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Dear Madam and Sirs,

Thank you for your letter to President Barroso and to myself with regard to members of the Bulgarian “Ataka” party. President Barroso has asked me to reply to you, also on his behalf.

I have taken good note of your observations on developments in Bulgaria and I share your view that democracy and its processes in a parliamentary republic must not be manipulated.

The Commission is of the view that the case that you refer should be investigated thoroughly by the relevant national authorities.

Under the Treaties on which the European Union is based, the European Commission has no general powers to intervene with the Member States or to open investigations. It can only do so if an issue of European Union law is involved. On the basis of the information provided in your letter, it does not appear that the matter to which you refer is related to the implementation of European Union law. For this reason, I have to inform you that it is not possible for the European Commission to follow up on this issue.

Mr Alexander MIRSKY

Mr Roger HELMER

Mr Nirj DEVA

Mr Hannu TAKKULA

Mr Filip KACZMAREK

Mr Jacek Wladyslaw WLOSOWICZ

Mr Claudio MORGANTI

Mr Daniel VAN DER STOEP

Mr Magdi Cristiano ALLAM

Mr Tadeusz ZWIEFKA

Ms Niki TZAVELA

Mr Nikolaos SALAVRAKOS

Mr Tadeusz CYMANSKI

Mr Jacek KURSKI

Mr Sampo TERHO

Members of the European Parliament



Under the Cooperation and Verification Mechanism, the Commission is monitoring Bulgaria's progress in achieving its accession commitments in the fight against corruption. The mechanism will stay in place until all benchmarks have been satisfactorily fulfilled. More information on the reports issued within the framework of the Cooperation and Verification Mechanism is available here: http://ec.europa.eu/cvm/progress_reports_en.htm

Thank you once again for your views on the situation in Bulgaria.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a series of fluid, connected strokes. It starts with a long horizontal line on the left, followed by a loop that dips down and then rises to cross the initial line. The signature ends with a long horizontal line on the right.