

THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Secretary of State for European Affairs

Paris, January 9, 2015

CABAEU/F/N°D.00018.15

Honoured Minister,

I wish to express my deepest gratitude in regards to your statements of support and solidarity, as well as for the support of all of the authorities of your country after the dirty attack that targeted Charlie Hebdo newspaper on January 7, 2015 in Paris.

On this 7th of January, journalists, draftsmen and cartoonists were killed because they wanted to write and draw freely. They were very noble, pacifist, and anti-racist men and women, who through humour and shamelessness expressed their commitment and believe and denounced any type of intolerance. The policemen were killed, only because they protected them, because they protected this freedom that is ours as well, which enables us to live free in a democratic society.

Therefore, it is not only a newspaper attacked through this barbaric act, rather it was attacked the freedom of expression and democracy, that are our core values.

France is profoundly touched; however, today it was proven that all the defenders of democracy felt affected, involved and mobilised. We are all Charlie, as thousands of protestors all over the world said, and as we are going to say it during a big meeting on Sunday, in Paris.

Today, the terrorists in France, as yesterday elsewhere in Europe and in the world, wanted to intimidate and divide us. For this exact reason, we must stand strong and refuse to give up when it comes to our freedom; we should further strengthen our joint fight against terrorism and unite our societies and our countries against hatred and barbarism, and in favour of our values of democratic and tolerance. We have to be fighting at the same time, the terroristic jihad with the greatest determination and refuse the involvement of Islam, which in its entirety has the greatest clarity.

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Mr. Bekim ÇOLLAKU Minister of European Integration of the Republic of Kosovo PRISHTINA We should together continue this difficult and necessary war that is going to be long. In this painful test, your commitment and support are of great value to us.

Expressing again my gratitude, the gratitude of the Government and of the people of France, I ask you to accept, Mr. Minister, the expression of my highest consideration.

(Signature)

Harlem DESIR