

To the kind attention of:

Mr Mircea Dan Geoană,
Speaker of Romania's Senate

Mrs Roberta Alma Anastase,
Speaker of Romania's Chamber of Deputies

Mr Toader Mircea-Nicu,
Parliamentary Group leader of the Democrat-Liberal Party in the Chamber of Deputies

Mr Mircea Dușa,
Parliamentary Group leader of the Political Alliance of the Social Democratic Party
and the Conservative Party in the Chamber of Deputies

Mr Popescu-Tăriceanu Călin Constantin Anton,
Parliamentary Group leader of the National Liberal Party in the Chamber of Deputies

Mr Olosz Gergely,
Parliamentary Group leader of the Democratic Alliance of Hungarians in Romania in
the Chamber of Deputies

Mr Pambuccian Varujan,
Parliamentary Group leader of the national minorities in the Chamber of Deputies

Mr Cristian Rădulescu,
Parliamentary Group leader of the Democrat-Liberal Party in the Senate

Mr Sârbu Ilie,
Parliamentary Group leader of the Political Alliance of the Social Democratic Party
and the Conservative Party in the Senate

Mr Hașotti Puiu,
Parliamentary Group leader of the National Liberal Party in the Senate

Mr Fekete Szabó Andras Levente,
Parliamentary Group leader of the Democratic Alliance of Hungarians in Romania in
the Senate



Brussels, 12th of October 2010

To Mr Mircea Geoana,
Speaker of the Senate in the Romanian Parliament

Dear Speaker ,

The European Parliament noted with concern the submission to Romania's National Parliament of the National Defence Strategy, which in *Article 6. Vulnerabilities, paragraph no. 10*, includes mass-media as a threat to the Romanian State. The European Parliament recognizes the sovereign right of National Parliaments to enact laws; however, it recalls the obligation of Member States to adopt laws that do not contravene the values and legal provisions of the European Union.

We believe that the inclusion of mass-media as a vulnerability within the National Defence Strategy is not only undemocratic, but it also represents a violation of article 11 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights, article 10 of the European Convention on Human Rights and article 6 of the Treaty on the European Union.

As it is well known, all the progress reports and all country reports adopted by the European Parliament during the negotiations for the accession to the European Union, referred to the mass-media situation in Romania and to the need to guarantee its freedom. It is extremely surprising to note that such an undemocratic approach takes place in a European Union Member State, in the year 2010.

We strongly believe that it is in the interest of the proper functioning of democratic institutions that the rights and freedoms of mass-media are respected and guaranteed in your country, as they are defined in the fundamental documents of the Union. We

also acknowledge that it is in your country's interest to strengthen its credibility in the European Union.

That is why we, the signatories of this letter, representing different political groups but all committed to democracy, human rights and to the fundamental values of the European Union, ask you to reflect on the possibility of rejecting the mentioned article during the vote in the Romanian Parliament.

Being convinced that our message is understood correctly and that the Romanian Parliament will affirm its role as a fundamental democratic institution, please accept the expression of our highest consideration.



Martin Schulz

Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament



Guy Verhofstadt

Group of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe



Daniel Cohn-Bendit

Group of the Greens/ European Free Alliance