



Trócsányi László

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## László Trócsányi

### **Hungary (ECR)**

#### **Background**

Mr. Trócsányi is not your typical career politician: he has gained significant experience during his years working as a diplomat, as well as in the field of academia as a professor of law. While serving as minister of justice he was not involved in everyday political clashes and debates in Hungary, and none of the introduced policies deemed controversial can be linked to his work. The single initiative he proposed by himself was the legislation to establish an independent administrative court system in Hungary based on French example. Although it was Mr. Trócsányi who initiated the new court system, the idea didn't come to him during his political career: he had already given voice to this intention for decades as a professor. After lengthy discussions, the Parliament has adopted the legislation to set the administrative court system up, which has received harsh criticism from the EU. Even though the law was adopted, entering into force was delayed due to the controversy it caused. There were many who thought this step was made in order to reduce pressure on Mr. Trócsányi, but the decision was made long before he was nominated to be Commissioner. Due to the fact that he was a minister in the Orbán government the European Parliament will probably single him out and try to give him a hard time during the hearings. Dutch Liberal MEP Sophie In t'Veld has already warned that he can expect a "rough ride" in the hearings given the government's track record.

His experience in diplomacy, academia and politics make him one of the most skilled and equipped candidates to be Commissioner. He has close ties to France and has good connections thanks to being a Francophone. His position is strengthened by the fact that he was declared a Spitzenkandidat of the Fidesz – KDNP party alliance from the start of the campaign for the European Parliamentary elections, he even led the list of candidates. Since people have voted for the list with this in mind, Prime Minister Viktor Orbán has already made president-elect of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen aware that he will support Mr. Trócsányi and will not name a female candidate.

Mr. Trócsányi was born 6th March 1956 in Budapest. Hungarian lawyer, diplomat, professor and Minister of Justice of Hungary from 2014 to 2019. He is married and the father of three children.

#### **Education**

- 1980: graduated from the Faculty of Law of Eötvös Loránd University.
- 1985: passed the legal bar exam.

#### **Professional experience**

- He has been a professor at the University of Szeged since 1989 and has continued to excel in his academic career.
- 2000 – 2004: served as Hungarian Ambassador to both Belgium and Luxembourg.
- 2005 – 2013: Substitute Member of the Venice Commission of the Council of Europe.
- 2007 – 2010: judge of the Constitutional Court of Hungary.
- 2010 – 2014: Hungary's Ambassador to France in Paris.

#### Political experience

- 2014 – 2019: Minister of Justice.
- After the 2019 European Parliament election he became Member of the European Parliament.