

MAKHLOUFIA Oualiba

From: AGNEW Rosita
Sent: 20 May 2016 11:39
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Fwd: for action: point of contact for arrangements Visit Ombudsman - Communication and Transparency - Central Bank of Ireland
Attachments: image001.gif; ATT00001.htm; image001.gif; ATT00002.htm; image001.gif; ATT00003.htm; image001.gif; ATT00004.htm; image002.png; ATT00005.htm; EO Presentation.ppt; ATT00006.htm

Apologies Valerie. I forgot to send you this yesterday. I hope it has made its way to you already.

See you shortly
Rosita

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: MOEN Caroline [REDACTED]
Date: 19 May 2016 at 11:06:51 GMT+1
To: 'depgovcb' [REDACTED]
Cc: "'Forde, Jill'", AGNEW Rosita
[REDACTED], "Morrissey, Deirdre"
[REDACTED] "McDonnell, Paddy" [REDACTED]
"'Toolan, Anne'" [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: for action: point of contact for arrangements Visit Ombudsman - Communication and Transparency - Central Bank of Ireland

Dear Jill,
Dear Anne,

Please find Ms O'Reilly's PowerPoint presentation in attachment. Please let me know if you are having troubles opening it.

Ms Agnew will also have the PowerPoint on an usb just in case.

Best wishes,

Caroline

European Ombudsman

For a transparent and accountable
EU administration



European Ombudsman

Complaints from citizens, companies, NGOs, business associations....



European Ombudsman

Most cases: About alleged lack of transparency in the EU administration



European Ombudsman

Alleged lack of transparency

- 20-30% of all cases
- Refusal to give access to EU documents
- EU decision-making
- Lobbying transparency
- “Revolving doors”



Examples of individual complaints

- Problems with EU funded projects and programmes
- Language policy for EU websites or public consultations
- Example: EP published parts of website in Irish after citizen complained



“Irish ECB letter”

- Then ECB President Trichet wrote to Irish Finance Minister in 2010 at height of economic crisis
- Irish journalist’s public access request refused by ECB to “protect Ireland's financial stability”
- The journalist turned to the EO in 2012
- EO: The ECB’s reasons for refusing access were no longer valid, three years after the initial request
- ECB published the letter end 2014



Recent ECB public access case

- Request for public access to a “country by country, bank by bank, and product by product” breakdown of all ECB purchase programme expenditure to date
- Complainant claims that the ECB should be transparent about the identity of the securities it has bought, how much it has paid for them, as well as the identities of the brokers and the fees paid
- ECB refused access on the basis of protection of the financial, monetary or economic policy of the Union and commercial interests of a natural or legal person
- EO inquiry ongoing



European Ombudsman

Irish Water

- NGO complainant: water supply of 412,000 Irish consumers affected by excessive levels of chemicals (THMs) and Irish Water failed to notify consumers directly affected
- Commission accepted Irish Water now dealing with excessive THM levels and information on website adequate
- EO found no maladministration, but accepted that consumers may prefer direct notification and explained how to complain against Irish Water at national level



