

Subject: Response to request

Mrs. Hedviga Zakova Malinova M.A.,

As you have requested, I render you this statement as your therapist, who has treated you since 2006 and I grant you the permission to present this statement to the body active in criminal proceedings and to the court experts.

Hereby I confirm that we treated Mrs. Hedviga Zakova Malinova, born Hedviga Malinova on [REDACTED], living in [REDACTED], in the years 2006 through 2008, because she suffered from posttraumatic stress disorder. As the major traumatic experience the physical and psychological attack against her, which had happened in the morning hours of August 28th 2006, had been identified. The development of the disorder and the therapeutic process had been complicated by accusing style of the investigation on September 9th 2006 and further accusing and devaluating statements of the politicians. The continuation of the investigation, while presently she has been even put in the position of the accused, together with the tendency to investigate her by the court experts in psychiatry and clinical psychology, threatening her with involuntary hospitalization for observation, have imperiled her health conditions and present a risk of re-emergence of the posttraumatic stress disorder symptoms, which may result in serious damage to her health, central nervous system functioning, with implications for her functioning in the social, family and work areas (the problem of retraumatization and relapse, known in clinical practice and psychotraumatological literature, can occur regardless of the expertise and ethics of the investigators, due to the context – the involuntary investigation directed by the General Prosecutor's Office the Slovak Republic after six years of persistent stress exposure).

In this respect I consider the forensic psychiatric and clinical psychological investigation of Mrs. Hedviga Zakova Malinova objectionable with regard to her health.

If the court experts in psychiatry and clinical psychology are interested in the health, the diagnostic and therapeutic process, including premorbid personality, of Mrs. Hedviga Zakova Malinova for forensic report, I refer to my statement to the General Prosecutor's Office of the Slovak Republic under oath. The case is discussed in details in the book by J. Hasto, H. Vojtova: Posttraumatic Stress Disorder, bio-psycho-social aspects of EMDR and autogenic training in persistent stress, a case study, 2nd edition, F Publishing, Trencin 2012 (especially pages 31-65 and 69-74 with the epilogue of doc. Petr Smolik, MD., an internationally recognized expert on psychiatric diagnosis). The first edition of the book: Palacky University in Olomouc 2012.

I recommend to the attention the forensic report signed by the Dean of the Medical Faculty of Comenius University in Bratislava, where he fails to mention the concussion, photos of the face, local clinical findings on the head and CT of the head that shows recent violence inflicted to the left temporal and zygomatic areas.

With regard to the statement of Mr. C [REDACTED] M.D. (the surgery court expert) after his first meeting with Mrs. Zakova Malinova M.A., I consider it important to note that from a professional point of view concussion does not exclude subsequent posttraumatic stress disorder, depending on the length of retrograde amnesia.

Dr. C [REDACTED] expressed a hypothesis about Mrs. Zakova Malinova's potential increased tendency to bleeding. However, the injury of the face was not a bruising. Careful hematologic examination shows a normal finding.

To conclude this statement, I want to state that I work as a psychiatrist since 1973, and throughout my practice I have frequently encountered with requests from the bodies active in criminal proceedings to assess the possibility to question the accused or the witness. My statements have always been accepted and never have been considered unprofessional.

I believe that in the case of Mrs. Hedviga Zakova Malinova M.A., my statement will be respected as well as her right to protect her mental health. I find it extraordinary that since November 2006, when I have become the therapist of Mrs. Hedviga Zakova Malinova, until present moment, my expert opinion on the potential risks associated with the acts of the criminal proceedings on her mental health have never been requested.

Jozef Hasto M.D., Ph.D.