

Hungarian National Assembly
Chairman of the Committee on European Affairs
Zoltán Tessely
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H-1055 Budapest

Via email to: zoltan.tessely@parlament.hu

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Dear colleague,

We are deeply concerned about the first three weeks of the Hungarian Presidency of the council of the EU, as fundamental principles are disregarded. The EU Presidency's role is to coordinate and mediate between European governments and their interests for the common good. Instead of building bridges, the Hungarian Prime minister used the first days of the Presidency to provoke European partners by putting his own interests over a European consensus.

The Presidency of the council of the EU has no official role in foreign policy. European foreign policy is jointly decided by the governments of the member states. The EU treaties are clear, the European Union is represented abroad by the President of the European Council and the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy.

The solitary trips of the Hungarian Prime Minister to Moscow and Beijing were not only intrusive. The Hungarian Prime Minister is constantly weakening the position of the European Union and impeding peace for Ukraine. Publicly repeating the war objectives of the Russian president and calling it a "peace mission" is an unacceptable support of the aggressor. If Russia stops invading Ukraine, the war is over. We must act together as a union to reach that goal and to at the same time stop Russia's continuing hybrid operations directed against the EU.

If the Hungarian government keeps trolling its European partners, it will on the long run harm their own national interests. European governments will lose the believe that the aims of the Hungarian government are in line with any European interest. This will massively hurt the objectives of the Hungarian EU presidency.

The Presidency of the council of the EU must be constructive and respect the European treaties. You have our full support demanding the Hungarian government to act according to these basic principles. We do need a fully functioning European Union to face the big challenges ahead of us.

Kind regards,



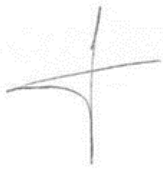
Heikki Autto, Chairman of the European Union Affairs committee of the Parliament of Finland



Anton Hofreiter, Chairman of the European Union Affairs committee of the German Bundestag



Liisa-Ly Pakosta, Chairman of the European Union Affairs Committee of the Parliament of Estonia



Žygimantas Pavilionis, Chairman of the European Affairs Committee of the Lithuanian Seimas



Edmunds Cepuritis, Chairman of the European Affairs Committee of the Parliament of Latvia



Gusty Graas, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign and European Affairs of the Chambre des Députés of Luxembourg