



MINISTRY OF EUROPEAN UNION AFFAIRS

Ref. number: EUM-MK/27/1/ (2025)

Ms. Hadja Lahbib,

European Commissioner for Equality;
Preparedness and Crisis Management

Brussels

Budapest, “ “ February 2025

Dear Madam Commissioner,

Serious allegations have emerged, suggesting that the previous United States administration used international development cooperation to further its political and ideological agenda in Member States of the European Union in violation of their sovereignty and the transparency of the electoral process.

In response, the new US administration has not only suspended such payments but also disclosed detailed records of past allocations, specifying recipients, amounts, and timing of disbursements from various United States government agencies. This move has brought greater transparency to programmes such as those administered by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). In fiscal year 2023 alone, the United States allocated \$72 billion through USAID programs, demonstrating the scale of its financial engagement in this area.

In this context, there have been repeated calls on the European Commission by former recipients and political actors to fill the financial gaps created by these measures.

The protection of national sovereignty, as well as Europe’s security and independence is of paramount importance. Ensuring full transparency in the allocation of funds is essential, as any doubts in this regard could further undermine trust in the European Union. We need to know the guiding principle behind allocating funds to NGOs.

I firmly believe that European citizens have the right to be continuously informed about the European Union's financial activities, particularly concerning support for beneficiaries, who previously received USAID funding.

I ask you to clarify and communicate publicly whether the Commission has received requests to take over the financing of projects previously supported by USAID. If so, what is the policy of the Commission when dealing with such initiatives? Is the Commission ready to communicate transparently any future decisions to take over the financing of previous USAID projects?

I trust that the European Commission will take all necessary measures to uphold the trust of European citizens by ensuring full transparency in this matter of crucial importance.

Yours Sincerely,

János Bóka

Minister of European Union Affairs

In copy:

Jozef Sikela Commissioner for International Partnerships