



To:

**President of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen,
President of the European Council, Charles Michel**

18 February, 2021

Dear President Ursula von der Leyen,
Dear President Charles Michel,

We, the undersigned experts, politicians, public figures, human rights activists and members of the Russian opposition call upon the European Union's leadership to address the issue of Alexey Navalny's imprisonment with the utmost priority.

We urge you to seek for his unconditional and immediate release and the halt of police violence against Russian people attending peaceful protests all over the Russian Federation in support of Mr. Navalny.

The European human rights sanctions mechanism, the European Magnitsky Act, should be used to bring to account those responsible for human rights violations against Alexey Navalny, including assassination attempts, and against peaceful protesters.

Moreover, should Russian authorities fail to engage into genuine cooperation, targeted sanctions should be applied against individuals and companies responsible for the regime's policies of terror and human rights violations and against Kremlin's strategic projects benefiting Putin's regime, such as Nord Stream 2.

Sincerely,

Petras Auštrevičius, Member of the European Parliament, Lithuania

Raphaël Glucksmann, Member of the European Parliament, France

Radosław Sikorski, Member of the European Parliament, Poland

William Browder, Human Rights Activist, Global Magnitsky Justice Campaign

Vladimir Kara-Murza, Vice President, Free Russia Foundation

Edward Lucas, Writer, Author, Security Expert, CEPA

Michał Kamiński, Deputy Speaker of the Senate of the Republic of Poland

Žygimantas Pavilionis, Chairman of Foreign Affairs Committee, Parliament (Seimas) of the Republic of Lithuania

Rihards Kols, Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee, Parliament (Saeima) of the Republic of Latvia

Pavel Fischer, Chair of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, Security and Defense, Senate of the Czech Republic

Tom Tugendhat, Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee, the UK Parliament

Hans Wallmark, Deputy Chair of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, Member of the Swedish Parliament (Riksdag)

André Gattolin, Vice-Chair of the European Affairs Committee, Member of the French Senate

Vytautas Landsbergis, The First Head of State of the Republic of Lithuania

Valdas Adamkus, President of the Republic of Lithuania (1998-2003 and 2004-2009)

Toomas Hendrik Ilves, President of Estonia (2006-2016), Professor, Tartu University

Dalia Grybauskaitė, President of the Republic of Lithuania (2009-2019)

Jerzy Buzek, Former President of the European Parliament, Member of the European Parliament, Poland

Roberta Metsola, Vice-President of the European Parliament, Malta

Carl Bildt, Former Prime Minister of Sweden

Guy Verhofstadt, Member of the European Parliament, Former Prime Minister of Belgium

Andrius Kubilius, Member of the European Parliament, Former Prime Minister of the Republic of Lithuania

Andrus Ansip, Member of the European Parliament, Former Prime Minister of Estonia

Iveta Radičová, Former Prime Minister of Slovakia

Gediminas Kirkilas, Former Prime Minister of Lithuania

Vesna Pusić, Former Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of Croatia

Urmas Paet, Vice Chair of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, Member of the European Parliament, Estonia

Hans van Baalen, President, ALDE Party

Andrey Borisovich Zubov, Vice Chairman, People's Freedom Party (PARNAS), Russia

Mikhail Khodorkovsky, Founder, Open Russia

Lilia Shevtsova, Political Scientist, Liberal Mission Foundation, Russia

Garry Kasparov, Chairman, Human Rights Foundation (HRF)

Andrei Piontkovsky, Visiting Fellow, Hudson Institute

Natalia Arno, President, Free Russia Foundation

Oleh Sentsov, Film director, writer, ex-prisoner, Cry Cinema

Michael Abramowitz, President, Freedom House

David J. Kramer, Senior Fellow, Florida International University

Geir Hønneland, Secretary General, Norwegian Helsinki Committee

Alice Stollmeyer, Executive Director, Defend Democracy

Ivana Bacik, Senator, Oireachtas (Irish Parliament)

Gunnar Hökmark, Former Member of the European Parliament, Chairman of the Stockholm Free World Forum

Alan Mendoza, Executive Director, The Henry Jackson Society

Katarina Tracz, Director, Stockholm Free World Forum

Witold Waszczykowski, Member of the European Parliament, 1st Vice-Chair of AFET, Poland

Markéta Gregorová, Member of the European Parliament, Czechia

Eerik Niiles Kross, Member of the Estonian Parliament (Riigikogu), Delegate to PACE

