



Ivan Bartoš

Deputy Prime Minister for Digitization and Minister of Regional Development

Date

4th June 2024

Ref. No

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Dear Minister,

Please allow me to express my sincere gratitude once again for the participation and your contribution at the informal ministerial meeting organized under the Czech Presidency of the V4 on the 14th of May 2024 in Prague. The perspective and opinion presented at the meeting play an indispensable role in shaping the future cohesion policy, and therefore, I deeply appreciate your presence.

I am firmly convinced that a prosperous and competitive European Union is a goal we all share. I also believe that cohesion policy is a successful tool to achieve this goal – the policy that will not only respect the needs of individual regions and citizens but also the one that is based on solid strategic foundations and democratic values.

Dear Minister, I am pleased to send you the joint declaration signed by 11 Member States (Bulgaria, Croatia, Czechia, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, and Slovenia). This declaration was also sent to the most relevant Commissioners (E. Ferriera, J. Hahn, P. Gentiloni, N. Schmit), and I strongly believe it will serve as an inspiration for ongoing discussions on the future direction of cohesion policy. I am convinced that the signed declaration is a clear signal that we are ready to collaborate on the meaningful and effective shaping of cohesion policy for the upcoming period.

In closing, I would like to express my best wishes to the forthcoming Polish V4 Presidency, and I have full confidence in our continuing cooperation towards our common objectives.

Your sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Bartoš".

Annex: Joint Declaration of Bulgaria, Croatia, Czechia, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, and Slovenia

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