

Negotiations between the European Parliament, the Council of the EU and the European Commission on an Interinstitutional Agreement on a mandatory Transparency Register

Guiding principles on communication during the negotiations

Introduction

- Citizens expect the EU decision-making process to be as open as possible;
- The European Parliament, the Council of the EU and the European Commission maintain an open, transparent and regular dialogue with representative associations and civil society in accordance with the Treaty on European Union (TEU), in particular Article 11(1) and (2) thereof;
- The interinstitutional negotiations on a mandatory Transparency Register are likely to generate significant interest from citizens and representative associations and a desire from them to make their views known;
- The European Commission organised a public consultation prior to presenting its Proposal for an Interinstitutional Agreement (IIA) on a mandatory Transparency Register and the European Parliament held two public debates on lobbying transparency; substantial input was received from the public and stakeholders;
- Gathering the expertise and experience of those who have a stake in the future framework on interest representation established by the mandatory Transparency Register increases the chances for its success.

Conscious of the above context, the negotiators decide to communicate on negotiations on the basis of the following principles¹:

- 1) Providing a high standard of transparency in the tripartite negotiation on a new IIA, allowing citizens and stakeholders to be informed about the progress of negotiations and to provide their views;
- 2) Creating a dedicated section on the negotiations on the Transparency Register website for publishing relevant information regarding, for example, press releases, announcements about future political meetings, invitations to information sessions and

¹ The present arrangements are linked to the specific circumstances of the inter-institutional negotiations for the conclusion of an IIA on a Transparency Register and do not constitute a precedent for other inter-institutional negotiations, in legislative or other domains.

other documents as deemed appropriate, after informal consultation between institutions;

- 3) Issuing press releases after the conclusion of each political meeting;
- 4) Organising public information sessions every six months with representative associations of the various sections of the Transparency Register, as well as a public information session after the conclusion of the negotiations;
- 5) Using their respective communication channels (including social media) to inform on the state of play of negotiations and to engage with the public and stakeholders;
- 6) Welcoming any position papers, letters or other communications expressing citizens and stakeholders' views on the future mandatory regime and publishing these on the Transparency Register website.

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