

**Question for oral answer O-000002/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 136

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on behalf of the ID Group

Subject: Lobbying of the Commission by Qatar, Morocco, NGOs and S&D officials

The corruption scandal of the Socialists and Democrats (S&D) Group in the European Parliament has caused quite a lot of public discontent with the Union's institutions. There has never been a scandal that has reflected as badly on the EU's public image. Rightfully, the Parliament has reacted swiftly and adopted a resolution that proposes some measures that could potentially prevent similar scandals in the future. Nonetheless, the investigation into the scandal is still in full swing and mostly in the hands of the Belgian and other Member States' authorities.

As more steps are taken to shed light on the alleged crimes, we call on the Commission to assist the various authorities concerned with their investigations by answering the following questions:

1. Has the Commission been able to identify political issues where it might have been lobbied or its decision-making influenced by representatives of Qatar, Morocco, the non-governmental organisations (NGOs) involved (most notably Fight Impunity and No Peace without Justice), the S&D group or other individuals involved in the affair and alleged crimes? If it has identified issues where it might have been influenced, what issues are they? Will the Commission revisit its decision-making on these matters?
2. Has it established what members of its staff were in touch with people involved in this affair and alleged crimes?
3. What other steps has the Commission taken to assist the authorities with their investigations into the affair?

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