

Institute of National Remembrance

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Platform of European Memory and Conscience calls for a minute of silence for the women executed, killed, imprisoned, tortured and persecuted during Communism

Some of the women executed by Communists in the 20th century



**Marije Deda, Albania
(1916-1946)**



**Dr. Sabiha Kasimati, Albania
(1912-1951)**



**Zyraka Mano, Albania
(1913-1946)**



**Salme Noor, Estonia
(1894-1942)**



**Dr. Milada Horáková,
Czechoslovakia
(1901-1950)**



**Elli Helene Barczatis,
East Germany
(1912-1955)**



**Ilona Tóth, Hungary
(1932-1957)**



**Alexandra Brempele,
Latvia (1920-1941)**



**Valerija Mundure,
Latvia (1915-1946)**



**Marija Švēde, Latvia
(1911-1942)**



**Elena Vidugirytė,
Lithuania (1919-1946)**



**Helena Motykówna
"Dziuńka", Poland
(1924-1946)**



**Irena Odrzywołek, Poland
(1925-1946)**



**Danuta Siedzikówna
"Inka", Poland (1928-1946)**



**Halina Żurowska "Baśka",
Poland (1905-1949)**



**Alexandra Pop, Romania
(1927-1950)**



**Elza Premšak, Slovenia
(1914-1947)**



**Dr. Volodymyra
Krushelnytska,
Ukraine (1903-1937)**



**Lesya Payevska, Ukraine
(1908-1953)**



**Mariya Petrivna Nesterenko,
Ukraine (1910-1941)**



**Maria Vasilevna
Inozemceva, USSR
(1896-1942)**



**Ruth Aronovna Yegorova-
Rakhlenko, USSR
(1910-1937)**



**Kira Alexandrovna
Alexandrova, USSR
(1908-1937)**



**Sophia Alexandrovna
Zaleskaya, USSR
(1903-1937)**

Photo sources:

Institute for Democracy, Media & Culture, Albania

Estonian Institute for Historical Memory, Estonia

Platform of European Memory and Conscience, Czech Republic

Berlin-Hohenschönhausen Memorial, Germany

www.hungarianambiance.com

Occupation Museum of Latvia, Latvia

The Genocide and Resistance Research Centre of Lithuania, Lithuania

Warsaw Rising Museum, Poland

The Victims of Communism Memorial / Civic Academy Foundation, Romania

Study Centre for National Reconciliation, Slovenia

Centre for Research on the Ukrainian Liberation Movement, Ukraine

Holodomor Museum, Ukraine

Memorial International, Russian Federation



Prague/Tallinn/Riga/Vilnius/Warsaw/Berlin/Dresden/Bratislava/Ljubljana/Bucharest/Tirana/Kiev/8 March 2017. On 8 March, the day recognised as International Women's Day, the Platform of European Memory and Conscience calls for a minute of silence at 12.00 noon CET for the millions of women who fell victim to the Communist dictatorship.

The International Women's Day, with its roots in the women's worker movement in the USA at the beginning of the 20th century, was appropriated by the Communist dictatorships in Europe as an ideological holiday and celebrated in a pompous way. Red flowers were officially presented to women and alcohol was drunk on 8 March.

The Platform wishes to draw attention to the fact that the Communist regime was excessively brutal to women. For political reasons, women were executed after staged trials or without trial, killed when trying to flee across the Iron Curtain, sent to prisons, concentration camps and

forced labour camps where countless perished; women were tortured, denied their dignity and persecuted in many other ways. Women survivors of Communist persecution find it more difficult than men to speak about the trauma they suffered.

Therefore, the Platform of European Memory and Conscience calls upon the international community to observe a minute of silence on 8 March 2017 at 12.00 noon CET to recognise and commemorate the countless millions of women whose fundamental human rights were violated during Communism.

Enclosed is a photo gallery of some of the women executed by Communists in the 20th century.

For more information, please contact:

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The Platform of European Memory and Conscience brings together 55 public and private institutions and organisations from 13 EU Member States, Ukraine, Moldova, Iceland, Albania, Canada and the USA working in the field of coming to terms with the legacy of totalitarianism on European soil. We represent about 200,000 Europeans and over 1,100,000 North American citizens with European roots.

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