

**Viviane Reding**  
**Vice-President of the European Commission**  
**Justice, Fundamental Rights and Citizenship**

Budapest, 13 November 2013

**Dear Vice-President Reding,**

This year, a new European Data Protection Supervisor and Assistant Supervisor will be appointed by the European Parliament and the Council by common accord, as set out by Regulation (EC) No 45/2001.

We, the undersigned non-governmental organizations active in the field of data protection, freedom of information, and media freedom and other fundamental freedoms in Hungary, would hereby like to express our support for the candidacy of Dr András Jóri for EDPS/Assistant Supervisor.

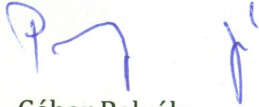
Dr Jóri, during his term of Data Protection and Freedom of Information Commissioner of Hungary, carried out his duties with professionalism and high integrity. This integrity, as well as his independence was proven by many initiatives supporting freedom of information and transparency, as well as those high-profile data protection investigations about data processing activities by the government during the years 2010-2011, which activities were abruptly and regrettably halted by the early termination of his mandate as Hungarian Data Protection Commissioner.

Dr Jóri is an engaged supporter of the Hungarian civil society and active actor of the Hungarian scientific discussion on the data protection and the freedom of information issues, as well.

We firmly believe, that this kind of independence and integrity would contribute to shaping European data protection policy in times when our privacy values are threatened by uncontrolled mass surveillance, and a new, strong European privacy regime is much needed.

On behalf of the signatories,

Sincerely yours



Gábor Polyák  
Mérték Media Monitor

István Hegedűs  
Hungarian Europe Society

András Kádár  
Hungarian Helsinki Committee

Sándor Léderer  
K-Monitor

József Péter Martin  
Transparency International Hungary

Máté Dániel Szabó  
Hungarian Civil Liberties Union

#### The Signers

*Hungarian Civil Liberties Union (HCLU)* is a law reform and legal defence public interest NGO in Hungary, working independently of political parties, the state or any of its institutions. HCLU's aim is to promote the case of fundamental rights and principles laid down by the Constitution of the Republic of Hungary and by international conventions.

*Hungarian Europe Society* as a non-governmental and non-partisan organisation, intends to be involved in the ongoing international dialogue on the future of liberal democracies. The core of its interest and activities - although not exclusively - is the European Union and the Hungarian membership inside the Union. Its objective is to represent and promote the idea of a united Europe, and the European common values, in Hungary and abroad.

*Hungarian Helsinki Committee (HHC)* is an NGO founded in 1989. It monitors the enforcement in Hungary of human rights enshrined in international human rights instruments, provides legal defence to victims of human rights abuses by state authorities and informs the public about rights violations. The HHC strives to ensure that domestic legislation guarantee the consistent implementation of human rights norms. The HHC promotes legal education and training in fields relevant to its activities, both in Hungary and abroad. The HHC's main areas of activities are centred on non-discrimination, protecting the rights of asylum seekers and foreigners in need of international protection, as well as monitoring the human rights performance of law enforcement agencies and the judicial system. It particularly focuses on access to justice, the conditions of detention and the effective enforcement of the right to defence and equality before the law.

*Mérték Media Monitor*, founded in 2011, is a committed believer to European and international human rights standards and constitutional democracy. It has undertaken to review the implementation and impact of the Hungarian media laws adopted in 2010 and the resultant media policy measures; to contribute to the Hungarian and European discourse on freedom of expression and press freedom through its professionally grounded analyses and position papers; to promote the transparency of media policy decisions; and to ultimately exert pressure on media policy and regulatory decision-makers.

*Transparency International Hungary* is a politically independent civil society organization, part of the global TI coalition to combat corruption. TI Hungary is committed to mitigate corruption by promoting transparency and accountability in the public sector making processes as well decisions on allocation of public funds public by improving accessibility of public interest information and accountability of office holders. TI Hungary covers a wide range of activities, including public awareness raising, advocacy, education, legal assistance to victims of corruption and to reporting persons ('whistleblowers'), research into corruption and monitoring of public decision making as well as legislation.