

**Question for written answer E-004151/2022
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Guido Reil (ID)

Subject: Lobbying by a former Commissioner

From 2014 to 2019 Dimitris Avramopoulos was the European Commissioner for Home Affairs, whose brief therefore included migration and security. At the end of his term of office, he was required to observe a two-year cooling-off period. During this period, a former Commissioner cannot lobby on matters for which they were responsible during their mandate, and meetings with lobbyists affecting EU policies can only take place if the lobbyists are registered in the EU's Transparency Register.

According to various media reports, Dimitris Avramopoulos held meetings with the Vice-Presidents, among others, while being paid by Fight Impunity, an NGO that has been linked to the corruption allegations against Qatar.

Between February 2021 and February 2022, Fight Impunity paid Dimitris Avramopoulos EUR 60,000¹.

1. Is Fight Impunity registered in the EU's Transparency Register?
2. Does the Commission find it deontologically acceptable that a former Commissioner, who worked for an NGO after his Commission mandate, held various meetings with the Vice-President of the Commission, among others, during his 'cooling-off period'?
3. Does the Commission find it politically and deontologically acceptable for Dimitris Avramopoulos to be running for the post of the next EU Special Envoy for relations with the Gulf States?

Submitted: 21.12.2022

¹ Nikolaj Nielsen, Avramopoulos met EU officials while on Fight Impunity payroll, EUobserver.com, 20 December 2022.