

**Question for written answer E-001716/2019
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Ramon Tremosa i Balcells (ALDE)

Subject: Article 50 of the Staff Regulations and retirement in the interests of the service - new Commission and working of this article in practice

Article 50¹ of the Staff Regulations states:

'A senior official as defined in Article 29(2) may be retired in the interests of the service by decision of the appointing authority. Such retirement shall not constitute a disciplinary measure.'²

In practice, when a Commissioner does not have good relations with a Director-General or wishes to work with someone else, for example for reasons of lack of trust, the Commissioner can make use of Article 50.

1. Can the Commission state how many times an Article 50 decision has been applied, since the Prodi Commission, to senior management posts?
2. If trust is lost between the next Commission President and the Commission Secretary-General, can the Commission confirm that its next President could use Article 50, also with regard to the post of Secretary-General?
3. Can the Commission explain in detail how a decision under Article 50 is taken in practice? Is it a collegiate decision on a proposal by the Head of Cabinet, or can it only be proposed by the President or a Commissioner?

¹ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CONSLEG%3A1962R0031%3A20140101%3AEN%3APDF>

² <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CONSLEG%3A1962R0031%3A20140101%3AEN%3APDF>