WRITTEN QUESTION E-5052/08 by Titus Corlăţean (PSE) to the Commission

Subject: Statements by European Commission officials concerning the appointment of chief prosecutors in Romania

Bearing in mind the statements made by the European Commission's spokesman concerning the legislative process initiated in the Romanian Parliament relating to the appointment of chief prosecutors – to the effect that there should be no change in the procedure for the appointment of the chief prosecutor for the National Anti-Corruption Department – can the European Commission state whether it is in favour of the adoption in Romania of legislative and institutional measures that eliminate political influence in legal matters or whether it wishes the imparting of justice to remain politicised?

Can the Commission specify whether it wants the representatives of executive political power (Minister for Justice and the President of Romania) to exercise leverage over the law, or whether the main prerogatives in the appointment of judges should fall to the Supreme Council of Judges?

Let us not forget that at the time the justice and home affairs chapter of Romania's accession to the EU was closed in 2004, senior judges were appointed by the Supreme Council of Judges on the basis of the law adopted in 2004 with the prior agreement of the European Commission of the time.

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