

**Question for written answer E-006094/2018/rev.1  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Dominique Martin (ENF)**

Subject: Gifts received by and conflicts of interest of the Commissioners in Brussels

The list of gifts received by Commissioners in Brussels still fails to state which non-governmental organisation or company provided each gift<sup>1</sup>.

For example, the Commissioner for food safety (Andriukaitis) received a portable TV from an unknown organisation on 27 April 2017; the Commissioner responsible for assessing the tax situation of Apple (Vestager) received a painting and a set of Bang & Olufsen headphones from an unknown company in 2017. The Commissioner responsible for rail and road transport (Bulc) received an Apple i-Pad Pro 128 GB from an unknown company in 2016 and watches from Qatar in 2015 and 2016.

These Commissioners have a decisive influence on the employment situation in Europe.

For example: airlines from Qatar and the emirates have received EUR 39 billion in aid from their governments in 10 years and 11 million jobs in Europe are at risk<sup>2</sup>.

On 10 October 2018, the Commission Vice-President (Timmermans), Commander of the Order of the Polar Star<sup>3</sup>, launched the Socialist campaign for the European elections in May 2019.

Why did Mr Timmermans not resign from the Commission in order to rule out any conflict of interest<sup>4</sup>? After all, in the campaign video shot in his home town of Heerlen he stated the following: 'This is where I belong. Not in the Berlaymont (Commission headquarters)'.

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<sup>1</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/register-of-gifts-received-by-commissioners-july18\\_fr.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/register-of-gifts-received-by-commissioners-july18_fr.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> <https://e4fc.eu/subsidies/>

<sup>3</sup> [https://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Frans\\_Timmermans](https://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Frans_Timmermans)

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.neweurope.eu/article/does-timmermans-belong-in-the-berlaymont/>