



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
Secretariat-General

The Secretary-General

Brussels, 9 September 2016

Dear Mr Barroso, *Dear President*,

During your contacts with President Juncker and myself regarding your appointment as Non-Executive Chairman of Goldman Sachs International and Advisor to Goldman Sachs, you reaffirmed your standing commitment to behave with integrity and discretion with regard to your previous function as President of the European Commission.

However, as you certainly know, your appointment has triggered widespread concern, both at EU, Member States, and citizens level, including from the European Ombudsman and from Members of the European Parliament.

You will find for your information, the link to the Press Release issued by the European Ombudsman on 6 September and the letter she wrote to President Juncker on the same day. <http://www.ombudsman.europa.eu/en/press/release/faces/en/70848/html.bookmark>

In order to enable the Commission to clarify the scope of your new responsibilities, I would kindly ask you to send me the relevant terms of reference of your contract with Goldman Sachs on which, if necessary, I will seek the opinion of the Ad hoc Ethical Committee.

Kind regards,

Alexander Italianer

Mr José Manuel BARROSO
Former President of the European Commission

E-mail:



Jean-Claude JUNCKER
President of the European Commission

Rue de la Loi, 200
B-1049 Brussels
Tel. +32 2 295 50 33
jean-claude.juncker@ec.europa.eu

Brussels, **09 SEP, 2016**
Ares (2016) 5609319

Dear President Schulz,

As discussed, I am hereby sending you my reply to the letter of the European Ombudsman, Ms O'Reilly, dated 6 September 2016, which she published with the Press Release issued on the same day¹.

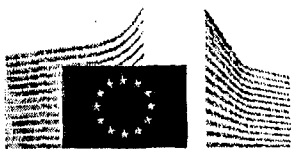
It is important for me that the European Parliament is fully informed about this important matter.

Yours sincerely,

¹ <http://www.ombudsman.europa.eu/en/press/release/faces/en.70848/html.bookmark>

*H.E. Mr Martin Schulz
President
European Parliament
Rue Wiertz
1047 Brussels*

E-mail: president@europarl.europa.eu



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
SECRETARIAT-GENERAL

The Secretary-General

DOCUMENT 6

Brussels,
SG/B3 Ares(2016)

Note to the Members of the Ad-Hoc Ethical Committee

Mr Christiaan Timmermans
Mrs Dagmar Roth-Behrendt
Mr Heinz Zourek

Subject: Appointment of former President Barroso at Goldman Sachs

Dear Colleagues,

You have recently been appointed as members of the Ad Hoc Ethical Committee.

As a rule, the Ad Hoc Ethical Committee is consulted on activities notified by former Commissioners related to their portfolio during the 18-month period foreseen in the Code of Conduct for Commissioners. This 18-month period is in line with the best existing standards for public office holders at European Union level. Former President Barroso's appointment at Goldman Sachs twenty months after his term of office was therefore not to be notified to the Commission.

However, in spite of the fact that the 18-month notification period has already expired, President Juncker has decided to exceptionally seek the advice of the Ad Hoc Ethical Committee in this specific case which concerns a former President of the Commission. You are certainly aware that this issue has received much attention from the public.

I would therefore ask you to provide President Juncker with your opinion on the respect of the principles of integrity and discretion as referred to in article 245(2) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, on the basis of the information provided by Mr Barroso in a letter addressed to President Juncker. This letter constitutes a response to a letter in which I, on the President's behalf, requested Mr Barroso to clarify the scope of his responsibilities.

For your information, you will find enclosed not only the two letters referred to above, but also President Juncker's exchange of letters with the European Ombudsman.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you need any further information.

With kind regards,

Alexander Italianer

Encl: copy of 4 letters

Copy: President Juncker

DOCUMENT 8

From: (SG)
Sent: Tuesday 8 November 2016 17:27
To: (SG)
Subject: FW: Opinion Ad Hoc Ethical Committee

-----Original Message-----

From: ITALIANER Alexander (SG)
Sent: Friday, October 28, 2016 1:29 PM
To: ;

Cc: (CAB-JUNCKER); (CAB-JUNCKER);
(SG); (SG)
Subject: RE: Opinion Ad Hoc Ethical Committee

Dear members of the Ad Hoc Ethical Committee,

On behalf of President Juncker I would like to thank you very much for your opinion in response to his request.

