

Council of Europe
The Secretary General

Strasbourg, 24 August 2011

Dear President,

You are no doubt aware of the situation in Albania following the local elections and in particular the controversy related to the election of the Mayor of Tirana. I have followed the situation very closely and addressed the issue with the Albanian authorities, as I consider that the Council of Europe should do everything possible to assist Albania in avoiding the repetition of such events in the future.

I would therefore be grateful if the Venice Commission would provide an opinion on which improvements should be made to the electoral legislation and practice in Albania in the light of recent experience.

Yours sincerely,



Thorbjørn Jagland

Mr Gianni Buquicchio
President of the Venice Commission

Copy: Ms Margarita GEGA
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representation of Albania
to the Council of Europe