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TIBOR NAVRACSICS

MEMBER OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

EDUCATION, CULTURE, YOUTH and SPORT

Brussels **30 MAI 2017**  
A(2017)1247258-1490859

Ms Barbara Spinelli MEP  
European Parliament  
60 rue Wiertz  
1047 Brussels

Dear Members of Parliament,  
Dear Professors,  
Distinguished members of society,

We would like to thank you for your letter whereby you express your concern regarding the conditions of academics in Turkey in light of recent dismissals from academic institutions in the country.

We share your concern about the critical events in Turkey, and are engaged in a continuous dialogue with the Turkish authorities to ensure compliance with Turkey's obligations. The European Commission and the European External Action Service continue to closely monitor the measures taken by the Turkish government since the coup attempt in July 2016. As a participating State to the Council of Europe and as a candidate country of the European Union, Turkey is expected to observe the highest standards in respecting the rule of law and fundamental rights, including freedom of expression and academic freedom.

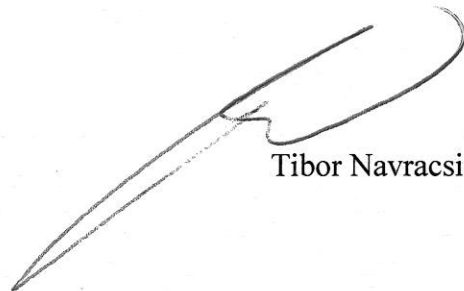
We appreciate your proposal to establish a fund to preserve Turkish intellectual and cultural life. The Commission is examining ways to support initiatives supplying Turkish academics and a thriving academic life.

We will keep you informed of any such advancement addressing your concerns.

Yours sincerely,



Federica Mogherini



Tibor Navracsics