



EUROPÄISCHES PARLAMENT

Gerald HÄFNER

Mitglied des Europäischen Parlamentes

Mrs. Monica Luisa Macovei, MEP
ASP05F155, European Parliament

Brussels, 27 November 2012

Dear Mrs Macovei,

I got informed by our colleague and Vice-president Mr Rainer Wieland about the heavy accusations and false information that were given to and later published in Romanian newspapers about you and about the work of the “ethical committee” of this parliament. On the basis of the information that was provided to me by Vice-president Wieland I examined the case.

The “ethical committee” that is mentioned in different press articles and that was mentioned by our colleague Cătălin Ivan can only mean the advisory board on the conduct of members of the European parliament. There is no other committee in this house that deals with the conduct of our honourable members.

For the advisory board on the conduct I can say that, until this day, there have been no accusations against you, that the board dealt, deals or will deal with. So the claim that this committee would “analyze” or “investigate” your case is completely untrue.

But not only this: Also the further insinuations, published by a number of Romanian newspapers and made or repeated by MEP Cătălin Ivan in a press conference about possible results of this “investigation” are entirely unsubstantiated. Namely, it is not true that you “probably” will “get off easily” and “not be suspended from the European parliament”! When there is no claim, there cannot be any examination. And when there is no examination, there can be no probable outcome – especially no sanction. So everything that has been said about such proceeding against you within the “ethical committee” of the European parliament, is false information, false accusation and unacceptable.

I therefore wrote a letter to the chair and to all other members of the advisory board.

On the basis of this letter we discussed the issue in our meeting today. Please, understand that this was not a formal topic of today’s committee meeting – since there

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is no case. Therefore, the discussion took a place before we entered into our ordinary agenda.

I informed the advisory board that false informations by any member of this parliament about the work in our committees are unacceptable and that the advisory board should clarify the case in order to protect the truth, the impartial character and proceedings of our advisory board and also in order to protect you against false and inappropriate accusations.

The advisory board unanimously took the same stance on the issue. Therefore, we decided to write a letter to Mr Cătălin Ivan and to you that clarifies the issue and makes clear what is correct and what is not.

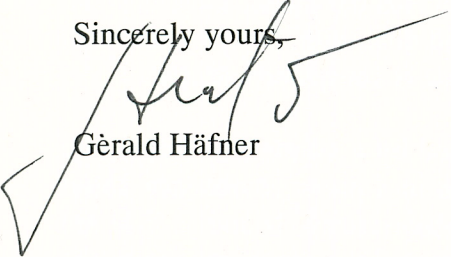
And we will also write a letter that will be distributed to the Romanian media that published this information by our office in Bucarest, clarifying the case and, by doing that, defending you, your reputation and your integrity against accusations that were spread by these media without any examination or inquiry.

I hope that this will help you.

I feel extremely sorry for what happened. I know that it is always very difficult to defend oneself against wrong accusations. I personally and the advisory board did what was in our possibility to clarify the case and to help you to defend yourself against these wrong accusations.

The advisory board will not accept being used by members of this house for personal or political quarrels against other members or third party persons. We work confidentially, non-partisan, and unerring in the basis of the code of conduct of this house, the European Parliament.

Sincerely yours,



Gerald Häfner