

**Question for written answer P-001290/2018
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Bart Staes (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Appointment of Martin Selmayr as the Commission's new Secretary-General

The Commission has appointed Mr Selmayr as its new Secretary-General with effect from 1 March. The appointment has stunned some senior EU officials with its abruptness, with one describing it as a 'crazy' move that would have consequences for how Brussels will operate for years to come. There are indeed serious concerns as to whether the rules on appointing staff have been correctly applied. The whole procedure took place in a quite opaque manner and was fast-tracked. We cannot simply buy the spin that all the rules were followed in Mr Selmayr's incredible rise from chief-of-staff to Deputy Secretary-General to Secretary-General (as head of the Commission's civil service) in the space of nine minutes last week.

Can the Commission indicate:

1. What the formal procedure for nominating a new Secretary-General and the new (Deputy) Directors-General is and when exactly the procedures for the recent reshuffle were launched?
2. If the procedure that has been followed up to now is indeed the normal procedure, would it not have been more in line with modern, transparent staff management to select high-level candidates through a formal and open selection procedure?
3. Whether it is normal that, apart from Mr Juncker, only one Commissioner, namely Mr Oettinger (Budget and Human Resources), was aware of this move before the meeting of the college of Commissioners took place and the formal decision was taken?