



REPUBLIC OF SERBIA
PRESIDENT

Belgrade, 21 August 2025

Your Excellency, dear President von der Leyen,

Over the past nine months, Serbia has faced more than 23,000 unregistered gatherings. What began as student-led demonstrations has regrettably devolved into mass blockades and, most recently, violent incidents led by extremist groups. These actions have disrupted daily life, restricted freedom of movement, and created economic hardship for many of our citizens.

Throughout this period, the Serbian police have acted with maximum restraint, ensuring public peace while avoiding the systematic use of force. Nonetheless, as protest participation has diminished, certain opposition elements have escalated their tactics into organized violence, including attacks on police officers, public facilities, and private property. More than 170 police officers have been injured while fulfilling their duty to protect citizens — a responsibility that lies at the heart of every democratic state.

We are increasingly concerned by the spread of manipulated narratives and disinformation, which attempt to present violent incidents as peaceful demonstrations and legitimate law enforcement actions as repression. Some organizations, including certain media and NGOs, are unfortunately being drawn into political conflicts, often amplifying unverified allegations that serve to undermine institutions and erode public trust. This risks creating a distorted image of events in Serbia, both domestically and internationally.

A recent example is the case of Nikolina Sindjelić, introduced publicly as a “student protester.” In fact, she is an active member of an opposition party, and without medical documentation or evidence, she accused a senior police official of serious crimes. While these allegations were unfounded, their amplification across certain media channels created a harmful narrative that discredited state institutions and sought to delegitimize lawful public order efforts.

Madam President, Serbia remains fully committed to its European path, to democratic values, and to the rule of law. Our priority is dialogue, stability, and constructive engagement with our European partners. However, attempts to destabilize our country through violence and disinformation pose risks not only to Serbia, but also to the stability of the wider Western Balkans. These are fragile societies where such tactics could easily be replicated, undermining regional peace and the shared European project.

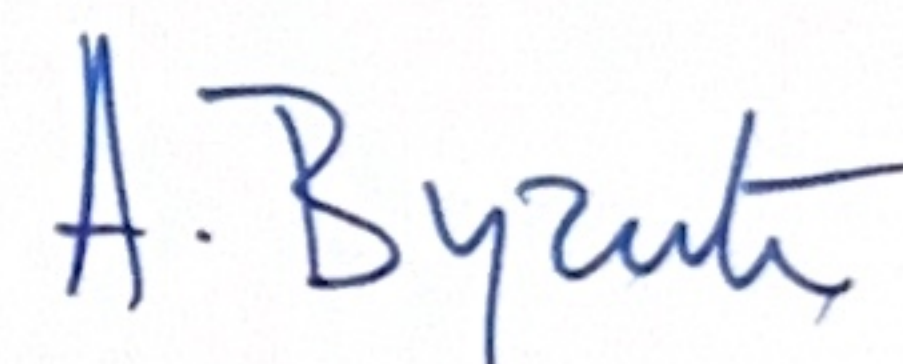
H.E. Ms. Ursula von der Leyen
President of the European Commission
Kingdom of Belgium
Brussels

We therefore appeal to our European partners to carefully consider these developments. Recognizing the challenges posed by the misuse of disinformation and politically instrumentalized narratives will help us jointly safeguard stability, democratic institutions, and citizens' rights — in Serbia and across our region.

Please find attached photo and video material (<https://youtu.be/hkB3m-qYX8k>) documenting the recent violent incidents, including attacks on police and property, as well as evidence of the organized nature of these actions.

With respect and appreciation for our ongoing partnership, please accept Your Excellency my cordial regards and the assurances of my highest consideration.

Aleksandar Vučić

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'A. Vučić', with a stylized flourish at the end.



“Students” at the protest





SNS party offices smashed and burned



