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December 20, 2012

The Honorable Mykola Azarov  
Prime Minister of Ukraine  
C/O Ambassador Oleksandr Motsyk  
3350 M Street NW  
Washington, DC 20007  
VIA EMAIL: [REDACTED]

Dear Prime Minister Azarov,


On behalf of the 400,000 members of the Simon Wiesenthal Center, one of the largest Jewish human rights organizations in the world, we are writing you to express our outrage and indignation against the slanders of the Svoboda Party directed against the Jewish community in the Ukraine.

Particularly, we want to call upon you to speak out against the heinous anti-Semitic slur directed at Ukrainian-born actress Mila Kunis by MP Igor Miroshnichenko, who recently labeled her a 'zhydovka', (dirty Jewess), which as you know was the insidious slur invoked by the Nazis and their collaborators as they rounded up the Jews to murder them at Babi Yar and in the death camps.

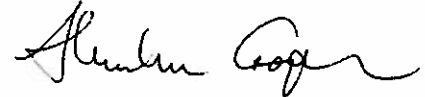
Mila Kunis' family, like many thousands of other Ukrainian Jewish families, left the Ukraine in the first place because of anti-Semitism. Today, she is a respected American actress, who is now owed an apology by the Ukraine. It is a tragedy that even after the Holocaust and the demise of the Soviet Union such hatred and anti-Semitism is still a force in the mainstream of your country.

As Prime Minister, we call on you to publically condemn this attack and to take measures to defeat the xenophobic forces that threaten your democracy.

Cordially,



Rabbi Marvin Hier  
Founder and Dean  
Simon Wiesenthal Center



Rabbi Abraham Cooper  
Associate Dean  
Simon Wiesenthal Center

RMH:dkm

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