

We adamantly protest against violating the facts and the historical knowledge about the World War II in the Netflix series *The Devil Next Door* (Iwan Groźny z Treblinka). The authors deceitfully suggest that there existed Polish death camps.

We, Jarosław Gowin's Porozumienie, a party recognizing human dignity and respect for life as universal and inalienable rights of humanity, are deeply convicted, that the narration of *The Devil Next Door* leads to the false picture of the drama of the World War II. Reliability, responsibility and honesty towards the victims of the World War II require showing that picture in the way that will raise no doubts.

The Latin sentence says: *Historia magistra vitae est*, let it always be a wise and just teacher. One cannot speak about the camps in Poland neglecting the overriding question of the Nazi German occupation of Polish territory. One cannot write about Polish death camps, because such camps have never existed. We owe this fundamental historical truth to every known, and unknown heroes of those years.

Phrases used in the documentary, such as: „Nazi camps in Poland”, „in Poland almost 2 million Jews were annihilated” etc. manipulate, mislead and obfuscate the picture of reality. They suggest, that the camps were founded in the territory of the occupied Poland by “the Nazi” – implicitly of Polish nationality. This is an obvious lie.

In the first part of the film, a part of the map of Europe was shown with borders different than they really were. The viewers were misled – they saw post-war Poland and its neighbours borders deformed. In the times the documentary talks about, Poland was occupied by two criminal totalitarian states: Nazi Germany and communist Soviet Union. Lacking the appropriate commentary, the viewers that are not familiar with the history of our part of Europe received the message: “During the World War II, Poles created the death camps in their own country”. Selective use of the swastika symbol while marking the camps on the map strengthens the impression that Nazi Germany is responsible only for some part of the camps.

Above this, a serious mistake is the wrong localization of the German death camp in Chełmno on Ner which was mistaken with a different town also called Chełmno. The map also wrongly and carelessly marks localisation of the camps in today's Lublin voivodeship.

Poland, as a state with all its functions, ceased to exist after the heroic defence of September 1939. According to secret protocol of the Ribbentrop Molotov treaty, Germans and Soviets divided Polish pre-war territory. As the result of the warfare and the crimes committed by the occupants on civil population, Poland lost a vast number of human lives.. The war brought on enormous losses, and deep collapse in culture, science and other areas of civilisation. Criminal actions of Nazi Germany, and communist Soviet Union led to physical

and psychological devastation of Polish nation. The narration suggesting that Poles collaborated in murdering Jews is vile. Poles informed the world about the extermination of Jews through the reports of Witold Pilecki or Jan Karski.

One cannot remain silent in the face of phrases and concealments suggesting that there were Polish death camps. Only in the vicinity of Treblinka, place the documentary speaks about, 250 Poles were killed for helping Jews. Poles, risking their own lives, and also lives of their families, helped their fellow citizens of Jewish origin to stay alive. Poles are the most numerous group honoured with the title Righteous Among the Nations. Poles attacked from west and east defended their country, as well as the life and dignity of every man. Imposing the narration which may, in the viewers minds, bring about a groundless impression of the Poles being co-responsible for the founding of the Treblinka death camp is a glaring violation of the historical truth. False picture of the responsibility for the genocide shapes inadequate attitudes of generations, and influence the way they see the world. One cannot built the future on the false picture of the past.

In connection with the above, we demand that the emission of the series The Devil Next Door on the Netflix platform, will be suspended till the due corrections are made, prepared with the reliability proper for the documentary films. At the same time we encourage making films about Polish war heroes. The lives of many of them are ready scripts. We trust, that the filmmakers from Netflix using their talents and experience would produce on them next film hits breaking audience records around the world. Only the truth is interesting.