



Brussels,

Dear representatives of non-governmental organisations,

Thank you for your letter of 29 April 2021 concerning the coalmine in Turów, Poland, which you have addressed to the President of the European Commission and to the Executive Vice-President for the European Green Deal.

The President and the Executive Vice-President have asked me to reply on their behalf.

The Commission services are fully aware of the problems related to the operation of the Turów mine and the alleged transboundary consequences for the local population.

Over the last months, the Commission services have received several complaints, petitions and letters from the Czech, German and Polish citizens and organisations, both against and in favour of the operation of the mine.

In addition, Members of the European Parliament have addressed several parliamentary questions and letters on this matter to our attention.

Finally, on 30 September 2020, the Czech authorities lodged an interstate complaint under Article 259 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (“TFEU”).

In that context, the Commission has fully assumed its institutional role as a guardian of the Treaties. The Commission acted as honest broker in the interstate complaint procedure, encouraging the dialogue between the two Member States.

On 17 December 2020, the Commission issued a reasoned opinion under Article 259 TFEU and took a position on the potential infringements of EU law in this case<sup>1</sup>.

The case is now pending before the Court of Justice of the European Union, following the action brought by the Czech authorities on 26 February 2021.

In the light of the above, I would like to assure you that the Commission closely follows the developments of this case and understands to fulfil its institutional role under the Treaties.

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<sup>1</sup> See: [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP\\_20\\_2452](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_20_2452).

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours faithfully,

Aurel CIOBANU-DORDEA

Cc: Signatories of the letter:

Mr Jeremy Wates, European Environmental Bureau  
Ms Mahi Sideridou, Europe Beyond Coal  
Mr Kuba Gogolewski, Fundacja "Rozwój TAK – Odkrywki NIE"  
Mr Marcin Stoczkiewicz, ClientEarth  
Mr Pavel Franc, Frank Bold Society  
Ms Magda Stoczkiewicz, Greenpeace  
Ms Lucie Pinson, Reclaim Finance  
Mr Marcin Kowalczyk, WWF Poland  
Ms Anna Kárníková, Friends of the Earth Czech Republic  
Mr Felix Ekhardt, BUND Sachsen e.V., Germany  
Ms Anna Dziadek, Stowarzyszenie NIE kopalni odkrywkowej, Poland  
Mr Radosław Sawicki, Stowarzyszenie Ekologiczno-Kulturalne „Wspólna Ziemia”, Poland  
Ms Anna Kšírová, Doctors for Future, Czech Republic  
Ms Adéla Švandová, Fridays for Future, Czech Republic  
Ms Anna Kšírová, Rodiče za klima, Liberec  
Mr Josef Patočka, Re-set: platform for socio-ecological transformation  
Ms Nela Vachtarčíková, Čisté nebe o.p.s.  
Mr Mirek Patrik, Děti Země  
Mr Vlastimil Karlík, Arnika  
Ms Zeljka Leljak Gracin, Justice & Environment  
Mr Józef Drzazgowski, Stowarzyszenie Ekologiczne Eko-Przyjezierze  
Mr Milan Starec, citizen  
Mr Jiří Dlouhý, Chairman, Společnost pro trvale udržitelný život/Society for Sustainable Living  
Mr Martin Hyt'ha, NESEHNUTÍ, Czech Republic  
Mr Edvard Sequens, Calla -Sdružení pro záchranu prostředí / Calla -Association for Preservation of the Environment  
Ms Kveta Moravkova, ZO ČSOP Armillaria