

Member of the European Parliament

Bogusław LIBERADZKI
Krystyna LYBACKA
Janusz ZEMKE

Mr.
Michael O'FLAHERTY
Director of European Union Agency
for Fundamental Rights

Dear Mr. Director!

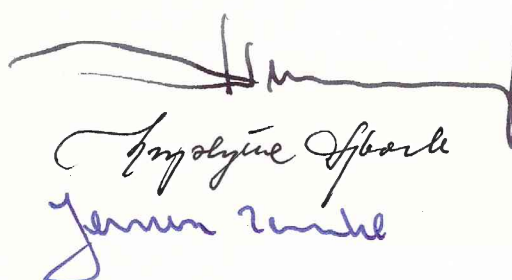
On February 28th 2018 at the request of the Federation of Associations of Uniformed Services of the Republic of Poland, we organised a conference in the European Parliament, entitled '*Repressions Against Retired Law Enforcement and Military Officers in Poland*'.

The conference was attended by 110 participants – including a group of 50 people from Poland representing the community of 57 thousand affected individuals bearing the consequences of the repressive legal act adopted in December 2016. Under its provisions, pension and retirement rights were retrieved from the officers and their families (widows, orphans) – regardless of the nature or course of their service, based solely on a standalone criterion, i.e. service – for as little as one day (*sic!*) before July 31st 1990 – in a particular formation or institution (civil included). This abridgment also applies to the officers who had been positively verified; meaning those, whose engagement with the Police and other services has been prolonged after 1990 by the democratically elected authorities. Such actions demonstrate in their nature a ruthless political retaliation, imposing collective responsibility upon the entire community, without allowing an independent court to determine any wrongdoing. This regulation is detached from the very principles of social justice. Moreover, it stands in contradiction to the fundamental constitutional rules and violates the universal human rights, particularly in terms of legal certainty and non-discrimination.

Apart from representatives of the European Institutions, numerous Members of the European Parliament participated in the conference, mainly from the LIBE, DROI, EMPL and JURI Committees. The attendees in question represented Austria, Bulgaria, Estonia, Greece, the Netherlands, Germany, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Sweden.

The participants of the conference have obliged us to address the European Commission on their behalf, with the aim of inserting the issue - of violation of fundamental rights of the EU citizens in Poland through imposing the collective responsibility – onto the European Commission's agenda for discussions with the Polish government, as one of the aspects of breach of the principles of a democratic State.

Sincerely,



Bogusław Liberadzki
Janusz Zemke

Brussels, 7 March 2018