## PROSECUTOR GENERAL OF HUNGARY

Our ref. number: NEUFIGA//105/2019

Ms. Ingeborg Gräßle Chair

**European Parliament Budgetary Control Committee** 

## **Brussels**

Dear Chair Gräßle,

Budapest, 19th February, 2019

Thank you for your letter inviting me to the meeting of the Budgetary Control Committee of the European Parliament to be held on March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019. According to the invitation the subject of the meeting shall be the discussion of issues concerning EPPO, organized crime, international criminal cooperation, as well as OLAF cases and the judicial recommendations made in those cases, just as we discussed these topics at our meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2017.

I am sorry to inform you that before receiving the invitation articles in the Hungarian press had been published about the invitation, as well as its content, alleging that the subject of the meeting shall be the discussion of issues relating to OLAF cases and the judicial recommendations made in those cases.

The Facebook comment of an EU Committee member which served as the base of the news articles and which gives the false impression that the Prosecutor General of Hungary has an obligation of representation or even more a reporting obligation towards the Committee, sets the invitation into a political dimension which can be associated with the campaign of the European Parliament election.

It must be noted that the Act on the Hungarian Constitution forbids the Hungarian Prosecution Service and every member of it to pursuit political activities, or take part in any political activities. Due to this, even the pretence should be avoided, that CONT-meeting with the presence of the Hungarian prosecutor general seems to be a political campaign event.

All things considered and taking into account the strict deadline and the lack of prior consultation I'm not able to accept your invitation. I'm still committed to the professional cooperation within the European Union, and obviously both the Hungarian Prosecution Service and myself will give all the necessary help to the Commission to fulfill its tasks. Sincerely yours

Dr. Péter POLT