

EUROPEAN EXTERNAL ACTION SERVICE



Head of Division
Eastern Partnership – Bilateral

DIRECTORATE Russia, Eastern Partnership, Central Asia
Regional Cooperation & OSCE

Brussels, 22 October 2015
EURCA.EAST.2 (2015) DS/vb 5016918

Dear Mr Sumar,

Thank you for your letters to HRVP Mogherini of 31 August and 6 October. I have been asked to reply. We have taken note of your observations and the petition sent to the President of the European Parliament. Concerning the problematic issues pertaining to booking an appointment to present the application for Schengen visas in the consulate of Poland in Minsk, I would like to inform you that the Commission has been monitoring this issue since December 2012 and took appropriate steps in this regard. Despite the challenging situation in Belarus, Poland made efforts and took necessary steps to improve the situation for visa applicants. The Commission will continue to monitor the situation.

We take good note of your additional concerns and observations and assure you that the course of EU-Belarus relations will not be unduly affected. The running of EU programmes that support democracy, the rule of law, civil society, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms in third countries enables equal application to all our civil society partners. These mechanisms are well established to support and promote the shared values of all EU Member States.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dirk Schuebel'.

Dirk Schuebel

Mr. Andrei Sumar
Centre d'accueil "Les Fourches"
Les Fourches
B-6887 Herbeumont

e-mail: renesans.sumar@gmail.com