

Question for written answer E-001698/2023
to the Commission
Rule 138
Seán Kelly (PPE)

Subject: European Union Intellectual Property Office

The European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO) is one of the largest decentralised EU agencies, with an annual budget of approximately EUR 456 million in 2023 and over 1 100 employees. It is entrusted with managing the registration of the EU trade mark and the registered Community design.

The Commission has proposed adding further competences to the EUIPO's portfolio, such as in relation to standard-essential patents.

1. How does the Commission, as the guardian of the Treaties, intend to supervise the ongoing selection process for a new EUIPO Executive Director and ensure that it is open, transparent, fair and carried out without delay and in full accordance with Article 158 of Regulation (EU) 2017/1001¹?
2. Does it agree with the 2020 opinion of Parliament's Legal Service that, as part of the process, the EUIPO Management Board should propose more than one candidate to the Council in order not to limit the Council's decision-making power?

Submitted: 25.5.2023

¹ Regulation (EU) 2017/1001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 June 2017 on the European Union trade mark (OJ L 154, 16.6.2017, p. 1).