

Brussels, 4th April

Dear Mr. Christian Wigand, Spokesperson for Rule of Law, Justice and Equality

I hope this message finds you well. During the press conference held on April 3, 2024, you stated, "only the parts of the report were published that fell into the scope of the request of the MEP." I would like to address and clarify this point given its significant deviation from the actual circumstances surrounding my request and the subsequent declassification of the report.

My request for information regarding Commissioner Vera Jourova's visit to Slovenia was comprehensive, explicitly covering: 1) the minutes of the meeting between Commissioner Jourova and the President of the Slovenian Constitutional Court, Matej Accetto; 2) all communication between the cabinets of the European Commission; and 3) all internal communication within Commissioner Jourova's cabinet related to her visit. This negates the premise that only selected parts of the report were relevant and requested.

Furthermore, the issue of the report's censorship, previously a topic of contention, has long been resolved, as the European Commission declassified the document over six months ago. The persistence of this narrative, both in your recent statements and those from last year, is perplexing and appears to reflect a lack of awareness regarding the process you publicly discussed. It prompts me to inform you that I have recently received over 100 pages of briefings for both days of Commissioner Jourova's visit. The only redacted information pertains to the third objective ("What we want from a meeting with Accetto") regarding the meeting with the President of the Slovenian Constitutional Court. The Commission justifies this omission on the grounds that it was not discussed, and its disclosure could hinder the EC's decision-making process and encourage self-censorship among officials.

Given the clear discrepancy between the actual scope of my request, the complete declassification of the report, and the statements made during the recent press conference, I kindly request an explanation for these remarks. The integrity of public discourse hinges on the maintenance of factual accuracy. I look forward to your prompt and detailed response.

With kind regards,
Dr. Milan Zver
Member of the European Parliament