

Council of Europe
The Secretary General

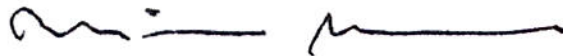
Strasbourg, 6 December 2010

Dear Ms Alexa,

Thank you very much for drawing my attention to the recent constitutional amendment relating to the powers of the Hungarian Constitutional Court. I am following developments in this area as they relate to the fundamental principle of respect for European democratic standards. I am also aware that there are plans for the adoption of an entirely new Constitution in your country. This would provide an opportunity to re-examine the issue of the jurisdiction of the Constitutional Court in a more comprehensive manner.

I have therefore written to the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Hungary, Mr Martonyi, asking him for more information about these plans. I encouraged him to make full use of Hungary's membership in the Council of Europe and of the expertise of the Venice Commission in this context.

Yours sincerely,



Thorbjørn Jagland

Ms Noémi Alexa
Executive Director
Transparency International
Rákóczi út 42
H-1072 Budapest
Hungary
E-mail: info@transparency.hu

Copy: Mr Balazs Dénes
Executive Director
Hungarian Civil Liberties Union

Mr Sándor Léderer
Director
K-Monitor

Mr András Kádár
Co-chair
Hungarian Helsinki Committee

Mr László Majtényi
Chair
Eötvös Károly Policy Institute

*F - 67075 Strasbourg Cedex
France*

*Tel. + 33 (0)3 88 41 20 51
+ 33 (0)3 88 41 20 00*

*Fax: + 33 (0)3 88 41 27 99
+ 33 (0)3 88 41 27 40*