



TRANSLATION from ROMANIAN

Bucharest August 08, 2011

To the Romanian Academy – “Iorgu Iordan – Alexandru Rosseti” Institute of Linguistics
For the attention of Mr. Academician Marius Sala, Director

To the notice of (CC): For the attention of Mr. Csaba Ferenc ASZTALOS
The President of the National Council for Combating Discrimination

Mr. Academician Marius Sala,

We kindly thank you for the time you will assign to this text, as well as for the attention and understanding with which we are convinced you will read the following lines:

- In the Romanian Language Dictionary (DEX), edition of 1998, the word “JIDAN” (in English =KIKE) was defined as a popular and pejorative word.
- In the Romanian Language Dictionary (DEX), second edition of 2009, the word “JIDAN” was redefined and presented to the large public as a familiar word which can be used to replace the word “Jew”.
- In the Romanian Language Dictionary (DEX), second edition of 2009, the word “familiar” is defined as follows: adjective used in the regular speaking: simple, without pretensions. *simple, friendly, close.

Mr. Director,

The characterization of the word “JIDAN” as being a “familiar” word transforms the most abject expression of Anti-Semitism existent in the Romanian language into a synonym of the word “Jew”. The word “JIDAN” is an expression of racism in the most primitive form: in the word “JIDAN” one may find the essence of hatred towards the Jews: it is the most comprising expression of Anti-Semitism. The word “JIDAN” is the last word heard by the hundreds thousands Jews whose goods had been stolen, burnt and destroyed before the butt broke their bones, before having been loaded in the wagons of the death train, before many of them had been killed like animals only because they were born Jews.

‘JIDAN’ is the word which nowadays is written with golden letters on the manifests of the old and new national-extremist political groups who, under our eyes, develop their forces and strengthen the rehabilitation efforts of those who committed crimes against the ‘JIDANS’.

המרכז למעקב ולמיגור האנטישמיות ברומניה

All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is that good men do nothing



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The Internet, the most developed and comprising platform of mass-media and information for the future generations is infected by racism, hatred, Anti-Semitism, the word “JIDAN” being displayed on thousands of websites in Romanian language, websites which present the conspiracy theories and incites to hatred against the Jews.

In such conditions, how may a word be so destructive, so negative, so gorged with blood and pain, and be defined as a familiar word and synonym, a legitimate, simple and even friendly replacement for the word “Jew”?

The word “JIDAN” is not a synonym of the word “Jew”: this word expresses racism, hatred towards the Jewish race, hatred towards the Mosaic religion, it calumniates the Jews with regard to race aspects and incites to violence against them> the word “JIDAN” is a word promoting racism, discrimination promoted by fascists and Nazi, and as such, in the essence it is a word forbidden by Lay no. 107/2006 for the approval of Government Ordinance no. 31/2002 regarding the prohibition of any organizations and fascist, racist and xenophobe symbols, and the promotion of the cult of persons blameworthy for performing crimes against peace and humanity.

This is the explanation of the word “JIDAN”! No more and no less. Only such a comprising, clear and decisive definition shall sustain the efforts to reduce the Anti-Semitism, racism, nationalist-extremist levels, which are disseminated every day in Romania, through all means of media we are exposed to.

DEX, the Dictionary of the Romanian language is a reference work to which opinion makers, politicians, teachers, procurators, journalists, judges and order forces solicit the clarification of linguistic terms anytime it is necessary, including those with impact overreach individual’s right to dignity and a life voided of racial harassment.

Hence, the manner in which the word “JIDAN” is defined in DEX, edition of 2009, represents a very serious offense creating a humiliating and degrading framework for the Jewish community, derogatory to the Romanian society, and encouraging the nationalist-chauvinistic propaganda and racial hatred – Anti-Semitism, irremediably affecting the right to the personal dignity of the Jews, Romanian citizens, and consequently breaching the provisions of Government Ordinance no. 137/2000 regarding the prevention and penalty of all forms of discrimination, as republished.

According to the aforementioned, if in 2000 we kindly asked the Romanian Academy to change the simplest definition in DEX, the edition of 1998, we hereby kindly ask the Romanian Academy to promptly correct, without delay and invariably, the diffident and

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Centrul pentru Monitorizarea și Combaterea Anti-Semitismului
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infamous definition of the word “JIDAN”, which, as it is written in DEX, edition of 2009, contravenes both to the common sense, and to the current legislation.

We hereby attach an Annex with the definitions of the word “JIDAN” from DEX, edition of 1998, and DEX, edition of 2009.

Please be convinced of our distinguished consideration.

Maximilian Marco Katz – Founder Director of MCA Romania
Dr. Alexandru Florian – Executive Director of MCA Romania
Marius Draghici – International Relations Director of MCA Romania
Delia Nita – Manager of Anti-Discrimination Program, Legal Resources Program

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