

MAROŠ ŠEFČOVIČ
VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels, 09 DEC. 2013
CL/gS Ares (2013)

Dear Mrs Darbishire,
Dear Mrs Katzemich,
Dear Mr de Clerck,
Dear Mr Dinan,
Dear Mr Gruber,
Dear Mr Riss,
Dear Mr Wesselius,

Thank you very much for your letter of 25 November 2013. I appreciate your interest and continuous efforts with regard to the Transparency Register.

We had the opportunity to exchange views on the review of the Register on 5 June this year in a meeting in the Berlaymont which I had organised specifically for this purpose with you and a limited number of other stakeholder organisations.

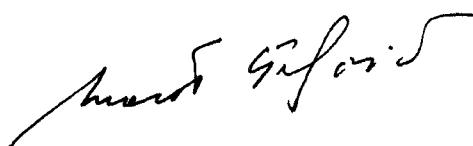
Subsequently, Vice-President Wieland and I invited you to a hearing of the High Level Group on the review of the Register with 10 stakeholder organisations on 15 October.

In these meetings, but also in your publications and statements on other occasions like our panel discussion at the event organised by the European Ombudsman on 27 September this year, you expressed your views and positions very clearly and they were well understood.

Therefore, I would ask for your understanding that, at this stage and given the time constraints in various files before the end of the year, I wish to concentrate on the work in the High Level Group.

Should you wish to provide additional elements or information, I will ask Mr. Christian Linder, member of my cabinet, to be available and meet you. Of course, you can also send us another written contribution.

Yours sincerely,



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From:
ALTER-EU
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25 November 2013

Dear Commissioner Šefčovič,

Urgent meeting to discuss EU Transparency Register

We are writing to request an urgent meeting with you (before 12 December) to discuss the current review of the EU Transparency Register.

As you will know, ALTER-EU supports a mandatory lobby register and we very much hope that the high-level working group will come up with an ambitious timetable to implement such a register. We would like to discuss this important matter with you and to further understand your thinking on this issue.

Several times in the past, ALTER-EU has asked to meet with you to discuss policy matters which fall within your responsibility. However, this has never been possible. We hope that on this occasion this will be achievable, considering the importance of the EU Transparency Register and the fact that you are nearing the end of your term in office.

We can make ourselves available at short notice to suit your own schedule. We invite your office to contact the ALTER-EU coordinator, Nicola Freeman, on coordinator@alter-eu.org or +32-2-8931062 to organise this meeting with us.

We look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely,

ALTER-EU steering committee:

Helen Darbshire (Access Info Europe)
Nina Katzemich (LobbyControl)
Paul de Clerck (Friends of the Earth Europe)
William Dinan (SpinWatch)
Marc Gruber (European Federation of Journalists)
Jorgo Riss (Greenpeace European Unit)
Erik Wesselius (Corporate Europe Observatory)