

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Cabinet of Vice-President Viviane Reding Commissioner for Justice, Fundamental Rights and Citizenship

Head of Cabinet

Brussels, 6 February 2012 MS/MSh/fm ares link(2012)3724

Dear Mr Kádár,

Thank you for your letter of 29 December 2011 addressed to Vice-President Viviane Reding containing alternative answers of three Hungarian non-governmental organisations to the questions raised in her letter to Minister Navracsics of 12 December 2011. Your letter disagrees with the official Hungarian reply of 16 December 2011 to the European Commission concerns in the area of judiciary and data protection also due to the context in which the analysed measures have been adopted.

As you are certainly aware, the European Commission decided on 17 January 2012 to launch three accelerated infringement proceedings against Hungary relating to the retirement age of judges and prosecutors, the independence of the data protection supervisory authority and of the national central bank. Vice-President Reding has also asked for further explanations concerning the independence of the judiciary.

This legal action of the European Commission reflects its special responsibility as guardian of the Treaties in order to ensure the full respect of European Union law by the Member States.

Thank you once again for your summary which has been useful in the European Commission assessment of the Hungarian developments against the norms of the Union.

Yours sincerely,

Martin SE

Mr András Kádár Co-chair Hungarian Helsinki Committee HU - 1242 Budapest; PO. Box 317

Annex: Press release of the European Commission (in English and Hungarian) of 17 January 2012

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