

**Question for written answer E-001703/2023/rev.1  
to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Virginie Joron (ID)**

**Subject:** Is the participation of three commissioners in the 2023 Bilderberg Meeting compatible with democracy?

The annual Bilderberg event is renowned for bringing together leading personalities from the worlds of business, politics and media, in luxurious surroundings and shrouded in secrecy. Bilderberg is often criticised for its lack of transparency and its supposed influence on global political and economic decisions.

The participation of three EU commissioners<sup>1</sup> in the Bilderberg Meeting in Lisbon from 18 to 21 May 2023 has prompted questions and speculation as to their motivation for attending. It raises questions about the links between the European Commission and certain world elites, and about the transparency of the decisions taken within the European Union. Some may think that vested interests receive privileged treatment outside of the democratic process and to the detriment of the public interest of EU citizens.

EU citizens have the right to know whether important decisions are being made during these gatherings.

1. What motivated the three commissioners to attend and what was their mission at the Bilderberg Meeting in Lisbon?
2. Can the Commission provide details of the topics discussed during the Bilderberg Meeting and explain how those discussions will influence EU politics?
3. How can the Commission protect itself from any undue influence from certain global elites?

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<sup>1</sup> Borrell, Reynders, Gentiloni, Barroso – <https://publicintelligence.net/2023-bilderberg-participant-list> – Pfizer CEO Albert Burla, former French Prime Minister Édouard Philippe and European Parliament President Roberta Metsola also took part in the 2023 event.