

Dear President Metsola,

We, the undersigned Members of the European Parliament, are writing to you today to take action without a delay to launch a process, in line with Rule 89(1)(b) of the Rules of Procedure, **to vote on a proposal calling on the Commission or the Member States to submit a proposal under Article 7(2) of the Treaty on European Union on Hungary.**

Starting the process under Article 7(2) TEU marks the first step to determine **the existence of a serious and persistent breach of EU values.** Upon confirming such a breach, it enables the Member States to proceed to the second step under the Article 7(3) TEU, potentially resulting in the **suspension of specific membership rights of Hungary, including voting rights in the Council.**

We believe that this action is necessary to protect the values of the European Union, which are enshrined in the Treaty on European Union. Hungary has been repeatedly criticized for its erosion of the Rule of Law, and especially after Hungary's actions to disrupt the decision-making of the Member States in the December EUCO, **we believe that the time has come for the European Parliament to take action.**

Our main task is to protect the European way of life and democracy. As a result, the European Parliament has a longstanding and proud history of defending the Rule of Law. We have been at the forefront of institutions advocating for the implementation of the Article 7(1) TEU procedure, ongoing since 2018, which has already identified a clear risk of a serious breach of EU values in Hungary.

We have also strongly supported the work of the European Commission, particularly in the context of the Conditionality Regulation, and the Court of Justice of the European Union. Both entities have played crucial roles in upholding the Rule of Law in the European Union.

In launching the Article 7(2) TEU procedure against Hungary, the European Union would be sending a clear message to Hungary that its actions are unacceptable. It would also be sending a message to all Member States that the European Union will not tolerate any backsliding on the Rule of Law or disrupting the principle of sincere cooperation, as enshrined in the Treaties.

We believe that launching the Article 7(2) and 7(3) TEU procedures is the only way to protect the values of the European Union and ensure the functioning of decision-making processes in the European Union.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

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