



**EUROPEAN COMMISSION**  
NEIGHBOURHOOD AND ENLARGEMENT NEGOTIATIONS

C - Neighbourhood East and Institution Building  
C.2 - Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus & Eastern Partnership Coordination

Brussels  
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Dear

Thank you for your recent email to President Ursula von der Leyen on the European Union's policies towards Belarus. I have been asked to reply on her behalf.

Since the falsification of the 2020 presidential election in Belarus, and more recently in the wake of the military aggression against Ukraine, in which the involvement of the Lukashenka regime is clear, the European Union has been united in its response to the actions of the Belarusian authorities.

In doing so, we have been clear in our distinction between the government of Belarus and the Belarusian people. While individuals and entities linked to the Lukashenka regime have been targeted with a series of severe economic sanctions, the EU has, in parallel, dramatically scaled up our direct assistance to the people of Belarus.

Since August 2020, we have mobilised close to 65 million euro to assist Belarusian civil society, independent media, healthcare sector, youth, small and medium sized businesses and cultural actors. Moreover, last year President Ursula von der Leyen announced a 3 billion euro comprehensive plan of economic support to a future democratic Belarus, designed to stabilise the Belarusian economy, unlock growth potential, create jobs, and democratise the country's institutions, on condition that the democratic transition takes place.

The EU stands with the people of Belarus, and will continue to do so.

Yours sincerely,

David CULLEN  
Head of Unit

