Question for written answer Z-064/2018 to the European Central Bank Rule 131 Dimitrios Papadimoulis (GUE/NGL)

Subject: President Draghi's G30 membership

The answer given by the European Ombudsman, Emily O'Reilly, to the Chair of ECON, Roberto Gualtieri, on 4 July 2018, indicates that the ECB, and in particular its President, Mr Draghi, could undermine 'the independence, integrity and reputation of the ECB'. The European Ombudsman seems to consider Mr Draghi's membership of the powerful G30 Group, an international forum involving bankers, academics and the heads of private financial giants, as 'maladministration' of the ECB by its President.

Ms O'Reilly directly raises the question of a conflict of interest because of the relationship that is developing, through the lobbying vehicle of the G30, between supervisor and supervisees, which is 'not compatible with the ECB's obligation of independence'.

Will the ECB say:

- 1. How does it view the statement by Ms O 'Reilly: 'the principles of good administration require that ...those holding public office must not be influenced, or even appear to be influenced, by private relationships'?
- 2. Does the ECB intend to re-examine its President's membership of the G30 so as to satisfy the sense of independence and justice that his decision to join this Group has undermined?

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