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Freie Deutsche Jugend  
Central Committee

Berlin, Tuesday, 09 September 2003

Dear Comrades,

We share your grief about the loss of Vera Pickova, your honoured and beloved comrade of KSCM and also a dear friend of the youth.

Through many years comrades of our organisation, the FDJ, have had the honour to know her personally and learn from her political experience. She led her life as a communist and a fighter for the national independence of Czechoslovakia, for liberating her home country from the occupation of Hitler-Fascism and also from today's political and economic greed of the enlarged Germany on its way East again. Vera Pickova's path of resistance throughout the late 1930s with the peak during the fight against the Munich Agreement in September 1938, until her death in our days, has been and is an example to us. She was the main power behind a common agreement of Czech and German progressive youth and young Communists against Revisionism.

She has shared with us her insight into the Czechoslovak national resistance in summer 1938 just before the start of Fascist Occupation when she stood amongst the Crowd of Thousands shouting to the Czechoslovak government: "Give us the Weapons – we have paid them!" She has also shared with us her experiences in different Concentration Camps and told us why so many older people in her home country and many other countries throughout Europe can speak German fluently – they have learned it in Buchenwald, Ravensbrück, Auschwitz and Dachau!

The political development that led to the start in fact of the Second Imperialist World War, the 1938 Munich Agreement, has stayed alive in her fight. As she has said: "We are on different sides of the border but on the same side of the barricade!" – we will also carry on fighting against German Imperialism. Because it is the greatest threat to Czechoslovakia and now to the Czech Republic. German Imperialism proved that by supporting the separatist Slovak Party of Mr. Meciar with money and logistics that led to the re-separation of Czechoslovakia. German Imperialism, represented by Passauer Neue Presse and by Deutsche Telekom, proved that also when they bought a big part, almost 90 percent of the media in your country and by owning now a great part of the important infrastructure in the telecommunications sector. The revisionist Sudeten-Germans are openly supported by the leading political parties.

So, on this sad day for all sincere and progressive young people on both sides of the border, we will try to follow Vera Pickova's example – we will try this by fighting German Imperialism. Because, as Karl Liebknecht has said: "The main enemy is at home."

In Sympathy

Central Council of the FDJ