



Charles Michel
President of the European Council

22 April 2021

Dear Mr. President,

Herewith, let me applaud your leadership and convey my sincere congratulations on your achieved result in enabling the Georgian political community to find a way out of political and democracy crises in Georgia. In my capacity as Co-President of the Euronest Parliamentary Assembly, I was also involved in the European Parliament efforts to find a solution for this crisis and was able to follow the success of your personal leadership from a close distance.

The responsibility for leadership you have assumed in the case of Georgia perfectly confirms the role EU needs to play as a strategic actor in its own neighbourhood. EU strategic responsibility for the Eastern Partnership region needs this type of personal engagement from EU leaders: flexible and with prompt reaction to the real needs of our Associated partner, helping the country to move beyond political deadlock and saving its European reforms agenda.

In the latest session of the Euronest Parliamentary Assembly, I had an opportunity to mark your engagement in the solution of Georgian political crisis with the following words: "In the Eastern Partnership region EU really needs to move from 'language of concerns' to 'Ch. Michel type of leadership'". This is exactly what the EU needs - the type of leadership you demonstrated - in different parts of the Eastern Partnership region.

Mr. President,

I hope that inspired by your success in resolving the Georgian crisis, you will consider taking the same leadership role inside of the EU in order to find a way forward to the "Belarusian crisis" solution.

We know very well that A. Lukashenka continues to suppress democratic Belarus by brutality, force and blunt abuses of human rights. Despite our knowledge of this, unfortunately, it is not very clear what we on the EU side are doing in order to support democratic Belarus. While A. Lukashenka decides to apply "Chernobyl of rule of law", as one Belarusian representative remarked during a discussion in the Euronest PA working group on Belarus, it is not enough for the EU to maintain the position of a "concerned, but inactive" witness of those brutalities.

Therefore, let me call for your leadership, building on your successful experience and political capital, to help find a way for a resolution of the "Belarusian crisis".

Sincerely,

Andrius Kubilius, MEP
Co-President of the Euronest Parliamentary Assembly

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Andrius Kubilius". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over the printed name and title.