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*Le Président*  
The President

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Mr Dzintars Rasnačs  
Minister of Justice of the Republic of Latvia  
Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Latvia  
Brīvības bulvāris 36  
Centra rajons, Rīga  
LV-1050, Latvia

Brussels, 1 June 2018

**Re: Murder of lawyer Martins Bunkus**

Mr. Rasnačs,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Council of Bars and Law Societies of Europe (CCBE), which represents the bars and law societies of 45 countries, and through them more than 1 million European lawyers. The CCBE places great emphasis on respect for human rights and the rule of law.

The CCBE is shocked to learn of the murder of lawyer Martins Bunkus.

According to the information received, on 30 May 2018, Martins Bunkus was shot in Riga, and his murder is possibly connected to his professional duties. We understand that Martins Bunkus reported that he already received death threats to the police in 2016.

The CCBE condemns the murder of Martins Bunkus and respectfully asks you to ensure that a full and impartial investigation of his murder takes place, with a view to bringing those responsible to justice.

Yours sincerely,



Antonín Mokry  
President