1. Ukraine has demonstrated the resilience of its institutions guaranteeing democracy, the rule of law and human rights. Since the Revolution of Dignity in 2014, Ukraine undertook judicial reforms to align the judicial system with the principles of the rule of law and to strengthen judicial independence and accountability. Whilst the implementation of reforms has been affected by the Russian war of aggression against Ukraine, the Ukrainian authorities showed remarkable stamina to advance on reforms. As mentioned in the previous reply regarding the detention of Mykhailo and Oleksandr Kononovych, the EU reiterates that in this case, as in all other cases, fundamental rights and due legal process need to be respected, with transparent and fair judicial rulings, in line with the rule of law and international commitments, including the European Convention on Human Rights.

2. The EU attaches the highest importance to the rule of law and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, which are at the core of the Association Agreement with Ukraine. The EU continues to convey messages to the Ukrainian authorities that fundamental rights and due legal process need to be respected, with transparent and fair judicial rulings, in line with the rule of law. At the same time, the EU remains committed to continue supporting Ukraine and its people in light of ongoing Russia’s unprovoked and unjustified aggression by providing military, financial, humanitarian and military support. In this sense, it is important to note that, as confirmed by the European External Action Service, Ukraine’s constitution and legislation enshrine the principles of democratic pluralism and multi-party political system, the rule of law and respect of fundamental rights and freedoms required for granting macro-financial assistance.