

Brussels, 2 May 2022 Members' Statute (2022) D/1308.--

Ms Ursula von der Leyen President **European Commission** Rue de la Loi 200 1040 Brussels

By email only

Dear President von der Leyen,

With regard to your letter of 18 March (2022/1781817), on a possible future joint agreement to establish an ethics body common to all EU Institutions, I have the pleasure to inform you that the European Economic and Social Committee welcomes this initiative and responds favourably to the Commission's invitation to take part in inter-institutional discussions on a possible future joint agreement to establish such a body.

I would like to underline that it is important that such an EU Ethics Body takes into account the differences between the roles and status of the different Institutions and their Members, as well as the need of reaching consensus between participating institutions as to the definition of standards and terms regarding the body's mandate and competences.

The Committee remains available to actively contribute to the discussions related to the EU Ethics Body and looks forward to being informed about the next steps.

Yours sincerely,

Christa SCHWENG