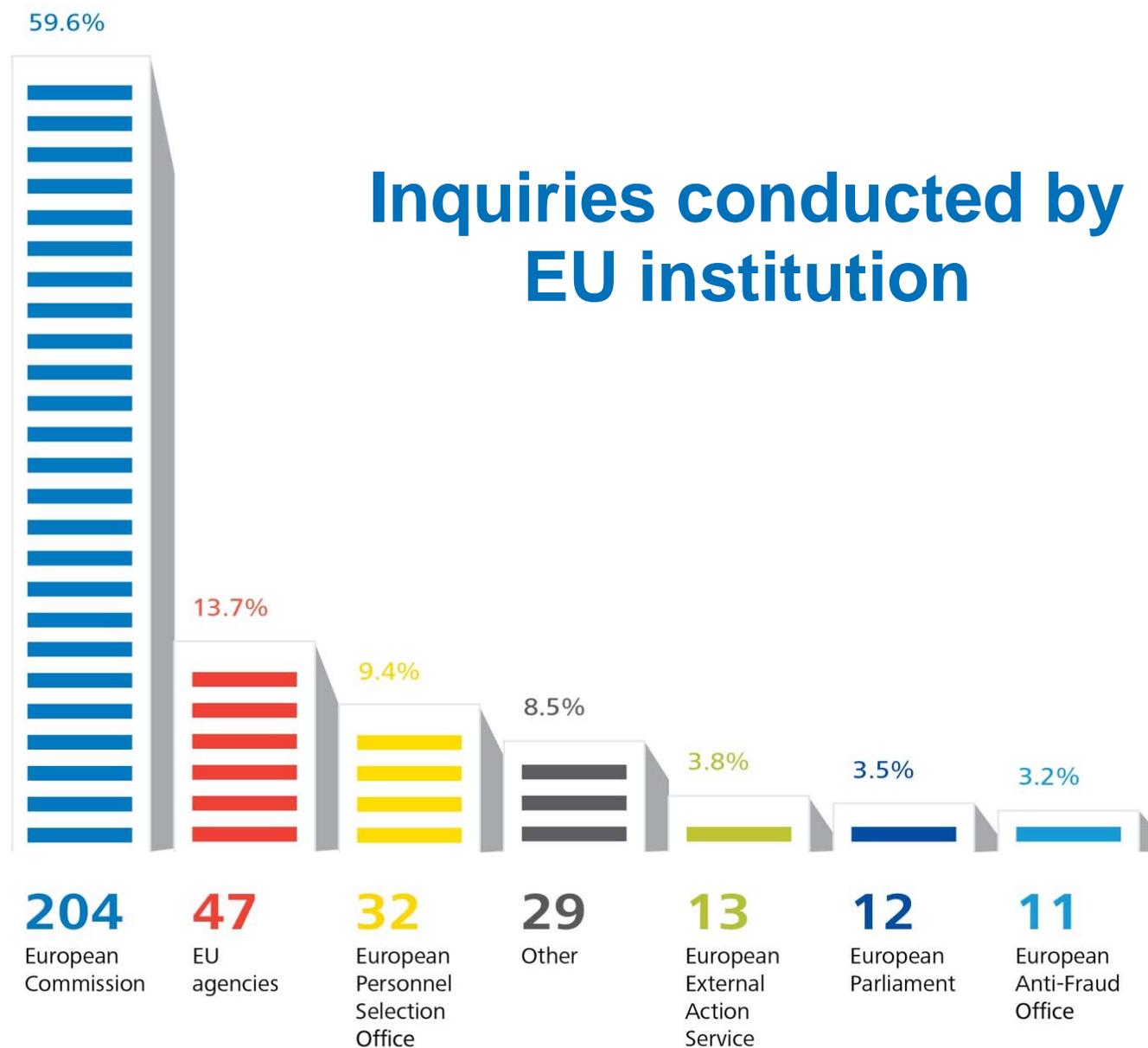
Overhaul of EMA's transparency policy



- Irish father wanted access to adverse reaction reports for Roaccutane after his son committed suicide
- EO called in several cases for more clinical trial data transparency
- EMA completely overhauled its transparency policy



Inquiries conducted by EU institution



European Ombudsman

...and strategic inquiries



European Ombudsman

Strategic inquiries

- In the public interest
- Systemic problems in the EU administration
- Own-initiative inquiries
- Achieve “gold standards”
- Public consultations
- Cooperation with the European Network of Ombudsmen
- Use limited resources in the best way



Transparency of TTIP negotiations

TTIP papers published as EU Ombudsman demands more transparency



EU-US trade talks 'not open enough' - top watchdog



Published: 07/01/2015 - 13:35 | Updated: 14/01/2015 - 17:08 | 1



The European Commission (January) published Trade and Investment (TTIP) negotiating documents. The European Ombudsman has called on the executive to increase transparency in trade talks with the US.



EU ombudsman calls for greater TTIP transparency

Commissioner Malmström will respond today by publishing legal texts and position papers.



by Dave Keating on 07.01.2015 / 10:36 CET

Ombudsman called for much more transparency on TTIP negotiations

Sir, As reported in Christian Oliver's article "EU pushes back against TTIP trade agreement secrecy claims" (January 7), the EU has published some of the documents related to the ongoing trade negotiations with the US. The context missing from the story is that the publication was in response to a report from the European Ombudsman, Emily O'Reilly, of her own inquiry into transparency in these negotiations — a report that called for a lot more transparency than has been provided.

Emily O'Reilly, the European ombudsman, issued an opinion today (7 January) calling for greater public access to consolidated negotiating texts in ongoing free trade negotiations between the European Union and the United States.

"I am aware that the Commission at times needs to talk to the US confidentially to be able to negotiate effectively," she said. "However, US resistance to publishing certain TTIP documents is not in itself



European Ombudsman



TTIP transparency

- TTIP will affect lives of 500 million in EU
- EU Commission now publishes more position papers, fact sheets, legal texts
- EO: No US veto against disclosure of consolidated TTIP chapters
- Extend transparency obligations for meetings with lobbyists (down to negotiator level)



Inquiry into trilogue transparency

How the deals are done

Dialogues: What goes on behind closed doors?

