



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Directorate-General Neighbourhood & Enlargement Negotiations

D – WESTERN BALKANS
D.4 – ALBANIA, BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

Head of Unit

Brussels, **09 MARS 2020**

Dear Mr Dragičević, Ms Radanović, Ms Grmuša, Ms Marjanović,

Thank you for your letter of 13 February 2020 and for keeping us informed about the developments in the case of Mr David Dragičević.

We note with concern the lack of developments in the investigation of the case. The EU expects such cases to be duly investigated and processed, without delay and in full respect of international standards.

We also note with concern the continuing restrictions to freedom of assembly and of expression, which are essential for any functioning democratic society.

As you are aware, the current rule of law issues have been the subject of the independent expert report prepared by a group of senior experts, led by Mr Reinhard Priebe. We expect the political and judicial authorities to address the recommendations therein. This will be necessary to restore public trust in the judiciary.

As a follow-up to the rule of law convention, the Commission is also continuing to support the efforts of civil society to establish a rule of law platform to ensure the accountability of political authorities.

The Commission will continue to keep a close scrutiny on developments in the area of the rule of law and fundamental rights in the coming months, in view of the publication of the 2020 report on Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Yours sincerely,

Michela Matuella

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Cc: Mr Johann Sattler, Head of Delegation of the EU to Bosnia and Herzegovina