



**Right of Reply  
Delegation of Hungary**

**Working Session 6: Fundamental freedoms I.  
HDIM, 22. September 2016.  
Warsaw**

First of all I would like to join the EU statement by thanking Mrs. Mijatovic's dedicated and tireless work in the field of media freedom.

In connection with the situation of media freedom in Hungary I would like to recall the following:

In 2011 the media legislation went through deep, structural reforms. The reason for that was that the previous regulation came from the middle of the nineteenth century thus it had to be modernized. After the new framework entered into force, the Hungarian authorities engaged in constructive dialogue with international actors, among others the CoE and OSCE. These negotiations resulted in concrete amendments to the media acts. Specifically on our work with the RFoM, we requested an inventory on the outstanding issues at the Basel Ministerial meeting. We have yet to receive them and will be happy to address them.

Without going into the details I would like to highlight one important aspect of the legislative framework: against all the decisions of the media authorities, supervision is possible by the independent judiciary. In recent times, several decisions had been made in which the court ruled against the authority. Finally, let me assure that, just like in the past the Hungarian Authorities are ready to address any concern in connection with media and freedom of speech.