

# **Joint Letter on the EU accession process for Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova**

To:

**Hadja Lahbib**

Minister of Foreign Affairs, European Affairs  
and Foreign Trade and the Federal Cultural  
Institutions  
Belgian Presidency

*5th June 2024*

Dear Minister, Dear Hadja,

We highly appreciate the steps that the Belgian Presidency of the Council of the EU is taking in advancing the EU accession process for Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova. Reflecting the outcomes of the debate at the COREPER II meeting of 29 May, we fully support your efforts and are pleased to see the progress being made.

As agreed by our leaders and based on the Conclusions of the March 2024 European Council, the Council was invited to swiftly adopt the negotiating frameworks for Ukraine and Moldova and advance the work without delay. By agreeing to these negotiating frameworks and convening Intergovernmental Conferences, we will de facto and de jure open the accession negotiations with both countries.

Opening the accession negotiations would bring additional motivation to both Ukraine and Moldova. Given the dire situation on the ground in Ukraine and the upcoming presidential elections and EU referendum in Moldova, this would boost morale and further the work on reforms in these countries.

In light of the results achieved and the ongoing reform efforts in both Ukraine and Moldova, which the Commission has previously reported on, we believe that now is the time to move forward. Furthermore, to continue the credible enlargement process, the EU should provide tangible benefits for the populations of the respective countries. This can be achieved by the gradual integration of Ukraine and Moldova into the European Union, through phasing into individual EU policies and programmes before full membership in the EU.

Therefore, we jointly call for the adoption of the negotiating frameworks for Ukraine and Moldova by the General Affairs Council in June at the latest, in order to convene Intergovernmental Conferences with both countries by the end of June 2024.

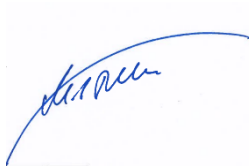
Yours sincerely,



**Martin Dvořák**  
Minister for European Affairs  
Czechia



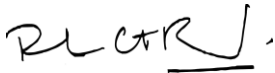
**Jessika Roswall**  
Minister for EU Affairs  
Sweden



**Margus Tsahkna**  
Minister of Foreign Affairs  
Estonia



**Anders Adlercreutz**  
Minister for European Affairs  
and Ownership Steering  
Finland



**Paulo Rangel**  
Minister of State and Foreign Affairs  
Portugal



**Baiba Braže**  
Minister for Foreign Affairs  
Latvia



**Adam Szlapka**

Minister for the European Union

Poland



**Simonas Šatūnas**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Lithuania

Vice-Minister



**Anna Lührmann**

Minister of State for Europe and Climate

Germany



**Marko Štucin**

State Secretary for European Affairs

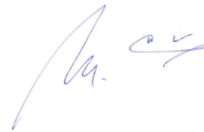
Slovenia



**Daniela Gîțman**

Secretary of State for European Affairs

Romania



**Marek Eštok**

State Secretary for EU Affairs

Slovakia