

WRITTEN QUESTION P-1370/03  
by Patricia McKenna (Verts/ALE)  
to the Commission

Subject: Commissioners' links to the Bilderberg Group

Commissioners Mario Monti, Eriikki Liikanen, Pedro Solbes Mira, Gunther Verheugen, Antonio Vitorino and Frits Bolkestein have in the past attended Bilderberg meetings and are thus de facto members, since they are kept apprised of its activities. Commission President Romano Prodi was a Steering Committee Member of Bilderberg in the 80s, at the time when ECB President Wim Duisenberg was Treasurer. Three Commissioners are or have been members of the Trilateral Commission, Mario Monti, Chris Patten and Pedro Solbes Mira.

Will the Commission say which Commissioners will be attending the forthcoming Bilderberg and Trilateral meetings, whether they will be attending on behalf of the Commission or in an apparent private capacity, and whether they will be granted daily allowances or other expenses in connection with those meetings? Will the Commission ensure that these memberships are mentioned in the Commissioners' individual declarations of interest?