## Petras Auštrevičius The Member of Parliament of the Republic of Lithuania

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Dear, dear hearts,

Turning back to history is not necessarily an easy and exciting task. Yet, those who are able to do so are morally strong. Today, here in the Northern region of Lithuania, we commemorate the day of the life, tragedy and remembrance of Žagarė community Jews.

A full and long life of Žagarė Jewish community had become undisputed and an integral part of this town and the life of its citizens. Everything that happened in I941. October 2, tragically and irreversibly changed the face of the town.

However, human memory can raise out of the nothingness that could be the present of Žagarė town. We warmly welcome Žagarė pupils, who for years managed Žagarė Jewish cemetery; I thank the event sponsors and dear participants.

I wish us all a common respectful and open reconstruction of the past and cooperation in today's world.

With deep respect,

Petras Austrevicius Member of Parliament