Kerstin Lundgren, Member of the Swedish Parliament (Riksdag), Spokesperson in Foreign Affairs for the Center Party

Andrei Sannikov, Chairman, European Belarus Foundation

Brian Whitmore, Nonresident Senior Fellow, Atlantic Council

Emanuelis Zingeris, Member of Parliament (Seimas) of the Republic of Lithuania, Chairman of the Parliamentary Delegation to PACE

Joanna Kluzik-Rostkowska, Member of the Polish Parliament (Sejm), Former Minister of Labour and Minister of Education

Irwin Cotler, Former Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, Chair, Raoul Wallenberg Centre for Human

Laima Liucija Andrikienė, Member of Parliament (Seimas) of the Republic of Lithuania, Vice President of PACE, Former Member of the European Parliament

Joerg Forbrig, Director for Central and Eastern Europe, German Marshall Fund of the United States

Ronald Deibert, Director and Professor, The Citizen Lab, University of Toronto

Glanis Changachirere, Director, Institute for Young Women Development

Jakub Klepal, Executive Director, Forum 2000 Foundation

Bassma Kodmani, Member of the Syrian Constitutional Committee

Gina Romero, Executive Director, Latin American and Caribbean Network for Democracy

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Tamara Adrian, Member of the National Assembly of Venezuela

Andrea Ngombet, Founder, Incarner l'Espoir

Manuel Cuesta Morúa, Spokesperson, Progressive Arc, Cuba

Dr. Jianli Yang, Founder and President, Citizen Power Initiatives for China

Arch Puddington, Senior Scholar Emeritus, Freedom House

Alina Mungiu Pippidi, Professor, Democracy Chair, Hertie School of Governance, Berlin

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Agnieszka Holland, Film Director, EFA President, European Film Academy

Kornely Kakachia, Director, Georgian Institute of Politics

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Tutu Alicante, Executive Director, EG Justice

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Bart Groothuis, Member of the European Parliament, The Netherlands

Anna Fotyga, Member of the European Parliament, Poland

Zoltán Kész, Former Member of the Hungarian Parliament (Országgyűlés), Director of Operations, Civitas Institute

Leszek Jazdzewski, Editor-in-Chief, Liberte!

Thor Halvorsen, President, Human Rights Foundation (HRF)

Martin Palous, Senior Fellow, Florida International University
Ion Manole, Executive Director, Promo-LEX, Moldova
Gabriel C. Salvia, General Director, CADAL
Larry Diamond, Senior Fellow, Hoover Institution, Stanford University
Tomas Halik, President, Czech Christian Academy
Ivars Ijabs, Member of the European Parliament, Latvia
Lee Feinstein, Former US Ambassador to Poland
Ramona Strugariu, Member of the European Parliament, Romania
Anar Mammadli, Chairperson, Election Monitoring and Democracy Studies Center, Azerbaijan
Amb. Martin Bútora (ret.), Founder and Honorary President, Institute for Public Affairs, Bratislava, Slovakia
Enrique Krauze, Editor, Letras Libres Magazine
Thomas O. Melia, Washington Director, PEN America
Husain Haqqani, Senior Fellow, Hudson Institute
Francis Fukuyama, Senior Fellow, Center on Democracy, Development and the Rule of Law, Stanford University
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Michael Zantovsky, Executive Director, Vaclav Havel Library
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Kenneth Wollack, Chairman, National Endowment for Democracy
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André Vallini, Member of the French Senate
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Javier Nart, Member of the European Parliament, Spain

Robert Hannah, Member of the Swedish Parliament (Riksdag)
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Eric Bjornlund, President, Democracy International
Anders Åslund, Senior Fellow, Atlantic Council
Jan Lipavský, Member of the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic
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Idayat Hassan, Director, Centre for Democracy and Development
Adam Reichardt, Editor in Chief, New Eastern Europe
Eugene Czolij, President, NGO "Ukraine-2050"
Konstantin Eggert, Journalist
Susan Hawley, Director, Spotlight on Corruption
Helena Langšádlová, Member of the Chamber of Deputies of the Czech Republic
Marek Belka, Member of the European Parliament, Poland
David Lega, Member of the European Parliament, Sweden
Hampus Hagman, Member of the Swedish Parliament (Riksdag)
Pavel Žáček, Member of the Chamber of Deputies of the Czech Republic
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Ondřej Veselý, Member of the Chamber of Deputies of the Czech Republic
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