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Ladies and gentlemen,

I would like to pay your attention on the problem of freedom of speech and expression in relation to religious and ethnic minorities. I have no doubts about the value of freedom of expression and the need to protect it. However, I want to draw attention to cases where freedom of expression contributes to violations of the rights of minorities.

Here are the souvenirs I bought today in a souvenir shop in the Old Town of Warsaw (see. Photo).



There are the refrigerator magnets. If that were the badge that symbolize to solidarity with the victims of the ghetto, it would have been understandable, but these magnets are hung on the refrigerator and every time if someone wants to get the butter to make a sandwich, this magnet will remind him of that in Warsaw was once a ghetto. This is what is called a **trivialization of the Holocaust**, when it was beginning to be treated as an ordinary historical event.

It is in the same category as the equalization of Nazism and Communism. It would seem that both regimes were dictatorial and totalitarian, but if Stalinism - this mode is similar to the Nazis, then the Holocaust - it is something similar to "dispossessed" in the Soviet Union (the destruction of the class of prosperous peasants) - you can sympathize and even find excuses for executioners.

I want also to pay attention to the practice that exists in many countries, where it is accepted in the media to pay attention to ethnic and religious origin of the perpetrator. This practice exists in many countries of Eastern Europe, especially in Hungary, the Czech Republic and others. As well as in a number of Western countries, such as Italy. On the one hand, freedom of speech, on the other - the rights of ethnic and religious minorities.

I pay attention your attention to the propaganda of hatred towards minorities on the Internet. In many countries, there is a whole list of sites that are free to spread speculation about minorities. For example in Hungary there is anti-Roma, anti-Semitic, right-wing sites, such www.kurus.info. His audience of 100,000 page views per day. "Live Journal" (lifejournal.com), which has long become a place of distribution of neo-Nazi propaganda. A Facebook is quite loyal to Russophobic propaganda campaigns. Etc.

Recently there was another very dangerous trend - is the use of means of visual advertising to crack down on political opponents. For example, April 10 became known to the dissemination of leaflets and billboards in Kiev and Kharkov appeals to search "domestic separatists" - disloyal citizens of the current government - and post information about them on the "hot line" of the Security Police. They were ranked all who "desecrate national symbols", "sow decadent mood" and so on. D. Such vagueness - a

breeding ground for the growth of mutual fear and hatred.

My advice to the OSCE:

1. Develop guidelines and general criteria for determination of the unacceptable abuses of freedom of expression in the media, visual media advertising and the Internet. There is a fine line between freedom of speech and expression, which shall not be violated, and the rights of minorities are violated as a result of abuse of these rights. This boundary should be defined.

2. Develop guidelines for the application of sanctions for Internet resources that allow the publication of materials inciting hatred against minorities.

3. To pay attention to the governments of Hungary and Ukraine on inadmissibility of hate propaganda on the Internet and in the media of visual advertising.