 Opinions in this column reflect the views of the author(s), not of EurActiv.com PLC.
 ncy International 15 Sep 2015



Carl Dolan

Comments    

As a young institution, it is important that the European Parliament acts swiftly to make its talks more democratic before they become ingrained as a tradition, argues Carl Dolan



European Ombudsman

Ombudsman opens investigation to promote transparency of 'trilogues'

EU Reporter Correspondent | May 28, 2015 | 0 Comments



Ombudsman to probe EU's secret law-making



Secret EU lawmaking could be put in the spotlight by the ombudsman (Photo: European Union)

(pictured) has opened an investigation into the transparency of secret law-making in the EU. Trilogues are informal negotiations between the Council and the Commission aimed at reaching early agreements

institutions for information about their disclosure policies on trilogue negotiations, documents relating to ongoing trilogues, minutes or notes drawn up by participants. She is expecting a reply by 30 September 2015. In order to increase transparency during trilogue negotiations, the Ombudsman will inspect the files of the institutions. The files she has chosen are those concerning the Credit Directive.

euobserver

The EU's transparency watchdog is poised to launch a new wave of investigations into secret EU lawmaking in May.

Gundi Gadesman, the spokesperson for European Ombudsman Emily O'Reilly, told this website that further 'systemic investigations' would be launched at the end of May after O'Reilly announces her office's annual report.

Inquiry into EU decision-making

- Around 80% of EU laws are now agreed at first reading
- Mapping exercise about trilogue transparency
- EO asked for information about disclosure policy (minutes, list of meetings, documents)
- Opinions received, public consultation concluded
- Closed files inspected: *Clinical Trials Regulation & Mortgage Credit Directive*
- Final analysis to be published soon



Transparency in the ECB

BloombergBusiness | News Markets Insights Video

ECB Asked by EU Ombudsman to Explain Closed-Doors Speech



Emily O'Reilly, from Ireland, the European Ombudsman, presents her annual report for the year 2013 in front of the European Parliament Committee on Petitions, in Brussels in this Sept. 24, 2014 file photo.



European Ombudsman

Handelsblatt

Digitalpass Finanzen Unternehmen Politik Technik Auto Sport Panor

Deutschland International Konjunktur + Geldpolitik

Handelsblatt > Politik > Konjunktur + Geldpolitik > Kommunikationspanne bei EZB: EU-Ombudsfrau fordert Klärung

KOMMUNIKATIONSPANNE BEI EZB

EU-Ombudsfrau fordert Klärung von Draghi

Autor: Reuters
Datum: 28.05.2015 18:48 Uhr

Bei einer nicht-öffentlichen Rede verrät ein Direktoriumsmitglied Details zum Anleihekaufprogramm der EZB. Kurz darauf fällt der Euro-Kurs. Jetzt fordert die Bürgerbeauftragte der EU, Emily O'Reilly, Aufklärung.



Weitergabe von marktsensiblen Informationen

Die EU-Bürgerbeauftragte Emily O'Reilly erhebt schwere Vorwürfe gegen ein EZB-Direktoriumsmitglied. (Foto: ap)

ECB transparency

- May 2015: ECB executive board member disclosed information at private dinner in London
- EO asked for clarifications
- ECB reviewed its speaking engagements guidelines
- Agreed to publish calendars of executive board members
- Extension of “quiet period” in week running up to monetary policy meetings



ECB Ethics Framework

- President Draghi invited EO to provide advice on review of Ethics Framework for ECB staff
- Items covered:
 - conflicts of interest
 - revolving doors and cooling-off periods
 - obligation of professional secrecy
 - private financial transactions
- Also aware of ECB Guideline laying down the principles of a Eurosystem Ethics Framework





Eurogroup transparency

- June 2015: Complaint about lack of transparency of Eurogroup meetings
- February 2016: Eurogroup President Dijsselbloem tabled proactive transparency measures, including publishing:
 - Detailed meeting agendas
 - Eurogroup summing-up letter
 - Programme-country related documents (ahead of decisions) and notes presented to Eurogroup (after meetings)



Ombudsman follow-up letter

- EO welcomes proactive transparency measures
- How will Eurogroup deal with requests for documents not published proactively?
- What about proactive transparency measures for preparatory bodies e.g. Eurogroup Working Group?
- How to get an overview of Eurogroup documentation?
- Reply expected by 30 June

Strasbourg, 14/03/2016

Re: Recent initiative to improve Eurogroup transparency

Dear Mr President,

I would like to warmly congratulate you on your recent initiative toward greater transparency in the work of the Eurogroup. Given the significance of its work, it was right to highlight transparency as an issue of prime importance for further legitimacy and public trust.

Mr Jeroen Dijsselbloem
President of the Eurogroup
Ministry of Finance
Korte Voorhout 7
Postbus 20201
2500 EE The Hague
THE NETHERLANDS



European Ombudsman

European Fiscal Board

- October 2015: the Commission adopted a decision establishing the European Fiscal Board
- EO wrote to Commission this week to:
 - ask if the "comply or explain" principle will apply in practice
 - note that the proactive transparency regime of national fiscal advisory councils is not limited to publishing annual reports
 - help clarify the handling of requests for public access to the Board's documents



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