. This is not true. Redoubt has been engaged in such activities for many years.

In respect of the foregoing, we have intervened at the Embassy in Madrid and the consulate in Barcelona. We have also sent a relevant letter to the Association of Spanish Journalists. We would also like to kindly ask the Polish Journalists Association to intervene and take a stand on this matter.

Thank you.

Yours faithfully,

Polish League Against Defamation