



PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE OF REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA

PROSECUTOR GENERAL

No. 2851/2020 – GP
Sofia, 17 September 2020

THROUGH
MR DIMITAR TSANCHEV
AMBASSADOR, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA
TO THE EUROPEAN UNION

TO
DEMOCRACY, RULE OF LAW AND
FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS MONITORING GROUP
OF THE LIBE COMMITTEE

Dear Committee Members,

With regard to your additional questions and in connection with the meeting held on 28 August 2020 on democracy, rule of law and fundamental rights in the Republic of Bulgaria, we would like to thank you for the opportunity to provide you with further information and to make relevant clarifications on the topics concerned.

As Mr Ivan Geshev, Prosecutor General of the Republic of Bulgaria, and Ms Kr. Filipova, Deputy Prosecutor General, are currently on leave, I, in my capacity as Deputy Prosecutor General deputising for the Prosecutor General, hereby inform you that the answers to questions 17 – 21 (within the remit of the Prosecutor's Office of Republic of Bulgaria) are now being prepared and will be provided to you together with detailed information within the period from 25 by 28 September 2020. Time is needed to process the large amount of information and the additional annexes in order to clarify in full the questions you have raised.

As regards the pending reply to question 17 concerning criminal charges brought against politicians and latter's 'political party affiliation' (whether to the government or to the opposition), it is necessary to carry out a further analysis of collected data per these criteria. Account should be taken that pursuant to the rules

for organisational and information activities of the Prosecutor's Office of Republic of Bulgaria, no data are in general processed on the criterion 'political affiliation of criminal offenders'. It should be also noted that the National Assembly of the Republic of Bulgaria includes representatives of political formations which are formally in the opposition but informally actually support the decisions of the ruling coalition. Despite these circumstances, we would like to assure you that we will endeavour to provide you with possibly most accurate information.

As regards question 22, which is addressed to the Deputy Minister of Justice and the Deputy Prosecutor General, please inform us, if you find it necessary, whether we should give a separate reply in view of the fact that the Prosecutor's Office of Republic of Bulgaria is a body within the judiciary (a part of the judiciary of the Republic of Bulgaria), or a joint reply with the Ministry of Justice, which is a part of the executive of the Republic of Bulgaria, account being taken of the constitutional principle of separation of powers.

In conclusion, we reiterate our appreciation of the opportunity to take part in this constructive dialogue with the European Parliament and the LIBE Committee, aimed at consolidating the rule of law in the Republic of Bulgaria. In this context, we will be pleased to establish and maintain continuing communication that we believe will contribute to ensuring the independence of the Bulgarian Prosecutor's Office.

FOR THE PROSECUTOR GENERAL

(based on Order No. RD-05-2932 of 14 September 2020)

DANIELA MASHEVA /SIGNATURE/

**DEPUTY PROSECUTOR GENERAL
WITH THE SUPREME
PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE OF CASSATION**