

Prague, April 2017
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Dear Mr. President,

I would like to inform you that the Czech Republic is seeking to host the European Banking Authority (EBA) in the Czech Republic.

The future of the EU and its prosperity is a crucial priority for my Government. We honour our commitment to further promote European values and mitigate any risks for the Internal Market and the EU as a whole, especially in connection to Brexit. Our decision to submit the candidacy for reallocation of the EBA fully reflects this approach. It also takes into account our current experience of hosting the European Global Navigation Satellite System Agency. We know our strengths and we are aware of our responsibilities as a hosting state.

I am persuaded that the location of the EBA in the Czech Republic as a non-euro Member State, however with the commitment to enter, could be beneficial regarding the future development of the Eurozone and the EU. I perceive keeping the seat of the EBA outside of the Euro area, especially in connection to Brexit, a prerequisite for maintaining the integrity of the Internal Market and also the balance between members of the Banking Union and the other EU Member States.

Moreover, I believe that the Czech Republic is a convenient and economically attractive location due to its central geographic position (close proximity to other financial institutions and centres) and well-developed infrastructure (air accessibility, public transport, high quality administrative buildings, sufficient accommodation

capacities, etc.). Also, the Czech Republic is a very safe country with steady economic growth, open and tolerant society and excellent health care and education systems. Our rich history and thriving cultural life are equally important assets that add on the attractiveness of our country. The Czech Republic can offer high standards of living at moderate cost and as such is prepared to ensure the best conditions to the Agency and its employees along with their families.

To conclude, I would like to stress the need to specify criteria for reallocation of the EU agencies from the United Kingdom as soon as possible, as promised by the European Commission and the Cabinet of the President of the European Council at Sherpas meeting on April 11th. It is essential that the process is launched as soon as possible under clearly-defined and transparent conditions. In this regard, I am convinced that the criteria should also include the above mentioned pro-integration arguments, such as the impact on integrity and distribution of powers in the Internal Market.

I sincerely believe that the Czech Republic would be a perfect location for the EBA and I hope that you will consider our candidacy in a positive manner. I stand ready to discuss with you personally the modalities of the Czech Republic's candidacy and look forward to a constructive discussion that will enable us to take a decision in a timely manner to ensure a smooth transition.

Yours sincerely,

H. E. Mr. Jean-Claude Juncker
President of the European Commission
Brussels, Belgium

H.E. Mr. Donald Tusk
President of the European Council
Brussels, Belgium