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Donald TUSK, President of the EPP

Antonio LÓPEZ-ISTÚRIZ WHITE, EPP Secretary General
Patrick VOLLER, EPP Secretary of External Relations

Prague, April 19, 2021

Dear President, dear Donald Tusk,

the KDU-ČSL is very concerned about the information that came out from the investigation of the explosion that tore apart the ammunitions storage depot in a forest at Vrbetice in the Czech Republic on 16 October 2014.

The Czech Police have identified two men in connection with the blast, Alexander Mishkin and Anatoly Chepigov, who are also accused of involvement in an attack in the English city of Salisbury three years ago using the nerve agent Novichok. The police has identified the two men as members of the Unit 29155 of Russia's GRU intelligence agency.

The Czech Ministry of Foreign Affairs expelled 18 Russian diplomats on Saturday, April 17, on Sunday, April 18, 20 Czech diplomats were expelled from the Czech Embassy in Moscow.

The KDU-ČSL would like to hereby inform the EPP about the recent events in Czech Republic and also express our sincere thanks to all the representatives of the many EU members, Great Britain and the USA, for expressing their solidarity with the Czech Republic.

Furthermore, we would like to ask all our partners in the EPP Family to consider expressing solidarity with the Czech Republic. We promise to keep you informed about any further events. As a member of the EPP family we believe in our strong partnership and mutual readiness to help each other in such situations.

Yours sincerely,

Marian Jurečka
Party Chairman
KDU-ČSL