



Brussels, 07 May 2018

Dear President Tajani,

As you might be well aware, last week Russian authorities have announced that Mr. Bronis Ropė, Greens / EFA member of the European Parliament, has been declared persona non grata in Russia and will be refused entry to this country for next five years.

We would like to draw your attention to the fact that neither MEP Ropė, nor the Lithuanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs were informed about the reasons behind such an act of the Russian Federation authorities, other than rather vague and unreasoned public statement of “being among Lithuanians, most hostile towards Russia”. This action however is not the first case where members of this house and of our own group are declared personae non grata by the authorities of Russia.

We would therefore like to express our deepest concern over the fact that members of this house could be, without appropriate justification, refused entrance to the territory of the Russian Federation, a neighbouring state with which the European Union is looking forward to renew a partnership and cooperation agreement and with which it is implementing a plethora of cooperation programmes.



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in the European Parliament

We would like to ask you to raise this matter with the relevant Russian authorities and inquire about the reasoning that lies behind the decision on sanctions towards MEP Ropè.

We would also like to draw your attention to the fact that several years ago, in reaction to similar actions of Russian authorities towards members of this house, strict measures were taken including restricting access to the premises of the Parliament for officials of the Russian Federation, as well as limiting then existing cooperation formats.

We thank you in advance for your efforts.

Kind regards,

Ska Keller

Philippe Lamberts

Co-Presidents
Greens/EFA Group in the European Parliament