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The Minister of Culture calls on the municipality of Zedelgem to respect the agreement on the monument to prisoners of war with respect and respect.

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Photo: Museum of the Occupation of Latvia

The Minister of Culture Nauris Puntulis has addressed the Mayor of Zedelgem Annika Vermelen with a call to resolve the issue of the monument "Latvia's hive for freedom" only through bilateral negotiations and respecting the agreement concluded between the municipality and the museum.

In the letter, the Minister emphasizes that the monument, which was erected in Zedelgem Freedom Square in accordance with the agreement between the Municipality of Zedelgem and the Latvian Occupation Museum Association and is dedicated to the memory of the prisoners of the Second World War, deserves respect.

At the same time, N. Puntulis highly appreciates the wish of Zedelgem municipality to engage in negotiations with the private Museum of the Occupation of Latvia accredited by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia. Especially considering that the Museum of the Occupation of Latvia performs important functions of the state protocol - informing foreign official delegations about the history of the period of occupation of Latvia.

2018. gadā, balstoties uz Zedelgemas pašvaldības un Latvijas Okupācijas muzeja biedrības noslēgto līgumu, tēlnieka Kristapa Gulbja radītais piemineklis "Latvijas stāvstrops brīvībai", pusi no kura izmaksām sedza muzeja savāktie ziedoņumi, tika nodots pašvaldības īpašumā, lai skaidrotu sarežģīto Otrā pasaules kara vēsturi. Tas ir veltīts 12 000 latviešu leģionāru, kuri pēc Otrā pasaules kara bija ieslodzīti nometnē pie Zedelgemas un uzstādīts Zedelgemas centrā.

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