

WRITTEN QUESTION E-1268/02  
by Vitaliano Gemelli (PPE-DE)  
to the Commission

Subject: Criteria for the selection of directors-general and other senior staff in the Commission

In its answer of 13 December 2001 to Written Question E-2973/01<sup>1</sup> the Commission pointed out that it had already taken measures 'to further strengthen procedures for selection and nomination of officials to senior posts' in December 2000.

The Commission subsequently decided to use outside consultants to draw up individual job profiles and, if appropriate, to assist the Consultative Committee on Appointments (CCA) during interviews with candidates 'to ensure the appointment of candidates who are of the highest qualification and merit, and that proper account is taken of the quality of their record of performance in management'.

In this context, the union representing R&D officials has repeatedly expressed severe criticism of the procedures and methods for assessing and selecting candidates for senior posts.

How does the Commission view the attitude of the R&D union and what steps has it taken or does it intend to take to reestablish the facts if the accusations of nepotism inside and outside the Commission made by the union (advance knowledge of the names of candidates to be chosen) should prove to be groundless?

If they do not, does the Commission not consider this is precisely what causes 'serious, lasting imbalances affecting any nationality in terms of appointments of senior managers', as emerges from the list of Italian senior officials?

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<sup>1</sup> OJ C not yet published