



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MIGRATION AND HOME AFFAIRS

Directorate D – Internal Security  
**D.5 – Organised Crime, Drugs & Corruption**

Brussels  
HOME.D.5/AA

Dear Mr. Lazar, Mr. Stolnici, Mr. Hotoboc, Mr. Anghel, Mr. Ilea,

Thank you for your letter dated 14 July 2021 addressed to Ms. Ursula von der Leyen, the President of the European Commission, and Ms. Ylva Johansson, the Commissioner for Home Affairs, in which you express concern over the drug situation in Romania, including during the COVID-19 pandemic, and over national support and application of the national drugs strategy in Romania. President von der Leyen has asked me to reply for the European Commission.

The European Union (EU) has the role to complement the Member States' action in the area of drugs policy with supporting competences. Therefore, it is within the competence of Member States to develop and adopt national drug policies, as well as the extent to which these are implemented, monitored and evaluated. In this context, the EU may support, coordinate or supplement national actions and does not have power to interfere with Member States' role in this area, including over how national drugs policy is financed.

As part of EU supporting efforts in the field of drugs, the European Commission is taking strategic and operational measures to reduce drug supply and demand by working closely with all partners at national and international level, EU institutions, bodies and agencies, as well as civil society organisations. The EU Drugs Strategy 2021-2025<sup>1</sup>, enables coordination of evidence-based, balanced, integrated and multidisciplinary measures with EU Member States and highlights the importance that civil society plays in improving the drugs situation. Law enforcement action against drug trafficking is coordinated through EMPACT. Drugs-related health damage is addressed under prevention, treatment and care services and harm reduction.

Financial instruments, which addressed EU policy objectives relevant to illicit drugs, notably on harm reduction, prevention and supply reduction, in the 2014-2020 programming period included the Internal Security Fund Police, the Justice Programme and the Health Programme. In the 2021-2027 programming period, relevant measures are intended to be included notably in the thematic facility 2021-2022 of the Internal Security Fund. Furthermore, support to topics relevant to illicit drugs may be envisaged in the national programmes of EU Member States of programmes with a shared management component.

Yours faithfully,

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<sup>1</sup> OJ C 102I , 24.3.2021, p. 1–14.

Floriana SIPALA  
Head of Unit