



Brussels, April 19, 2018

Dear President Juncker,
Dear Commissioner Timmermans,
Dear Mr Magnier, Director of Creative Europe,

We take note of the letter sent by PEN International and endorsed by 250 international authors¹ expressing outrage at the behaviour of Jason Micallef, Chairman of Valletta 2018 Capital of Culture.

We share the outrage expressed in this letter. The vilification of investigative journalist Daphne Caruana Galizia, even after her assassination, and the calls for the clearing of the memorial in her tribute in Valletta and for banners demanding for justice to be removed are actions that we consider incompatible with those of an official that represents the European Capital of Culture.

It has been noted that merely hours after this PEN letter was published, Jason Micallef proceeded to continue with his outbursts on social media and ordered banners organised by Maltese civil society calling for justice to be removed.

We strongly condemn these undignified and unacceptable actions and call on the European Commission to demand Mr Micallef be immediately removed from the post of Chairman of Valletta 2018 Capital of Culture.

Sincerely,

David CASA (EPP)

Ana GOMES (S&D)

Maite PAGAZAURTUNDÚA (ALDE)

Ádám KÓSA

Alojz PETERLE

Angelika MLINAR

Antonio LÓPEZ-ISTÚRIZ WHITE

Stelios KOULOGLOU (GUE)

Monica MACOVEI (ECR)

Benedek JÁVOR (Greens-EFA)

Beatriz BECERRA BASTERRECHEA

Bernd KÖLMEL

Bodil VALERO

Bogdan Brunon WENTA

¹ <http://pen-international.org/news/6-month-anniversary-assassination-daphne-caruana-galizia>



Carolina PUNSET
Cecilia WIKSTRÖM
Charles GOERENS
Charles TANNOCK
Csaba SÓGOR
Dennis RADTKE
Dieter-Lebrecht KOCH
Dimitrios PAPADIMOULIS
Dominique RIQUET
Elisabetta GARDINI
Emma McCLARKIN
Enrique CALVET CHAMBON
Esteban GONZÁLEZ PONS
Franc BOGOVIČ
Francis ZAMMIT DIMECH
Frédérique RIES
Gabriele ZIMMER
Gérard DEPRez
Gesine MEISSNER
Hans-Olaf HENKEL
Heinz K. BECKER
Helga STEVENS
Helga TRÜPEL
Helmut SCHOLZ
Hilde VAUTMANS
Inese VAIDERE
Ivan JAKOVČIĆ
Izaskun BILBAO BARANDICA
Jasenکو SELIMOVIC

Javier COUSO PERMUY
Jean-Marie CAVADA
Josep-Maria TERRICABRAS
Julie WARD
Lara COMI
Laurențiu Constantin REBEGA
Louis MICHEL
María Teresa GIMÉNEZ BARBAT
Markus FERBER
Markus PIEPER
Massimiliano SALINI
Milan ZVER
Morten LØKKEGAARD
Nathalie GRIESBECK
Patricia LALONDE
Petras AUŠTREVICIUS
Pirkko RUOHONEN-LERNER
Robert ROCHEFORT
Roberta METSOLA
Sophia IN'T VELD
Ulrike MÜLLER
Verónica LOPE FONTAGNÉ
Róza Gräfin von THUN UND
HOHENSTEIN
Salvatore CICU
Sofia RIBEIRO
Sven SCHULZE
Tokia SAÏFI
Tunne KELAM
Virginie ROZIÈRE