



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2014 - 2019

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*Plenary sitting*

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21.10.2014

B8-0182/2014

## **MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION**

to wind up the debate on the presentation by the Commission President-elect of the College of Commissioners and their programme

pursuant to Rule 118(5), first subparagraph, of the Rules of Procedure

on election of the Commission  
(2014/2811(RSP))

**Gabriele Zimmer**  
on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group

**B8-0182/2014**

**European Parliament resolution on election of the Commission  
(2014/2811(RSP))**

*The European Parliament,*

- having regard to its election of Jean-Claude Juncker as President-elect of the European Commission on 15 July 2014,
  - having regard to the written and oral statements by each Commissioner-designate at the hearings with the parliamentary committees, and to the committees' evaluations of the candidates after the hearings,
  - having regard to the presentation by the Commission President-elect of the College of Commissioners and their programme,
  - having regard to Article 17(7) of the Treaty on European Union and Article 106a of the Euratom Treaty,
  - having regard to Rule 118(5), first subparagraph, of, and Annex XVI to, its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas the neoliberal and antisocial policies of the EU and the European Commission in particular, the democratic deficit and the intransparent procedures, have led to citizens' mistrust and a serious crisis of legitimacy of the current European institutions; whereas the continuation of this policy and the failure to meet the aspirations of European citizens will result in a dramatic deepening of the crisis of legitimacy of the EU;
- B. whereas the hearings have shown that the new Commission will continue on the path of the former Commission and will not shift the current political orientation towards a real social Europe;
- C. whereas President-elect Juncker has presented a new Commission team and a new structure of the Commission with seven Vice-Presidents;
- D. whereas the new structure of the Commission creates uncertainty as regards the allocation and division of the different Commissioners' portfolios and the role and responsibilities of the seven Vice-Presidents vis-à-vis the other Commissioners; whereas the hearings have demonstrated that this is likely to cause uncertainty as to the concrete responsibilities of the different Commissioners;
- E. whereas one of the contentious nominees resigned on 9 October 2014 following a negative assessment by the European Parliament;
- F. whereas Parliament also identified various concerns with regard to certain other Commissioners-designate, and expressed its disappointment about the appropriateness of the choice of portfolios for certain Commissioners-designate, as well as the lack of

professional knowledge, expertise and vision displayed by some;

1. Notes with deep concern that the President-elect of the new European Commission has presented a programme which essentially constitutes a continuation of the failed neo-liberal and austerity policies of the former Commission; notes that the new Commission team was chosen in such a way as to implement this strategy; takes the view that, with this team, the necessary shift away from the current political orientation towards greater social justice, job creation for all and in particular young people, and eradication of poverty, will not take place;
2. Is equally concerned that the new Commission will continue along the same path as the outgoing Commission with regard to the TTIP negotiations, EU foreign policy and migration policy;
3. Deeply regrets that its general critical assessment and its specific criticisms of other nominees, and rejection of two portfolios for the Commissioners-designate (Education, Culture, Youth and Citizenship as well as Energy) in the new Commission team were not taken into consideration;
4. Is convinced that the filling of key economic portfolios by a Vice-President designate and Commissioners-designate, most of whom have an overtly neo-liberal policy view and track record, creates an unacceptable imbalance between social, economic and environmental priorities in the incoming College of Commissioners;
5. Is concerned about the overlap between the private/business interests of and the portfolios of certain Commissioners-designate; deplores the fact that no solution has been found on the potential conflicts of interests;
6. Is concerned about the lack of knowledge, commitment and vision shown by some other Commissioners-designate with regard to their proposed portfolios;
7. Regrets that no progress has been achieved concerning the representation of women in the Commission team; reminds the Commission and the Member States that equality between women and men is one of the European Union's founding values, and that gender balance in decision-making positions is a key policy goal;
8. Strongly regrets the reluctance of some Commissioners-designate to answer questions, and their inadequate and/or incoherent answers, making it difficult to evaluate the competences of some Commissioners-designate to carry out their jobs;
9. Criticises the uncertainty of responsibilities within key policy areas created by President-elect Juncker's new structure of the Commission, and division of responsibilities between different Commissioners, which may lead to a loss of transparency and accountability;
10. Takes note of President-elect Juncker's expression of commitment to a Union of democratic change, including Mr Juncker's promise that the Commission will lead by example with regard to enhanced transparency when it comes to its contact with stakeholders and lobbyists; will hold Mr Juncker to his promise to propose an

Interinstitutional Agreement to create a mandatory lobby register covering all three institutions;

11. Takes note of President-elect Juncker's commitment to the Framework Agreement of 2010; expects Mr Juncker, before the Parliament's vote on the new Commission, to fully endorse not only the letter but also the spirit of the Agreement;
12. Rejects the proposed Commission;
13. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the European Council, the Council and the Commission.