

Mandatory Transparency Register: political meeting to restart negotiations



The EP negotiators, VP Katarina Barley and Danuta Hübner, with Ministre Délégué Nikolina Brnjac (Croatian Presidency) and EC VP Věra Jourová

The negotiators of the European Parliament, the Council of the EU and the European Commission agreed to continue their discussions on strengthening the EU Transparency Register.

On Tuesday, 16 June 2020, the European Parliament negotiators, Vice-President [Katarina Barley](#) and [Danuta Hübner](#), Member of the Constitutional Affairs Committee, together with Ministre Délégué [Nikolina Brnjac](#) for the Croatian Presidency of the Council, and Commission Vice-President [Věra Jourová](#), met to exchange views on the Transparency Register. This is their first such meeting since the discussion was put on hold prior to the European elections in May 2019.

Now in the 9th legislative term, the new European Parliament, the new European Commission and the Council Presidency have each appointed their negotiators. They have all committed to do their best to conclude negotiations with an improved system for transparency of interactions

with interest representatives through a mandatory Transparency Register.

EP negotiator Katarina Barley (S&D, DE) said: "I welcome the resumption of the negotiations. Our primary objective remains getting the Council to join the scheme. Considerable actions have been taken by our institutions to increase transparency since the negotiations started. This makes me optimistic that we will manage to tackle remaining issues and reach an agreement. With my co-negotiators, I am committed to working efficiently in this direction".

EP negotiator Danuta Hübner (EPP, PL) stated: "after the European elections, we are re-starting the negotiations on a mandatory transparency register with a fresh outlook. I appeal to all sides to approach the negotiations with an open mind, and I hope that we can conclude this process as soon as possible. This will not only make the legislative work of the EU more transparent, but also show our citizens that we take their concerns on transparency seriously".

The three institutions reiterated their common ambition to reach an agreement on this important file as soon as possible. They acknowledged that a tri-institutional Transparency Register would boost a common transparency culture, and would deliver the transparency expected by EU citizens, while taking into account the specific nature of each institution.

Background

The European Commission presented its proposal for a new [inter-institutional agreement](#) on a mandatory Transparency Register for interest representatives covering the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union and the European Commission on 28 September 2016. The proposal aims to strengthen the framework for transparent and ethical interactions between interest representatives and the three institutions participating in the new scheme. Since 2011, the Parliament and the Commission have jointly operated a public register for interest representatives aiming to increase the transparency and accountability of the EU decision-making process. The Council has been an observer to the current scheme since 2014.

Three formal meetings at political level were held during the previous legislative term but negotiations were paused ahead of the European elections and the appointment of a new Commission.

The three institutions confirmed their readiness to be as open about the process as possible, in line with the guiding principles for communication that were agreed during the previous parliamentary term. More information on the Transparency Register negotiations can be found on the [dedicated EP webpage](#). The Transparency Register's annual reports, including the newly published 2019 edition, are available [here](#).

Further information

[Committee on Constitutional Affairs](#)

Contacts

Kyriakos KLOSIDIS

Press Officer

☎ (+32) 2 28 32357 (BXL)

☎ (+33) 3 881 74651 (STR)

☎ (+32) 470 96 47 35

✉ kyriakos.klosidis@europarl.europa.eu

✉ constit-press@europarl.europa.eu

🐦 [@EPInstitutional](https://twitter.com/EPInstitutional)
