Question for written answer E-005345/2020 to the Commission
Rule 138
Guido Reil (ID), Lars Patrick Berg (ID)

Subject: Safety protocols

The Belgian public prosecutor has launched an investigation into the Belgian-British ex-diplomat Fraser Cameron, who worked for a number of EU institutions until 2006 and is currently Director of the EU-Asia Centre. He is accused of having sold sensitive information to China. At the beginning of the year, the German ex-diplomat Gerhard Sabathil, who had been a high-ranking employee of the Commission and the EEAS, was exposed as, it is alleged, a spy.

Analyses conducted by the German MERICS Institute and the American Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments warn that China is attempting to influence decisions by the Member States.

What safety protocols does the Commission have to prevent former employees from using their knowledge and, above all, the contacts they have made during their work for the EU to spy for other countries?

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1 Barbara Moens, ‘Belgium probes top EU think-tanker for links to China’, Politico, 18 September 2020.