

Special Committee on Financial Crimes, Tax Evasion and Tax Avoidance
The Chair

D 309162 05.06.2018

Mr Erik T.H. Scheer
EMEA Chair
Baker McKenzie Amsterdam N.V.
Claude Debussylaan 54
1082 MD Amsterdam

Subject: *Invitation to a meeting of the Special Committee on Financial Crimes, Tax Evasion and Tax Avoidance (TAX3) on Thursday, 21 June 2018, from 9 am to 12.30 pm, in Brussels, ASP A3G3*

Dear Mr Scheer,

I have attentively read your letter of 4th June 2018 by which you decline my invitation to the hearing organised by the Special Committee on Financial Crimes, Tax Evasion and Tax Avoidance (TAX3) on 21 June 2018 on "Lessons learnt from the Paradise Papers".

I am convinced that your refusal to participate is the result of a misunderstanding about the content and purpose of the hearing.

The hearing is not meant to deal with any particular client of Baker McKenzie or with any matter relating to any of your clients, nor can this be inferred from the committee's invitation or the programme of the hearing. The chief purpose of the hearing with regard to law firms and intermediaries advising clients on tax issues is to learn more about their reaction to the Paradise Papers revelations, to the wave of new tax measures implemented in the framework of the BEPS initiatives, including the EU list of non-cooperative tax jurisdictions and about measures they might have adopted thereafter.

In any case, you will be in a position to refuse replying to any question the answer of which could imply an infringement of your confidentiality privilege.

I hope that this letter helps to clarify the situation and that Baker McKenzie reconsiders its position and accepts the invitation.

We therefore expect your confirmation by 8 June 2018.

For further information, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Francisco Ruiz-Risueño (tel.: +32 2 284 05 61, francisco.ruizrisueno@europarl.europa.eu) for content-related questions or the Secretariat of the TAX3 Committee (tax3-secretariat@europarl.europa.eu) for logistic questions.

I remain at your disposal for further discussions on this matter.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'P. Ježek', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Petr Ježek