1. The Commission would refer the Honourable Members to its replies to questions E-2286/21, E-2935/21, E-3795/21, E-4172/21 and E-4511/21. The Conference is carried out in the framework of the joint declaration of the European Parliament, the Council of the EU and the European Commission. There is no dedicated budget for the Conference. The three Institutions contribute their own financial and human resources according to existing budgets. The Commission provides full transparency on the costs incurred on its side.

2. The Commission cannot agree with the Honourable Members’ statement of a lack of reporting, a lack of accountability and a non-existence of a public record. Summary records of working groups meetings were published on the platform and as from January 2022 the meetings were also web streamed. All Plenary sessions were broadcast on the digital platform and on Europe by Satellite. All relevant documents have been published on the Conference Platform in all languages.

3. The choice of experts of the European Citizens’ Panels was fully transparent and based on their expertise of the topics. The three Co-Chairs in consultation with the Executive Board of the Conference put forward a carefully balanced list, based on a draft prepared by the Common Secretariat with the help of a consortium of experts in deliberative democracy. This took into account gender and geographical balance as well as the need to ensure a diversity of angles. Needs for expertise identified by the citizens (panel members) were taken into account and names were suggested also by the Institutes which hosted the third round of European Citizens Panels. The experts’ names have been published on the Conference platform.

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1 https://futureu.europa.eu