

**Question for written answer E-008226/2015
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Indrek Tarand (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Question addressed to Mr Juncker: does the author of EU transparency rules bend them himself?

After serving two terms as Commissioner, Siim Kallas was allowed by the Commission to take up the position of special advisor to Commissioner Dombrovskis in January 2015, and to take up a position in the private-sector software company Nortal in April 2015.

During his first term as Commissioner for Administrative Affairs, Audit, and Anti-Fraud, Siim Kallas set up the European Transparency Initiative that eventually led to the first Commission lobby register in 2008.

Do you agree that it hurts the reputation and credibility of the Commission (and other EU institutions) if the same man who once helped create the transparency rules and the lobby registry is now advisor to the Commission while on the payroll of a private company (that is not even in the current transparency registry)?

In a speech to Parliament in 2007 Mr Kallas himself said: 'Nobody would pay real money for lobby without expecting "something" in return – and that "something" is influence!'

Do you agree that – even if this is not a matter of actual bias, but rather of imputed and apparent bias – this situation clearly erodes the public confidence and trust in the European legal and legislative system?