

Budapest, 08 April 2013

Dear Madame Vice-President,

I have read your interview of 6 April 2013 in the Hungarian daily Népszava with great interest. Since you addressed a specific request to me via the press, allow me to reply publicly as well. In the interview you asked me to kindly check my mailbox suggesting that I overlooked your letter regarding the Bora Bora case. Though your statements are not scarce in factual mistakes lately, allow me to draw your kind attention to just three of them.

Firstly, I wrote to you regarding the Bora Bora case on 14 February 2013 and had not received any reply, which I eventually pointed out to you on 17 March 2013 in an open letter. Obviously it was exactly this incentive that finally provoked your response two days later, on 19 March 2013.

Secondly, it is also a matter of fact that I still have not received any reply from you to my letters of 13 November 2012 and 26 November 2012 regarding the Tobin case.

Thirdly, in your statements you have repeatedly implied that the decision of the European Court of Justice brought the contested retirement rules of judges into correlation with the question of independence of the judiciary in Hungary. However, in fact, the judgement of the European Court of Justice does not include any reference to the alleged lack of independence of the Hungarian judiciary instead it refers to "difference in treatment on grounds of age".

Madame, you asked me to check my mailbox. I ask you to check the facts.

Yours sincerely,

Tibor Navracsics

