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Europski parlament Parlamento europeo Eiropas Parlaments Europos Parlamentas Európai Parlament
Parlament Ewropew Europees Parlement Parlament Europejski Parlamento Europeu Parlamentul European
Európsky parlament Evropski parlament Euroopan parlamentti Europaparlamentet

Transparency Register Contact Group

Summary

meeting of Wednesday 16 May 2018

(12:30 - 13:30)

Room PHS 07 C 050

BRUSSELS

The meeting was chaired by:

Ms GUILLAUME, Vice-President, and Ms HÜBNER, Chair of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs

1. Chair's announcements

The Contact Group

- heard Ms GUILLAUME, Vice-President, open the meeting by thanking the staff preparing and supporting the trilateral negotiations with Council and Commission, and by noting that the negotiations had been conducted as transparently as possible;
- further heard her express regret that a Member of the Contact Group had made wrongful claims and unfounded accusations in public, thereby not only attacking the lead negotiators personally but also undermining Parliament's negotiation position and putting the negotiations in general at risk;
- heard Ms HÜBNER, Chair of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs, express her full support for the points made by Ms GUILLAUME;
- heard Mr GIEGOLD, Greens/EFA Group, note that he had wished for greater transparency in the negotiations, and note that Parliament should be as transparent as Council in the negotiations with a view to the publication of documents;
- heard Ms GUILLAUME note that any request for public access to documents was handled in accordance with the relevant rules implementing Regulation 1049/2001; and heard her underline that, notwithstanding positions Members might have on transparency as an electoral campaign issue, a wilful misrepresentation of facts was

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counterproductive to the aim of the negotiations and a minimum standard of integrity and collegiality should be adhered to;

- heard Mr WIELAND recall that the framework of the negotiations on Parliament's side was set by the negotiating mandate and the opinion of Parliament's legal service on the independent mandate of Members;
- heard Mr DE JONG, GUE/NGL Group, note that Members of the Contact Group should work together in a constructive spirit, as should the three institutions.

2. Debriefing by the Negotiators on the first round of negotiations on the Commission proposal for a mandatory Transparency Register, on 16 April 2018

The Contact Group

- heard Ms HÜBNER report on the first trilateral political meeting held in Strasbourg, on 16 April 2018, noting that an inter-institutional consensus had been achieved on a transparent communication strategy for the negotiations, which included, inter alia, a stakeholder information session to be held on Parliament's premises in Brussels, on 21 June 2018;
- further heard her report that, at the trilateral political meeting, each institution had set out its position and its red lines, and that discussions had focussed on several issues that would need to be resolved, such as the principle of conditionality, the scope of the inter-institutional agreement, the activities covered by the Register, indirect lobbying, and the legal architecture of the agreement;
- heard Ms GUILLAUME note that the subsequent round of negotiations would focus on how the positions of the institutions could be reconciled;
- held an exchange of views with the participation of Mr WIELAND, EPP Group, Mr GIEGOLD, Greens/EFA Group, and Mr DE JONG, GUE/NGL Group, during which full support for the lead negotiators' approach to the negotiations was expressed;
- heard Mr GIEGOLD raise concern about the possible interpretation of the proposed wording of Article 2ge) with a view to the mentioning of the institutions' premises, and the wording of Article 5 with a view to the possibility that a future Parliament might decide to modify its Rules of Procedure on the systematic practice of meeting with registered interest representatives;
- heard Mr DE JONG support the remarks by Mr GIEGOLD, in principle, and highlight the question of how the provisions of the proposed agreement could be enforced effectively with a view to meetings outside the institutions' premises;
- heard Ms GUILLAUME and Ms HÜBNER thank the Members of the Contact Group for their input, and note that they would consult the absent Members of the Contact Group regarding Mr GIEGOLD's remarks.

3. **Any other business**

There was none.

ATTENDANCE LIST

Meeting of 16 May 2018

12:30 - 13:30

Brussels

Lead Negotiators

Ms GUILLAUME Sylvie
Ms HÜBNER, Danuta

Members

Mr WIELAND Rainer (EPP)
Mr GIEGOLD Sven (Greens/EFA)
Mr DE JONG Dennis (GUE/NGL)

Also present

Mr WINKLER Markus, Deputy Secretary-General

Cabinet of the President

Ms BOLYA Boglarka

Office of the Secretary-General

Mr SCHONARD Pascal

Office of the Deputy Secretary-General

Mr SCHWARZ Jakob

CoP Secretariat

Ms WOLLNY Sonia
Mr ROHLJE Gregor
Ms MILSOM Rebecca

DG Presidency

Mr LANE Nikolas
Ms BAUER Elisabeth
Ms THIEL Marie
Mr HOFKAMP Jelmer

DG IPOL

Mr NOVAK Petr

Legal Service

Mr RÖSSLEIN Ulrich

Political Groups

Ms GHEORGHIU Cornelia, EPP
Mr CERASANI Francesco, S&D
Mr KOTRO Olli, ECR
Ms SYSKA Oliwia, ECR
Ms VOGEL Melanie, Greens/EFA
Ms ASLETT-RYDBJERG Maj, GUE/NGL
Ms VALLET Joelle, ENF

Members' Assistants

Ms BARREIRA Lucie
Mr MATLAK Michal
Mr LANG Sebastian
Mr PESCHER Fabian
Mr VAN DER LOO Diederik
Mr BECK Christian
Mr FAILLA Michele
Mr VALLUCCI Davide
Mr CERCAS FERNANDEZ Alejandro