

## COMMISSIE-REGELING VAN WERKZAAMHEDEN EUROPESE ZAKEN

Donderdag 3 april 2025, bij aanvang procedurevergadering 10:30 uur

het lid VAN HOUWELINGEN (FVD), verzoekt om namens de commissie een brief te sturen naar de Roemeense regering. De tekstvoorstel is als volgt:

*Dear Sir,*

*I am writing to you on behalf of the House of Representatives of the Netherlands to express our deepest concern at the cancellation of last year's presidential elections in Romania and at the Central Electoral Bureau's decision to prevent Calin Georgescu from standing, he having come first in the first round in November. Similarly, Diana Sosoaca has also been prevented from standing for what appear to be politically motivated reasons, not judicially based ones.*

*Free elections are the very basis of democracy and a core right according to both Article 3 of the 1<sup>st</sup> protocol of the European Convention for the Protection of Fundamental Rights and Freedoms and Article 25 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. To prevent candidates from standing, and to cancel an election on spurious allegations of foreign interference, which have since been shown to be untrue, is to prevent the 'free expression of the opinion of the people' guaranteed by both these treaties, as well as by Article 21 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.*

*The European Union is founded on the principles of respect for human rights, democracy, and the rule of law. These values are enshrined in the Treaty on European Union and the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union. By restricting the rights of the electorate to choose the candidate it wants, these basic rights are clearly violated and democracy undermined. By violating Europe's core rights, Romania is jeopardizing the unity and integrity of the Union.*

*The House of Representatives of the Netherlands is convinced that the protection and promotion of the rights of all citizens, regardless of their political orientation or identity, is crucial for a democratic and just society. We therefore urge you reinstate these two candidates for the forthcoming poll.*

*We stand in solidarity with the now disenfranchised electorate in Romania and will continue to support their struggle for equality and justice. We hope that the Romanian government will align itself with international norms and values and take steps to guarantee the rights of all citizens.*

*Yours sincerely,*