

REPLY TO:

- 135 HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1501
(202) 224-3744
www.grassley.senate.gov
- 721 FEDERAL BUILDING
210 WALNUT STREET
DES MOINES, IA 50309-2106
(515) 288-1145
- 111 7TH AVENUE, SE, BOX 13
SUITE 6800
CEDAR RAPIDS, IA 52401-2101
(319) 363-6832

REPLY TO:

- 120 FEDERAL BUILDING
320 6TH STREET
SIOUX CITY, IA 51101-1244
(712) 233-1860
- 210 WATERLOO BUILDING
531 COMMERCIAL STREET
WATERLOO, IA 50701-5497
(319) 232-6657
- 201 WEST 2ND STREET
SUITE 720
DAVENPORT, IA 52801-1817
(563) 322-4331
- 307 FEDERAL BUILDING
8 SOUTH 6TH STREET
COUNCIL BLUFFS, IA 51501-4204
(712) 322-7103

United States Senate

CHARLES E. GRASSLEY

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1501

August 1, 2018

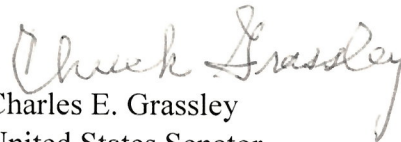
The Estonian Institute of Historical Memory
Suur-Ameerika 12-39
10119 Tallinn, ESTONIA

Dear Sirs,

I have followed with great interest your efforts to develop the Museum and International Research Centre on The Crimes of Communism in the former Patarei Prison. Since the collapse of the Soviet Union, it has become too easy to think of communism as an historical curiosity, despite the millions still suffering under communist regimes. Certainly in the United States, there is a need to better understand the origin and impact of communism and the crimes that have been done in its name around the world, both for historical purposes and to guard against complacency in the future. President Reagan was right to work toward leaving Marxism-Leninism on the ash-heap of history, but to make that a permanent reality, we must teach future generations about about its evil nature and remember the suffering it has caused.

As a country that was founded with Western, democratic values, yet faced the full weight of Soviet Communist domination, Estonia's experience highlights the evil impact that this totalitarian ideology can have on individuals and a society. Historical memory played a key role in Estonia's successful efforts to regain its independence and restore is democratic government. Given its impressive political and economic successes since the end of the Soviet occupation, Estonia is in many ways a country focused on the future. However, that makes it even more important to make a conscious effort to keep historical memory alive. This new museum and research center has the potential to make a significant contribution to Estonian society and the world. I congratulate you on this endeavor.

Sincerely,



Charles E. Grassley
United States Senator
Co-Chair, U.S. Senate Baltic Freedom Caucus

Committee Assignments:

AGRICULTURE
BUDGET
FINANCE

CO-CHAIRMAN,
INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS
CONTROL CAUCUS

CHAIRMAN,
JUDICIARY