

Brussels

15, 01, 2024

Dear President,

Thank you for your letter of 7 December and for forwarding the joint declaration adopted at the twelfth meeting of the EU-Georgia Civil Society Platform held on 17 November 2023 in Brussels.

Following the recognition of the European perspective of Georgia by the European Council on 23-24 June 2022, the European Council decided to grant the status of candidate country to Georgia at its meeting on 14 December 2023.

The European Council also endorsed the Council conclusions on enlargement of 12 December 2023, which underline that aspiring members need to step up their reform efforts, notably in the area of rule of law, in line with the merit-based nature of the accession process.

Civil society plays a vital role in advancing and contributing to the reform process within the framework of the Association Agreement between the EU and Georgia, as well as in Georgia's European integration. I therefore welcome and appreciate the role that the Platform plays in this regard and encourage its further work and contributions.

Yours faithfully,

Charles MICHEL

Mr Oliver RÖPKE
President European Economic and Social Committee
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