



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR ENLARGEMENT AND EASTERN NEIGHBOURHOOD
B – Western Balkans
B.3 – Albania, North Macedonia

Brussels
ENEST.B.3/SB

Taulant Muka
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Subject: Open Letter on Education, Science, and Human Capital in Albania

Dear Dr. Muka,

Thank you for your email of 10 July 2026 and for sharing your open letter addressed to President von der Leyen, Commissioner Zaharieva and Commissioner Kos. We take note of the concerns and recommendations put forward by Albanian researchers, academics and professionals of the diaspora regarding education, science, innovation, academic integrity, human capital and Albania's European integration path.

The European Commission has taken note of the concerns raised in your letter, including the importance of the rule of law, accountable institutions, academic integrity, higher education autonomy, investment in research and innovation, and the engagement of the Albanian scientific diaspora.

As you most certainly know, Chapters 25 (Science and Research) and 26 (Education and Culture) have recently been closed in the Council as part of Albania's accession negotiation process. Let me clarify that while this is a very important milestone for Albania, the European Commission will continue to engage closely with Albania, in line with its long-standing commitment to supporting the country's reform agenda and European integration path, including through sustained attention to the strengthening of higher education, scientific research, innovation and human capital as key national priorities. In this context, the Commission will maintain its support for reforms in these areas as an integral part of the accession process and will continue to encourage greater investment in research, innovation and institutional capacity, in accordance with European standards, priorities and instruments.

We also note your call for a long-term approach that places knowledge, merit and human capital at the centre of Albania's democratic and economic development, as well as your readiness to contribute to this effort. In this context, your continued engagement remains valuable.

Thank you for conveying these views and for expressing your readiness to contribute to these efforts. Your correspondence and the points raised in the attached letter have been duly noted and shared with the relevant services.

Yours sincerely,

[e-signed]

Sigrid BRETTEL
Head of Unit

