



**PRIME MINISTER**

**Madam Ursula von der Leyen**

President of the European Commission

Brussels

*Budapest, 18<sup>th</sup> March 2022*

Dear Madam President,

The war in Ukraine poses an unprecedented challenge to the Member States of the European Union. The security risks, the burden of the humanitarian crisis, the economic consequences of the conflict and the negative effects of EU sanctions are to a large extent borne by the countries protecting the European Union's eastern borders.

Extraordinary circumstances require extraordinary measures. Hungary is prepared and stands its ground in the crisis. We have received more than 450,000 people so far who have fled before the war and from the war. We provide humanitarian assistance to those who come to us and those in need in Transcarpathia. We have strengthened the protection of our eastern borders. We are doing all this in the name of humanity and for the peace and security of the European Union as a whole.

In crisis situations, the preservation of the unity of the European Union and the shared responsibility connecting the Member States are particularly important. To this end, Hungary only asks for immediate and effective access to EU funds allocated to it, and to be able to use them in a flexible way for the purposes best suited to dealing with the crisis.

I ask the Commission to approve, as a matter of urgency, the Recovery and Resilience Plans, Partnership Agreements and operational programmes of the Member States protecting the eastern borders of the European Union. I ask the

Commission to allow rapid, targeted and flexible use of EU budgetary resources by removing pre-financing, co-financing and transferability limits.

30% of the financial support available under the Recovery and Resilience Facility until the end of 2026 shall be reallocated by 30 June 2022 in the light of current economic growth indicators. The reallocation would entail a loss of resources for all Member States protecting the European Union's eastern borders, which could amount to up to 16% of the available grants for some Member States. This is unacceptable. I call for a review of the reallocation system and to ensure that those Member States that are bearing the brunt of the war crisis and at the same time making a significant contribution to the economic growth of the European Union do not lose EU resources.

In addition to the development needs outlined in its Recovery and Resilience Plan, and independently of its approval process, Hungary requests the immediate provision of the allocated loan facility under the Recovery and Resilience Facility for defence, border control, as well as humanitarian and other acute crisis management tasks. In the current circumstances, these are the most important areas for improvement in terms of strengthening our resilience. The European Union can only provide real and substantial help if it offers immediate and flexible funding for these purposes.

Yours sincerely,



ORBÁN Viktor



In copy:

- President and Members of the European Council
- President of the European Parliament