

List of documents Initial request Ms Vicky Cann (CEO) 2015/3714- Post-mandate activities Ms GEOGHEGAN-QUINN

Scope of the request: "...copies of all subsequent applications by former Commissioner Máire GEOGHEGAN-QUINN which seeks Commission authorisation for new professional activities under the commissioner code of conduct, including as co chair of a review team on gender equality in Irish higher education institutions. I would further like to request any emails, correspondence and meeting notes which relate to these applications; all opinions from the ad hoc ethical committee on each case; and copies of the Commission's final decision in each case."

Document	Description and references	Status
Ms Geoghehan-Quinn		
1 E-mail of Ms Geoghegan-Quinn to Ms Day of 10.06.2015 Ref. Ares(2015)2432040	E-mail of to Ms Day of 10 June 2015 requesting authorisation for post-mandate activity – Chair the review team on the review of gender quality in Irish Higher Education;	Partial disclosure E-mail address of former Commissioner and contractual details deleted - Exception in Article 4(1) letter b);
2. LS Consultation E-mail of SG of 12.06.2015 and e-mail of LS of 16.06.2015 Ref. Ares(2015)2474509 - and Ref. Ares(2015)2534237	E-mail of SG of 12 June 2015 and reply of the LS by e-mail of 16 June 2015	Partial disclosure of cover e-mails (Names and e-mail addresses of Commission's officials deleted - Exception in Article 4(1) letter b); Partial disclosure of draft decisions;
3. Commission Decision C(2015)4257 of 19.06.2015	Activités après cessation de fonction d'un membre de la Commission- Communication de M le Président – OJ 2132 Commission Decision C(2015)4257 of 19 June 2015 -	Partial disclosure (contractual details deleted)

4. PV (2015) 2132 of 24 June 2015	Decision of 24 June 2015	Public Document (copy not enclosed)
5. Letter of Ms Day to Ms Geoghegan-Quinn of 24.06.2015 Ref. Ares(2015)2649970	Letter of 24 June 2015 to Ms Geoghegan-Quinn informing her of the adoption of the Commission decision on her request for authorisation of a post-mandate-activity	Partial disclosure- E-mail and postal address of former Commissioner deleted- Exception in Article 4(1) letter b); Attachment corresponds to document n° 3 above

From: Máire Quinn
Sent: 10 June 2015 15:13
To: DAY Catherine (SG)
Subject: HEA Review Team

Dear Secretary-General,

The Higher Education Authority of Ireland is appointing a review team to conduct a review of gender-equality in Irish higher education institutions. I have been invited by the Authority to chair the review team. I am anxious to ensure that my involvement does not conflict with my responsibilities as a former Member of the Commission.

While providing an opportunity to take stock of progress to date in advancing gender-equality, the review will be forward-looking, adopting a "quality-enhancement" approach to building on the sector's achievements to date in this area. The review will be conducted by an independent review team with an independent chairperson and some national and international experts to be appointed by the HEA.

The work is due to start in July and be concluded within a year. The review team will report to the HEA on its conclusions and specifically, will:

1. report on the advancement of gender-equality through the preparation and implementation of higher education institutions' equality policies having regard to national and international "best practice" in this area;
2. make recommendations as to how, in the view of the team, higher education institutions might enhance their equality policies and their implementation to support gender-equality;
3. make recommendations on how the HEA, the Department of Education and Skills, and other relevant state or non-state bodies might optimally support higher education institutions to enhance gender-equality.

The role is non-remunerated but

With kind regards,

Máire Geoghegan-Quinn

(SG)

From: EC-NOTIS-SERVICE-NOREPLY@ec.europa.eu
Sent: Friday 12 June 2015 16:45
To: (SG)
Subject: Ares: New Document - sg.dsg2.b.3(2015)2789566/Title: URGENT - Projet de décision de la Commission sur une activité après cessation de fonction de Mme Geoghegan-Quinn

You received a new document:

My Documents

Title	URGENT - Projet de décision de la Commission sur une activité après cessation de fonction de Mme Geoghegan-Quinn
Recipient(s)	ve_sj.cons,
Sent by	(SG.DSG2.B.3)
Save number	sg.dsg2.b.3(2015)2789566
Registration number	Ares(2015)2474509
Document date	12/06/2015
Registration date	12/06/2015
Sensitivity level	Handling restriction
Marking information	Personal
Comment(s)	
Attachment(s)	email.rtf, Outlook original email.msg, Draft Décision Ms Geoghegan-Quinn Review of Gender Equality in Higher Education Institutions.doc, E-mail 10.06.2015 Mme Geoghegan-Quinn à CD.pdf

Remark: the hyperlinks work only from the Commission's computer network. If you want to access Ares via the Internet or the scientific network (JRC), use the following link:<https://myremote.ec.europa.eu/app/>
The EEAS staff located in the KO buildings will have to connect to ARES by using the following link:<http://intracomm.ec.testa.eu/Ares>

Please click on 'Preferences' in Notis Web interface <http://www.cc.cec/notis> to set your notification options, including preferred language.

