Black Ribbon Day in Washington, DC, marks 75th anniversary of MRP

On August 23, JBANC helped organize a BRD commemoration in the U.S. Capitol. A related event took place at the Victims of Communism Memorial that morning, with about 100 people participating. Together with the Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation, JBANC helped promote distribution of copies of “Lest We Forget – Memory of Totalitarianism in Europe” to the entire Congress. The books were provided by the Platform of European Memory and Conscience. JBANC is a member the Platform, based in Prague, along with over 40 institutions and museums from 18 countries, including Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania.

Read more here: Black Ribbon Day in Washington, DC
Flickr Gallery: https://www.flickr.com/photos/114460987@N06/sets/72157646805337706/

Central and East European Coalition Policy Paper Published

The Central and East European Coalition (CEEC), representing more than 20 million Americans, regularly issues Policy Papers to share concerns and ideas with the United States Congress and Administration. The current paper covers issues of interest during the 113th Congress and its Second Session in 2014. The most recent paper was published on the eve of the visit of the Ukrainian President, Petro Poroshenko, to Washington, DC on September 18. A rally to support Ukraine was held at the White House, with about 1000 people attending. JBANC participated in the rally and helped to promote it.

Read more here: CEEC Home  CEEC Policy Paper
Photos from the September 18 rally in support of Ukraine: Rally for Ukraine, Sept. 18, 2014

JBANC’s Letter to President Obama on the eve of his visit to Estonia

On August 31, JBANC wrote a letter to President Obama discussing his impending visit to Estonia in September. In this letter, JBANC urges President Obama to keep in mind the necessity of a continued and active NATO presence in the Baltics and the sanctioning of Russian aggression in Ukraine.

Read more here: Letter to President Obama
Obama’s visit to Estonia: “You lost your independence once before. With NATO you will never lose it again.”

United States President Barack Obama addressed the leaders of the Baltic countries in Tallinn, Estonia on September 3, in order to reassure the commitment the United States has to Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania. Obama made clear that the United States would never recognize the Russian invasion and annexation of any part of Ukraine. The president pledged unconditional support in defense of the Baltic countries in case of need. He finished his speech by stating, “We’ll be here for Estonia. We will be here for Latvia. We will be here for Lithuania.”

Read more here: Obama’s Visit to Estonia

Welcome to Eerik Marmei, Estonia’s New Ambassador to the U.S.

On September 18, the Ambassador of Estonia to the United States Eerik Marmei, presented his Letter of Credence to President Obama at the White House. President Obama and Ambassador Marmei discussed continued cooperation between the United States, Estonia, and NATO.

Read more here: Estonia’s New Ambassador to the U.S.

Other Events

More information here: U.S.- Central Europe Strategy Forum

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