

Věra Jourová

European Commission Vice-President
for Values and Transparency

Brussels, 7 October 2020

Dear Vice-President Jourová, dear Věra,

Subject: Messages of support from the liberal family

I am writing to you to express the full support of the liberal community following the attacks made by Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orbán and his government in the past days. Let me also take this opportunity to call on the European Commission to take strong action, including the implementation of a regime of conditionality, and address the severe deterioration of the rule of law and freedom of speech in Hungary.

Last week, we were appalled by the letter calling for your resignation sent to European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen. This letter represents a roll back to decades of progress for our hard-won European freedoms and adds up to Orbán's several attacks to liberal democracies.

Liberal democracy and the rule of law are the backbone for an open and prosperous Europe, and we believe that in your role as Vice-President of Values and Transparency you are a guardian and defender of these principles.

With this letter I want to draw your attention to hundreds of people from our liberal community that have sent messages condemning these attacks and showing their support to you and your work.

The ALDE family reiterates our full support to you and your fight to defend the rule of law and freedom of speech across Europe.

As you said, in a democracy, actions can never be put above criticism!

Us, Liberals, we will not tolerate any kind of political attack towards our Commissioners for their actions in the defence of freedom, democracy and liberal values. We will always stand up for the rule of law in Europe.

Yours sincerely,
Hans van Baalen
ALDE Party President



EWA ALUMNAE STAND IN SOLIDARITY WITH COMMISSIONER JOUROVÁ

The alumnae of the European Women's Academy (EWA) have signed a letter in solidarity with European Commission Vice-President and Commissioner Věra Jourová. The EWA aims to promote gender equality in politics and decision-making across Europe by empowering and supporting women that want to be active in liberal politics. EWA is the leading network of its kind in Europe, and is a partnership between the ALDE party, The European Liberal Forum (ELF) and the Friedrich Naumann Foundation (FNF).

We, the European Women's Academy alumnae, wish to express our solidarity with our colleague and ally Commissioner Věra Jourová and join with her in standing up for rule of law in Europe.

Unfortunately, there are too few female voices in leadership across the EU, and Commissioner Jourová's courage in calling out those who seek to undermine hard-won democratic progress show why their voices matter. We say to those feigning outrage at a powerful woman who stands for democratic values: get used to it.

The EWA Alumnae Advisory Board:

Eva De Bleeker (Belgium, Open VLD)
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Stina Wahlsten (Finland, Swedish People's Party)

MESSAGES OF SUPPORT FROM CITIZENS

Věra Jurová has my full support and that of the Alliance Party in standing against the Orbán regime and defending democracy in Hungary and throughout Europe.

Naomi Long,
Northern Ireland, United Kingdom

Dear Mrs. Jurová, I fully support your efforts to restore rule of law in countries such as Hungary, Poland or Romania. European Union is not only about money and subsidies. All the member states must obey the Treaties and share common values. Please do not move out from your path!

Dariusz Wilczek, Czech Republic

The Rule of Law is fundamental to a healthy Democracy. Vice-President Jurova is absolutely right to draw attention to those who threaten the Rule of Law. I fully support her actions and those of the EU in condemning those who undermine Democracy.

Krzysztof Stankiewicz, Poland

Dear Jurová, Persons like you are the last shield of democracy in our continent. You are protecting the rights of our Hungarian brothers so you will always have the support of all the liberals across Europe. We all stand with you!

Sergi Aresté, Spain

A strong lady who knows what she talks about. She lived through the times of the communist dictatorship and stands up and defends freedom and rule of law every single day! Good luck to Vera Jurova! We stand with you.

Daniel Tanahatov, The Netherlands

I stand together with you, Commissioner, in upholding EU democratic values and the rule of law. Keep strong!

Sebastião Barros Vale, Portugal

Europe stands for the rule of law, democracy, freedom of speech and religion, equality of men and women, freedom of sexual preference and human rights!. Who does not recognise and respect these values,, shouldn't be part of the EU. As a former Vice-President of the European Parliament and as a Liberal, I fully support Vice-President.

Elly Plooij- van Gorsel,
The Netherlands

I fully stand with you Vera and your fight to defend Rule of Law across Europe. We, Europeans, need to protect our democracies against nationalists Orbán and Kaczyński.

Tomasz Rodak, Ireland

The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing'. Thank you for standing up to autocracy!

Nicholas Rossis, Greece

I stand with Vera Jurova, in full support of the EU's rule of law and liberal democracy. Because of the rule of law, all EU countries are held accountable for their actions towards and against the people they serve; we need to maintain this in these difficult times. You are not alone!

Christine Webb, Belgium



YOUR CITIZENS' SUPPORTS

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Adam Lovastyik
Agnes Vojnar
Agnieszka Jachowicz
Alan Sherwell
Alberto Pegoraro
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