

**Question for written answer E-000268/2017
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Conflict of interest in the Commission's Protection and Security Advisory Group

According to recent media reports (e.g. <http://www.tagesspiegel.de/weltspiegel/sonntag/eu-sicherheitspolitik-berater-oder-lobbyisten/14956546.html>), the Commission's Protection and Security Advisory Group (PASAG), which advises on the form and aims of security-related support programmes, has several members linked to security firms and those firms have, indeed, received funding. The EU Ombudsman considers that a conflict of interest still exists even when it is not directly played out.

Bearing that definition in mind:

Is there any conflict of interest in this case? If not, at what point does the Commission believe conflict to start and why is it not using the same definition as the Ombudsman?

How, when, and where will it publish the planned declarations of advisers' interests?