

Brussels, Ares (2020) 5137948

Dear Ms Lynch,

President von der Leyen would like to thank you for your letter of 30 September.

I can assure you that the Commission is determined to bring forward measures for binding pay transparency and to promote gender equality as a priority, along the lines defined in the Gender Equality Strategy adopted in March¹. The fact that the President did not mention it explicitly in her State of the Union address does not mean that the importance accorded to these issues would have changed.

To confirm the Commission's commitment, the pay transparency initiative is planned in the Commission's work programme by the end of 2020 and will be adopted by that date. I agree that an adoption in November would have provided a welcome opportunity to mark the Equal Pay Day. However, more time is required in order to produce such a strategic initiative.

We count on ETUC's support to ensure a swift agreement among all actors on the future initiative.

Yours sincerely,

Björn Seibert

Ms Esther Lynch Deputy General Secretary European Trade Union Confederation

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¹ COM(2020)152 final, https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52020DC0152&from=EN