



Fellow delegates,

I would like to bring to your attention the recent application to the GUM made by the State of Sandus, in order to conclude the matter permanently through resolution. Before the debate on the Sandum application in the Quorum, I discussed my concerns with a number of other delegates in private, before remaining neutral in the Quorum debate. I did not understand that the Chair was still allowed to hold the opinion of his delegation even after his election. I can completely understand how this could be viewed as conspiratorial and covert. This is not the impression the Chair of our organisation should give. I should not have said one thing in private and another in public. I want to take this opportunity to apologise, and to vow never to have another membership application treated like this again. I direct this apology particularly to the Sandum government, who I feel were left in the dark as to my own views until much later due to this misunderstanding of mine.

When I discussed my concerns privately, I suggested that Mr. Soergel had committed an act of sexual harassment towards Mr. Eren Lewis. I made these comments based on poor information, and phrased them with even poorer judgement. Mr. Sorgel acknowledges that what he said was inappropriate, especially given that Mr. Lewis was a minor at the time of the incident, but it was not elicited. The lives of our fellow micronationalists must never be negatively affected by our actions, in particular, if it could have an affect on their reputation. I apologise profusely for incorrectly suggesting what happened was something much more serious. I want this mistake of mine to be a lesson for my fellow micronationalists, that actions which could negatively affect someone beyond their micronational work must be avoided at all cost.

Mr. Soergel has promised that he will no longer protest the outcome of the Quorum vote on the application made by the State of Sandus. He has also promised not to conduct any actions that would interfere in our organisation's activities. While the cessation of diplomatic ties between Sandus and Austenasia is unfortunate, I am satisfied it is necessary and has occurred with the consensus of all parties. Although major political differences still exist, I have received assurances that the same measures will not be applied to the minor diplomatic ties that exist between the Sandus and Leylandiistan & Gurvata. I welcome the apology made by Mr. Soergel to me in his recent statement, and I hope that both of our statements can leave all parties satisfied that this matter is resolved.

This entire incident, though undesirable, is testament to the health of our organisation. We have not been brought to our knees, doom has not befallen us. This matter has been raised, discussed and resolved in the space of four days, without overshadowing a single Quorum. We must be conscious of the fact that we are only one month into a six month term. We must keep the drama of the past fortnight in mind, and learn to remain as a united front committed to collective co-operation through the initiatives which are beginning to take shape.

We have all learned valuable lessons from this incident. We are only stronger going forward.

*Fionnbarra Ó Cathail*