(SG)

From: (SG)
Sent: Friday 12 June 2015 16:41
To: (SJ)
Cc: (SG); (SG)
Subject: URGENT - Projet de décision de la Commission sur une activité après cessation de fonction de Mme Geoghegan-Quinn
Attachments: Draft Décision Ms Geoghegan-Quinn Reiew of Gender Equality in Higher Education Institutions.doc; E-mail 10.06.2015 Mme Geoghegan-Quinn à CD.pdf

Chère

Je te prie de bien vouloir trouver ci-joint un projet de décision relatif à une activité après cessation de fonctions de Mme Geoghegan-Quinn, en tant que chairperson d'un Review Team on Gender Equality in Irish Higher Education Institutions"

Merci de bien vouloir donner l'accord ou les observations du SJ.

Cette consultation sera également envoyée via ARES.

Nous voudrions soumettre cette décision à la réunion du Collège du mercredi 24 juin (OJ 2132) . Néanmoins, pour des raisons d'organisation interne, nous voudrions connaître l'avis du SJ si possible pour mardi 16 juin fin de journée

Je joins également l'e-mail de Geoghegan-Quinn à la Secrétaire Générale du 10 Juin 2015.

Merci d'avance de ta collaboration

(SG)

From: EC-NOTIS-SERVICE-NOREPLY@ec.europa.eu
Sent: Wednesday 17 June 2015 10:15
To: (SG)
Subject: Ares: New Document - sj.f(2015)2856359/Title: Avis du SJ - Projet de décision de la Commission sur une activité après cessation de fonction de Mme Geoghegan-Quinn

You received a new document:	<u>My Documents</u>
Title	<u>Avis du SJ - Projet de décision de la Commission sur une activité après cessation de fonction de Mme Geoghegan-Quinn</u>
Recipient(s)	_sj.cons,
Sent by	(SJ.F)
Save number	sj.f(2015)2856359
Registration number	Ares(2015)2534237
Document date	16/06/2015
Registration date	17/06/2015
Sensitivity level	Handling restriction
Marking information	Opinion of the Legal Service
Comment(s)	Accord du Service juridique sous réserve des modifications ci-jointes.
Attachment(s)	Modifs_Sj_IMP_Draft Décision Ms Geoghegan-Quinn Reiew of Gender Equality in Higher Education Institutions.doc

Remark: the hyperlinks work only from the Commission's computer network. If you want to access Ares via the Internet or the scientific network (JRC), use the following link: <https://myremote.ec.europa.eu/app/>
The EEAS staff located in the KO buildings will have to connect to ARES by using the following link: <http://intracomm.ec.testa.eu/Ares>

Please click on 'Preferences' in Notis Web interface <http://www.cc.cec/notis> to set your notification options, including preferred language.

(SG)

From: (SJ)
Sent: Tuesday 16 June 2015 20:18
To: (SG); (SG)
Cc: (SJ)
Subject: Draft Décision Ms Geoghegan-Quinn Review of Gender Equality in Higher Education Institutions
Attachments: Draft Décision Ms Geoghegan-Quinn Reiew of Gender Equality in Higher Education Institutions.doc

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Accord du Service juridique sous réserve des modifications ci-jointes.

Bien à vous,

MEMORANDUM FROM THE PRESIDENT TO THE COMMISSION

According to Article 245(2) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, the members of the Commission give a solemn undertaking that, both during and after their term of office, they will respect the obligations arising therefrom and, in particular, their duty to behave with integrity and discretion as regards the acceptance, after they have ceased to hold office, of certain appointments or benefits.

Further to this Treaty provision, the Code of Conduct for Commissioners (C (2011) 2904 final) establishes a specific procedure for the assessment of planned occupations which former Commissioners intend to take up during the eighteen months after they have ceased to hold office. The Commission shall examine the nature of the planned occupation and, if the activity is related to the content of the Commissioner's portfolio, it shall seek the opinion of the Ad hoc Ethical Committee.

On 10 June 2015, former Commissioner Máire Geoghegan-Quinn informed the Commission about her intention to accept the invitation she received from the Irish Authorities (Higher Education Authority of Ireland – HEA) to chair a newly created Review Team which will conduct a review of gender-equality in Irish higher education institutions.

