

THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND

Andrzej Duda

Warsaw, 24 March 2021

Mr.
Mikołaj Pawlak

Rzecznik Praw Dziecka



Thank you for the information you sent regarding the concept of creating the Museum of Polish Children "Little Auschwitz" in Łódź. I am deeply convinced of the need for a facility that will commemorate the martyrdom of the youngest victims of the crimes committed by the Germans on occupied Polish territories – prisoners of Kinderkonzentrationslager Litzmannstadt.

The history of the camp in Łódź, where Hitlerians detained, forced into slave labor, tortured, starved and caused the death of thousands of children and adolescents, often orphans of previously murdered parents, is full of the suffering of the innocent and the cruelty of the perpetrators. The truth about the shocking crimes committed there must be preserved and passed on to future generations.

Today, Poles, citizens of the once again independent Republic, have a duty to cherish the memory of and commemorate our compatriots who experienced persecution in that inhuman era and paid the ultimate price of their own lives, and their only "fault" was their national identity. I trust that the state and local authorities will make every effort to fulfill this responsibility towards the victims of the camp on Przemysłowa Street in Łódź.

For my part, I would like to declare my full support for the idea of the museum and assure you of my readiness to support this important undertaking. I believe that the new facility can play an important role in disseminating knowledge about the dramatic fate of our homeland during World War II, contributing to the formation of young Poles in the patriotic spirit and in loyalty to the heritage and fundamental values of our community.

I would like to congratulate you on your achievements so far and for initiating a valuable initiative. I wholeheartedly wish you and your colleagues every success in your efforts to achieve your goal, and many more successes in service to Polish children and young people.