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How do we get organised? And what will we be talking about? Best wishes, Filip

25 Sep 2021, 3:05 pm

Dear Filip, Thanks for your message. I was going to suggest a discussion with some of the signatories of the letter. Would you be interested? Warm wishes, Caroline



27 Sep 2021, 11:03 am

Sure, though we could have had this conversation before they published this brutal text. Will you organise the meeting? All best, Filip.

27 Sep 2021, 11:09 am

I'll have a go and get back to you. Caroline



27 Sep 2021, 11:16 am O.k., thanks. Filip 27 Sep 2021, 11:27 am Hello Caroline, any news? Filip Yesterday, 12:51 pm

Dear Filip, My apologies for a delayed response. I'm afraid those responsible for the letter do not wish to engage in a discussion about it. Their argument, a valid one in my opinion, is that debating issues such as whether or not the genocide was planned gives legitimacy to the argument that it wasn't, which is ultimately offensive to victims and gives credibility to genocidaires. Given that I don't want to engage in

any activity that could be considered as such, I would rather not pursue a discussion with you. So, respectfully, I withdraw my proposal for a discussion. Caroline



11:55 am

O.k. Caroline. That debating whether or not the genocide was planned gives legitimacy to the argument that it wasn't strikes me as an astonishing statement. I don't understand that you, as a scholar, can subscribe to such an argument that makes any scientific debate impossible. It effectively states: "I'm right, and by debating with you I say you might be right". What I note is that the signatories chicken out, and that you do too. This is very telling about the self-imposed impasse Rwanda studies are in. I'll keep this shameful exchange on file as a good illustration of a serious problem, which now seems to have spread into academia. And I can't say that I send you this message respectfully. Filip