

## **RESOLUTION**

### **On the Need to Assess the Damage Inflicted on the Baltic States by the Occupation**

**The Baltic Assembly,**

**recognising** that the criminal Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact, which was concluded between the Soviet Union and Germany in 1939 and which provided for the division of the Eastern European countries and the Baltic States between the Soviet and German spheres of influence, brought about far-reaching negative consequences for our three countries;

**recalling that:**

- in 1940 the Soviet Union occupied Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, and this was followed by communist terror and repeated deportations of people, as a result of which tens of thousands perished;
- in 1941 Germany attacked the Soviet Union and occupied Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania;
- after the end of World War II, the Soviet occupation of the Baltic States continued, together with a new wave of terror;
- during the occupation, the totalitarian Soviet regime committed genocide against the native inhabitants by significantly altering the ethnic composition of the population of the Baltic States;
- the occupation inflicted enormous damage on the economy, education, culture and intelligentsia of the Baltic States, and as a result the Baltic States seriously lag behind their European neighbours;

**calls on** the Governments of the Baltic States

to initiate negotiations with Russia and Germany on compensating damage caused by the occupations and

to invite the countries that participated in the Yalta Conference – the UK and the USA – to mediate in the recovery of the movable cultural values and the archives removed from the Baltic States during their occupation.

Riga, 19 December 2004