Talk by Max Grunberg
Raoul Wallenberg Honorary Citizen Committee

Mr. Siváèek, Ladies and Gentlemen!

Rabbi Weissmandl saved thousands of lives during the Holocaust. Raoul Wallenberg saved thousands of lives during the Holocaust. What have these two great men in common?

1. both risked their lives to save Jews

2. both did so voluntarily

3. both negotiated with the Nazi authorities to save Jews

4. neither Rabbi Weissmandl, nor Raoul Wallenberg expected or received and compensation from the persons they saved

5. both individuals serve as educational role models

What is the difference between these two great men?

1. Rabbi Weissmandl has passed away

2. Raoul Wallenberg is possibly still alive and we are involved in trying to find him

Also,

1. Rabbi Weissmandl was Jewish

2. Raoul Wallenberg was not Jewish

The State of Israel established the Yad Vashem Law in 1953. A section of this law deals with the issue of the Righteous Among the Nations, and 20,000 righteous non-Jews were honored to this day.

What about honoring the Jewish rescuers?

There are some individual and organizational initiatives, such as the event tonight, to address the issue of Jews who risked their lives to save Jews. Isn't the State of Israel obliged to do the same for Jewish heroes of the Holocaust?

I appeal to you to sign the petition in the back of the room, write letters to public leaders and make others aware of our obligation.