

Hi,

please read the attached information.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Ljubljana had, on a special meeting yesterday, a lot to say about the Slovenian Ambassador in regards to the convicted pedophile Nicholas Oman's attendance at the opening of the Slovenian Consulate in Melbourne.

Slovenian Association Melbourne has also publicly condemned the actions of the Slovenian Ambassador.

You can voice your opinion, express your anger and disappointment - just write a letter on behalf of yourself or on behalf of your organisation, and send it directly to the Ministry for Foreign Affairs in Ljubljana (letter can be in English or in Slovenian).

The addresses:

Office of the President of R Slovenia

gp.uprs@up-rs.si

Ministry for Foreign Affairs:

info.mzz@gov.si

or to the Inspector:

Miha.Vrhunec@gov.si

If I may, please, have the copy of your letter as well for the Archive.

Kind regards

Draga Gelt

Dear Australian Slovenians,

On 7th March 2014, the new Slovenian Consulate was opened with Mr Derry Maddison as the Honorary Consul.

Unfortunately, this important event was overshadowed by the fact that among the invited guests there was Mr Nicholas Oman who is burdened by very dark personal history.

Ambassador Dr Balazic admits that Mr Oman's name was included in the draft list of invited guests but claims that he was not included in the final list.

Nevertheless, Mr Oman attended the Opening Ceremony of the new Consulate in Sunbury and the reception in Jadran Club where he sat at the main table together with the ambassador.

Slovenians in Australia are offended and upset that Mr Oman was paid so much attention as his attendance at both events throws a very strange light on the Slovenian community in Australia and other present guests.

Controversial invitation from the ambassador of the Republic of Slovenia in Australia

On 8th April 2014, there was 52nd meeting of the Committee for Foreign Affairs at the National Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia in Ljubljana. The meeting was attended by members of the parliament and the Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr Karl Erjavec.

The Committee found as indisputable that Mr Nicholas Oman:

- was included, at the very least, on the draft list of invited guests for the opening of the consulate;
- appeared among guests who attended the opening ceremony in Sunbury;
- appeared among guests at the reception following the opening at Jadran Club in Diggers Rest and
- he was seated at the main table together with the ambassador at the reception in Jadran Club in Diggers Rest.

The Committee was united in the view that the Slovenian politics does not support that persons convicted of paedophilia attend Slovenian receptions (Dr Jozef Kunic, PS) and that quite a lot of people in Slovenia do not support and "do not agree that Slovenian politicians, representatives of the government, publicly, at public functions associate with persons convicted of paedophilia." (Dragutin Mate, SDS)

The Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr Karl Erjavec, said that

- the special supervision over the Embassy in Canberra that has been imposed since the end of March has not been finalised;
- he will ask ambassador Balazic to come and see him in Ljubljana;
- in his view, "ambassadors can only be those who are professional and professional are those who are experts, who are ethical and who inspire public trust with their behaviour";
- the main question is no longer whether the ambassador sent an invitation to Mr Oman but "whether it is appropriate that the ambassador associates with such a person";
- following his talks with ambassador Balazic he will decide on further measures;
- this issue is not just a technical but also very much a political question. "It is very much a political question since the Slovenian community in Australia was horrified and remains dissatisfied and therefore this aspect is also becoming important from the political perspective and is no longer just a mere disciplinary procedure".

Drage avstralske Slovenke in avstralski Slovenci!

7. marca je bil v Melbournu slovesno odprt nov slovenski konzulat s častni konzulom g. Derryjem Maddisonom.

Žal je ta pomemben dogodek zasenčilo dejstvo, da se je med povabljenimi znašel tudi g. Nicholas Oman, ki ga bremeni zelo mračna preteklost.

Veleposlanik dr. Balažič priznava, da je bilo ime g. Omana na osnutku povabljenih, vendar trdi, da ni bilo vključeno v končni seznam.

Vendar pa se je g. Oman udeležil tako odprtja novega konzulata v Sunburyju kot sprejema v klubu Jadran, kjer je sedel za častno mizo skupaj z veleposlanikom.

Slovenci v Avstraliji smo ogorčeni in užaljeni, da je bil g. Oman med povabljenimi gosti, saj njegova prisotnost meče čudno luč na slovensko skupnost v Avstraliji in na druge goste.

Sporno povabilo veleposlanika RS v Avstraliji

8. aprila 2014 je bila v Ljubljani sklicana 52. seja Odbora za zunanjo politiko v Državnem zboru Republike Slovenije. Seje so se udeležili poslanci parlamenta in slovenski minister za zunanje zadeve g. Karl Erjavec.

Komisija je ugotovila kot nesporno, da je bil g. Nicholas Oman:

- vsaj na osnutku povabljenec na odprtje konzulata,
- med gosti, ki so se udeležili odprtja konzulata v Sunburyju,
- med gosti na pogostitvi/sprejemu ob odprtju v klubu Jadran v Diggers Nestu in
- da je na pogostitvi/sprejemu ob odprtju v klubu Jadran sedel za glavno mizo skupaj z veleposlanikom.

Komisija je bila tudi enotna v mnenju, da slovenska politika ni in ne podpira tega, da bi nekdo, ki je bil obsojen zaradi pedofilije, hodil na slovenske sprejeme (dr. Jožef Kunič, PS) in da kar veliko število ljudi v Sloveniji ne podpira in "ne odobrava, da se politiki, predstavniki države, javno, na javnih dogodkih družimo s pravnomočno obsojenimi osebami s področja pedofilije." (Dragutin Mate, SDS)

Minister za zunanje zadeve, g. Karl Erjavec, je povedal, da

- izredni nadzor na veleposlaništvu v Canberri, ki je bil uveden konec marca, še ni zaključen;
- bo poklical veleposlanika Balažica na pogovor v Ljubljano;
- so zanj "veleposlaniki lahko samo tisti, ki so profesionalni, profesionalni so pa tisti, ki so strokovni, ki so etični in ki s svojim vedenjem povzročajo tudi neko javno zaupanje";
- ni več glavno vprašanje, ali je veleposlanik poslal vabilo g. Omanu ali ne, ampak "ali je primerno, da se veleposlanik srečuje s takšno osebo".
- se bo po pogovoru z veleposlanikom Balažicem odločil za nadaljnje ukrepe;
- gre pri vsem tem za tehnično in tudi zelo politično vprašanje. "Zelo politično vprašanje je zato, ker je slovenska skupnost v Avstraliji bila zgrožena in je nezadovoljna in zato ta vidik postaja tudi pomemben s političnega vidika zadeve in ne gre zgolj za nek disciplinski postopek".