



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
Directorate-General Enlargement

C - ALBANIA, BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA, SERBIA, KOSOVO ISSUES
C.2 – SERBIA
HEAD OF UNIT

Brussels, **21 02, 2013**
ELARG C2/MF/AW/bn/

Dear Mr Petrovic,

Thank you for your latest message to the Commission drawing our attention on the application of rule of law in Serbia.

I would kindly refer you to my reply of 5 October 2012 in response to the messages of 3 and 24 September 2012 you sent to the Commission. As you know, the European Commission cannot interfere in individual cases that fall under the competences of national authorities. We do nonetheless appreciate the information shared with us as it helps to better assess the situation on the ground.

Yours sincerely,

Myriam Ferran

Miroslav Petrovic
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The Head of Unit

Brussels, **05 OCT. 2012**
C2/MF/BJG/bn/ D(2012)

Dear Mr Petrovic,

Thank you for your e-mails of 3 and 24 September 2012 to Commissioner Füle forwarding him your association's critical assessment of both alleged conflicts of interest of members of the working group set in place for drafting the Bill on Protection of Whistle-blowers, under EU Member States funding, and the Serbian anti-corruption Agency's report on "forms, causes and risks of corruption in the healthcare system". Commissioner Füle has asked me to reply to your messages.

Let me point out that the respect for the rule of law is a crucial element on Serbia's way towards Europe. The European Commission regularly underlines its importance and urges Serbia to take adequate measures. The development on the ground is monitored and results are published in the Commission's annual Progress Reports.

In this framework, the European Commission acknowledges that corruption remains prevalent in Serbia in many areas - and the health sector is among them. To tackle this issue, the Anti-corruption Agency's operations increased, mainly in the prevention field. Nonetheless, the European Commission is of the opinion that stronger political direction and more effective inter-agency coordination are indeed needed to significantly improve performance in combating corruption.

Let me assure you that the European Commission will continue to monitor the respect for the rule of law in Serbia in general, and the fight against corruption in the health sector in particular, closely and stay in contact with the Serbian authorities in order to allow for tangible results on the ground.

Yours sincerely,

Myriam Ferran

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