

**Question for written answer E-000459/2023/rev.1
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: European Commission - third countries - transparency

According to the findings of an investigation by the Follow The Money platform, the Reporters United network and the 'Efimerida ton Syntakton' newspaper, which have been confirmed by Commission Chief Spokesperson Eric Mamer to the 'Efimerida ton Syntakton', a dinner in honour of the new Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia, Mohammed bin Salman, was held in Athens on 27 July 2022 at the invitation of Greek Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis. It appears that the dinner was attended by Vice-President Margaritis Schinas, as well as Matteo Renzi, former Prime Minister of Italy, Edi Rama, Prime Minister of Albania, Dritan Abazović, Prime Minister of Montenegro, Prince Abdulaziz bin Salman, Saudi Minister for Energy and Eva Kaili, who was at the time Vice-President of the European Parliament¹. It has also emerged from the investigation that Mr Schinas failed to declare this on his programme of official activities.

In view of this:

1. Can the Commission say in what context and in what capacity Vice-President Schinas participated in this dinner?
2. Why was it not included on his official programme of activities?
3. Have other meetings attended by Mr Schinas or other Commissioners been omitted from their official programme of activities? If so, which meetings and why?

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¹ https://www.efsyn.gr/politiki/kybernisi/378323_mystiko-geyma-stin-athina-kai-oi-arabikes-nyhtes-toy-m-shoina