I would like to inform you that exceptionally, in view of the fact that it concerns a previous President of the Commission, President Juncker has decided to render your opinion public on next Monday, 31 October. This publication would be without prejudice to any follow-up that the Commission might wish to give regarding this case.

The President has asked me to verify with you whether you see any objection to the publication of the opinion.

A reply at your earliest convenience would be appreciated.

Kind regards,

Alexander

From: Dagmar Roth-Behrendt
Sent: Friday 28 October 2016 14:30
To: ITALIANER Alexander (SG)
Cc: (CAB-JUNCKER); (CAB-JUNCKER);
G); (SG)
Subject: Re: Opinion Ad Hoc Ethical Committee

Dear Alexander ,

thank you very much for your mail and as well for informing me, Christiaan Timmermans and Heinz Zourek about the president's wish, to publish our opinion .
From my side I naturally do not have any objections, quite to the contrary I find it wise , to guarantee immediate transparency .

Best regards,
Dagmar

Bitte nur noch meine neue E-mailadresse verwenden

Von meinem iPad gesendet

Am 28.10.2016 um 12:29 schrieb <Alexander.Italianer@ec.europa.eu>
<Alexander.Italianer@ec.europa.eu>:

Dear members of the Ad Hoc Ethical Committee,

On behalf of President Juncker I would like to thank you very much for your opinion in response to his request.

I would like to inform you that exceptionally, in view of the fact that it concerns a previous President of the Commission, President Juncker has decided to render your opinion public on next Monday, 31 October. This publication would be without prejudice to any follow-up that the Commission might wish to give regarding this case.

The President has asked me to verify with you whether you see any objection to the publication of the opinion.

A reply at your earliest convenience would be appreciated.

Kind regards,

Alexander

From: (SG)
Sent: Tuesday 8 November 2016 16:31
To: (SG)
Subject: reply Christiaan Timmermans to AI e-mail on the Opinion Ad Hoc Ethical Committee

From: Christiaan Timmermans
Date: 31 October 2016 at 10:34:10 GMT+1
To: Allexander Italianer <Alexander.Italianer@ec.europa.eu>
Cc:

Subject: Re: Opinion Ad Hoc Ethical Committee

Sorry, Alexander, for this late reply, I was traveling . I have no objections to making the opinion public.

Best regards,

Christiaan

Op 28 okt. 2016, om 13:29 heeft Alexander.Italianer@ec.europa.eu het volgende geschreven:

Dear members of the Ad Hoc Ethical Committee,

On behalf of President Juncker I would like to thank you very much for your opinion in response to his request.

I would like to inform you that exceptionally, in view of the fact that it concerns a previous President of the Commission, President Juncker has decided to render your opinion public on next Monday, 31 October. This publication would be without prejudice to any follow-up that the Commission might wish to give regarding this case.

The President has asked me to verify with you whether you see any objection to the publication of the opinion.

A reply at your earliest convenience would be appreciated.

Kind regards,

Alexander

From: Heinz Zourek
Sent: Friday 28 October 2016 14:29
To: ITALIANER Alexander (SG);
Cc: (CAB-JUNCKER); (CAB-JUNCKER);
(SG); (SG)
Subject: RE: Opinion Ad Hoc Ethical Committee

No objection from my part
Heinz Zourek

-----Original Message-----

From: Alexander.Italianer@ec.europa.eu
[mailto:Alexander.Italianer@ec.europa.eu]
Sent: Freitag, 28. Oktober 2016 13:29
To:
Cc:

Subject: RE: Opinion Ad Hoc Ethical Committee

Dear members of the Ad Hoc Ethical Committee,

On behalf of President Juncker I would like to thank you very much for your opinion in response to his request.

I would like to inform you that exceptionally, in view of the fact that it concerns a previous President of the Commission, President Juncker has decided to render your opinion public on next Monday, 31 October. This publication would be without prejudice to any follow-up that the Commission might wish to give regarding this case.

The President has asked me to verify with you whether you see any objection to the publication of the opinion.

A reply at your earliest convenience would be appreciated.

Kind regards,

Alexander



Jean-Claude JUNCKER
President of the European Commission

Rue de la Loi, 200
B-1049 Brussels
Tel. +32 2 295 50 33
jean-claude.juncker@ec.europa.eu

Brussels, 31 October 2016

Dear Mr Barroso, 

I am sending you the Opinion delivered on 26 October 2016 by the Ad Hoc Ethical Committee, which will be made public in view of the importance of the matter.

Yours sincerely,



Mr Jose Manuel BARROSO
E-mail:

