Antwerp, 15 November 2018

Dear Mister President,

Dear Minister,

Dear Special Prosecutor,

As a poet and member of PEN Belgium (Dutch speaking part) I am deeply worried about the death of the journalist Miroslava Breach Velducea. She was murdered in in Chihuahua on 23 March 2017.

I welcome the progress that your country made thus far in the investigation of her killing. It is very important that all those responsible for this crime are brought to justice.

My Belgian colleagues and I call on the Mexican authorities to ensure that all cases of killings, attacks and threats against writers and journalists are investigated promptly, thoroughly and impartially, ensuring that both the masterminds and perpetrators are brought to justice.

We urge you to bring an end to the climate of impunity for crimes against writers and journalists, including the killings of at least 96 writers and print journalists since 2004. Therefore the Federal Protection Mechanism is of the utmost importance. It should have all the financial, human and technical resources necessary to fulfill its mission.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Theunynck,

poet and member of PEN Belgium (Dutch speaking)