

Dear friends

We are writing you to ask you for help to our „smallest“ Slavic fellows – Lusatian Sorbs. In these days they're in a tough fight against Saxony (in Germany) government to preserve contemporary network of grammar schools. In Lusatia there are only 6 of them. Only 17 pupils wanted to start this school year in the 5th grade of grammar school (1st grade of secondary school) in Chrosćicy. But Saxony ministry of education applied a normative for German schools (minimum is 20 pupils in one class). As a result they forbade to open this class. A law court in Dresden rejected protests of Domowina (organisation of Lusatian Sorbs in Germany) and the village Chrosćicy. Nowadays, protests of citizens are in progress in Lusatia. Members of Domowina are trying to find a possible way to persuade Saxony government to accept reasonable demands of Lusatian Sorbs. Finally, various organisations (Official Czech writers club, political parties) are stating their sympathy to Lusatian Sorbs.

The supplement of this letter is a signature sheet claiming solidarity with the rightful effort of Lusatian Sorbs to save their school network, which is essential for the future existence of their nation. This action is initiated by the North Bohemian (part of the Czech republic) town Varnsdorf – the gate to Lusatia. A place where the co-operation with Lusatian Sorbs is a tradition.

Thank you very much for your help.

In the name of signatories

Your *Milan Hrabal*

In Varnsdorf 5th of September, 2001.

In the case of a deeper interest send your questions to an e-mail address:
okvdf@interdata.cz

or to

Milan Hrabal, Městský úřad - OSK, Varnsdorf, 407 47, The Czech republic

