

**Question for written answer E-001539/2018
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Auke Zijlstra (ENF) and André Elissen (ENF)

Subject: Appointment of Commission Secretary-General

At the EP's plenary sitting of 12 March 2018, when the appointment of the Commission's Secretary-General (SG) was debated, Commissioner Oettinger undertook to give detailed factual replies to all questions on the subject.

1. Commission President Juncker was appointed to the Commission as a 'Spitzenkandidat'. Does the Commission agree that this was therefore a political appointment, and if not, why not?
2. Commission President Junker has repeatedly called his Commission a political one. Moreover, in 2014 the same person who has now become the Commission's SG was appointed Mr Juncker's campaign manager. On 12 March, however, Commissioner Oettinger stressed that the new SG was not a 'party man' and was therefore eligible for appointment as SG. Can the Commission confirm that the appointment of the SG can be regarded as a political appointment and that this is in line with Mr Juncker's views?
3. Can the Commission indicate to what level within the Commission officials are, or can be, appointed on the basis of their political affinities?