



Member of the European Parliament

28th September 2011

Dear Commissioner Potočník,

We are writing with regards to the European Parliament's resolution of 5th May 2010 on a general ban on the use of cyanide mining technologies in the European Union.

As you know, the resolution, backed by a large majority of MEPs from all political groups, recognised the severe risks posed by the use of cyanide mining technologies and expressed grave concern over potential future accidents. The cross border nature of such threats was emphasised and, we believe, is central to the argument for EU-wide action. The European Parliament was unequivocal in its call on the European Commission to propose a complete ban on the use of cyanide mining technologies in the European Union before the end of 2011.

We are disappointed by the lack of response from the European Commission and believe that the effect of this has been to encourage the development of mining with cyanide in the European Union. In defiance of the European Parliament's resolution, which also called on the Member States not to support any such mining projects in the EU until a ban is introduced, the Romanian government now stands ready to approve a mining project in Rosia Montana, Romania, which would use cyanide technology and therefore represent a serious threat to the environment.

We are deeply concerned that, in the absence of a proposal for a ban by the European Commission, mining projects which pose significant environmental risks continue to be approved. We respectfully ask that you outline why the European Commission has not responded positively to the call from the European Parliament for a general ban on the use of cyanide mining technologies, and why, despite the cross-border nature of the associated environmental threats, the Commission has not proposed the appropriate EU-wide action which we believe is necessary.

We look forward to your reply,

Yours sincerely,

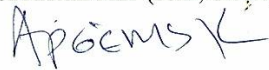
Daciana Sârbu MEP (S&D, Romania)



Janos Áder MEP (EPP, Hungary)



Kriton Arsenis MEP (S&D, Greece)



Linda McAvan MEP (S&D, UK)



Renate Weber MEP (ALDE, Romania)



Csaba Tabajdi MEP (S&D, Hungary)



Atajos Mészáros MEP (EPP Slovakia)



Michail Tremopoulos MEP (Greens, Greece)



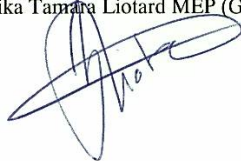
László Fokés MEP (EPP, Romania)



Nikolaos Chountis MEP (GUE/NGL, Greece)



Kartika Tamara Liotard MEP (GUE/NGL, Netherlands)





Member of the European Parliament

Anna Rosbach MEP (ECR, Denmark)

*Anna Rosbach*

Fiona Hall MEP (ALDE, UK)

*Fiona J. Hall*