Ms Geoghegan-Quinn explained that the ~~above-mentioned~~ Review will provide an opportunity to take stock of progress to date in advancing gender-equality, yet being forward-looking, adopting a "quality-enhancement" approach to building on the sector's achievements to date in this area. The review will be conducted by an independent review team with an independent chairperson and some national and international experts to be appointed by the HEA. The work is due to start in July 2015 and be concluded within a year.

Ms Geoghegan-Quinn informed that her role will not be remunerated but

The Services of the Commission considered that the scope of this activity is not about Research and Innovation but about the way in which the Irish higher education institutions abide by the principle of gender equality. They also considered that this non-remunerated activity does not present any risk of incompatibility either with the interests of the European Union or with Article 245(2) of the TFEU.

The Commission is invited:

- (1) to decide that former Commissioner Máire Geoghegan-Quinn envisaged activity consisting on chairing, upon invitation from the Irish Authorities, a review team of gender-equality in Irish higher education institutions is compatible with Article 245(2) of the TFEU;
- (2) to instruct the Secretary General to inform Ms Geoghegan-Quinn about the present decision.



COMMISSION EUROPÉENNE

SECRÉTARIAT GÉNÉRAL

Bruxelles, le 19 juin 2015

C(2015) 4257

COMMISSION INTERNE

OJ 2132

**ACTIVITES APRES CESSATION DE FONCTION
D'UN MEMBRE DE LA COMMISSION**

Communication de M. le PRESIDENT

Cette question est inscrite à l'ordre du jour de la 2132^{ème} réunion de la Commission le 24 juin 2015.

Destinataires : Membres de la Commission

MEMORANDUM FROM THE PRESIDENT TO THE COMMISSION

According to Article 245(2) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, the members of the Commission give a solemn undertaking that, both during and after their term of office, they will respect the obligations arising therefrom and, in particular, their duty to behave with integrity and discretion as regards the acceptance, after they have ceased to hold office, of certain appointments or benefits.

Further to this Treaty provision, the Code of Conduct for Commissioners (C(2011) 2904 final) establishes a specific procedure for the assessment of planned occupations which former Commissioners intend to take up during the eighteen months after they have ceased to hold office. The Commission shall examine the nature of the planned occupation and, if the activity is related to the content of the Commissioner's portfolio, it shall seek the opinion of the Ad hoc Ethical Committee.

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Ms Geoghegan-Quinn explained that the above mentioned review will provide an opportunity to take stock of progress to date in advancing gender-equality, yet being forward-looking, adopting a "quality-enhancement" approach to building on the sector's achievements to date in this area. The review will be conducted by an independent review team with an independent chairperson and some national and international experts to be appointed by the HEA. The work is due to start in July 2015 and be concluded within a year.

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The Services of the Commission considered that the scope of this activity is not about Research and Innovation but about the way in which the Irish higher education institutions abide by the principle of gender equality. They also considered that this non-remunerated activity does not present any risk of incompatibility either with the interests of the European Union or with Article 245(2) of the TFEU.

The Commission is invited:

- (1) to decide that former Commissioner Máire Geoghegan-Quinn envisaged activity consisting on chairing, upon invitation from the Irish Authorities, a review team of gender-equality in Irish higher education institutions is compatible with Article 245(2) of the TFEU;
- (2) to instruct the Secretary General to inform Ms Geoghegan-Quinn about the present decision.



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
SECRETARIAT-GENERAL

The Secretary General

Brussels,
SG/B3 Ares(2015)

Ms Máire Geoghegan-Quinn

By e-mail to:

Dear Ms Geoghegan-Quinn

I am pleased to inform you that the Commission decided, during its 2132nd meeting of 24 June 2015, that your envisaged activity consisting in chairing, upon invitation from the Irish Authorities, a team reviewing gender equality in Irish higher education institutions is compatible with Article 245(2) of the TFEU.

Please find enclosed Commission decision C(2015) 4257.

Yours sincerely,

Catherine Day

Encl: Commission Decision C(2015) 4257

Cc: Mr Selmayr (Head of President Juncker's Private Office)



COMMISSION EUROPÉENNE

SECRÉTARIAT GÉNÉRAL

Bruxelles, le 19 juin 2015

C(2015) 4257

COMMISSION INTERNE

OJ 2132

ACTIVITES APRES CESSATION DE FONCTION D'UN MEMBRE DE LA COMMISSION

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- (2) to instruct the Secretary General to inform Ms Geoghegan-Quinn about the present decision.