



SG512/004302

EUROPEAN COUNCIL  
THE PRESIDENT

Brussels, 18 AVR. 2012

Dear President Medvedev,

*Dmitri*

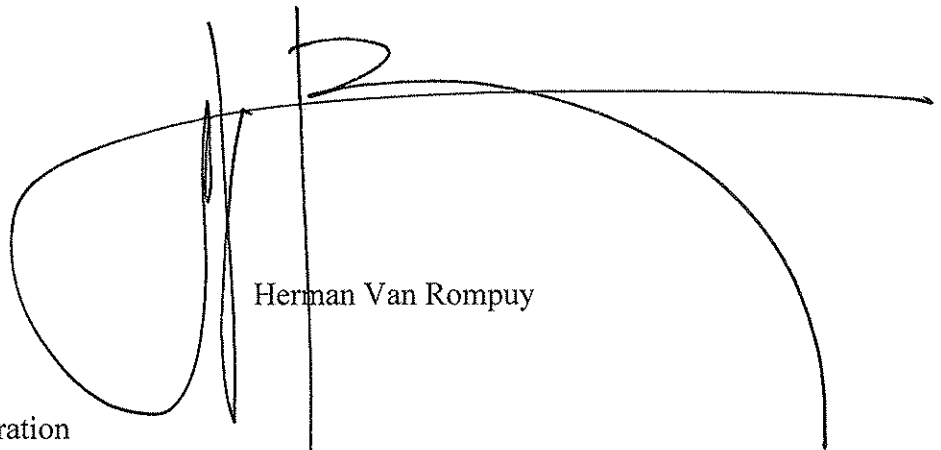
During your tenure as President of the Russian Federation, the rule of law, reform of the judiciary, and anti-corruption were given a particular emphasis in your overall modernisation agenda for Russia. We regularly discussed these issues at the EU-Russia summits, and your initiatives have shaped a number of developments.

In this respect, I would like to raise the case of Sergey Magnitsky. The EU welcomed your reaction immediately after Mr Magnitsky's death to call for a swift investigation. I have welcomed your decision to ask the Presidential Council for Human Rights and Civil Society to conduct an independent investigation into this matter. The Council's conclusions should further facilitate the conclusion of the official investigation, which is now expected for 24 April. However, the case remains broadly unresolved.

In addition, the re-opening of the criminal case against Sergey Magnitsky two years after his death in a posthumous prosecution, and the summoning of Mr Magnitsky's mother to testify in the case against her dead son, are sources of further concern.

Mr. President, the case of Mr Magnitsky has come to symbolise the state of the rule of law and judiciary in the Russian Federation for Russia's friends and observers abroad. Bringing this emblematic case to credible and thorough conclusion before the end of your term would be of symbolic relevance and send a very important signal for the future of Russia.

Yours sincerely,



Herman Van Rompuy

H.E. Mr Dmitri Medvedev  
President of the Russian Federation  
Moscow  
Russia