

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [ASENIUS Maria \(CAB-MALMSTROM\)](#)  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] [\(CAB-MALMSTROM\)](#)  
**Subject:** Preparatory documents: Re: INVITATION to address the COMECE Commission on EU External Relations  
**Date:** lundi 24 septembre 2018 15:06:16  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[1 updated draft Agenda Extern.pdf](#)  
[4 List of participants.pdf](#)

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Dear Ms. Asenius,

In view of the upcoming meeting of the **COMECE Commission on the EU External Relations**, please allow me on behalf of its [REDACTED] to reiterate our thanks to you for having accepted to exchange with our Commission on **Wednesday 10 October 2018 from 9.00 to 10.00**.

Please allow me to briefly recall that [REDACTED] and the members of our Commission would be pleased to exchange with you on the **EU trade policy** in the context of the current developments in the global arena. In this regard, the COMECE Commission would be particularly interested in a **brief state of play** of the EU's response to the ongoing "trade wars" (in particular in relation to the recent measures of the US and China); but also beyond, a broader exchange about **perspectives for EU's role in global trade** would be very much appreciated. We might suggest that you give a **brief presentation of about 15 minutes** (in English), followed by a **short discussion/question and answers session** with the experts.

The meeting will take place at the **Secretariat of COMECE: 19 Square de Meeûs, B-1050 Brussels** (for more information on directions, please consult: <http://www.comece.eu/site/en/contact> )

Kindly find **attached the overall programme of the meeting and the list of participants** for your information. Please note that your presence would only be required for the time slot devoted to this agenda item.

I am at your disposal for any question or complementary information.

With thanks and best regards,

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

COMECE Secretariat,  
19 Square de Meeûs,  
B-1050 Brussels  
Tel.: +32(0)2 [REDACTED]  
[www.comece.eu](http://www.comece.eu)

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**From:** "[xxxxx.xxxxxxx@xx.xxxxxx.xx](mailto:xxxxx.xxxxxxx@xx.xxxxxx.xx)" <[xxxxx.xxxxxxx@xx.xxxxxx.xx](mailto:xxxxx.xxxxxxx@xx.xxxxxx.xx)>

**Date:** Friday 29 June 2018 18:48

**To:** [REDACTED] [comece.eu](mailto:comece.eu)>

**Cc:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** RE: INVITATION to address the COMECE Commission on EU External Relations

Dear Mr [REDACTED]

Thank you for the invitation. I was surprised to learn that the Catholic Bishops' Conference takes such an interest in trade policy, but I would be willing to give you an overview followed by a Q&A.

Yours sincerely

maria

**Maria ÅSENIUS**

Head of Cabinet Commissioner Cecilia MALMSTRÖM  
Trade



**European Commission**

BERL [REDACTED]

B-1049 Brussels/Belgium

+32 2 [REDACTED]

[maria.asenius@ec.europa.eu](mailto:maria.asenius@ec.europa.eu)

<http://ec.europa.eu/malmstrom>

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**From:** [REDACTED] [\[REDACTED\]@comece.eu](mailto:[REDACTED]@comece.eu)

**Sent:** Tuesday, June 26, 2018 3:11 PM

**To:** ASENIUS Maria (CAB-MALMSTROM)

**Cc:** DEPAIGNE Vincent (JUST)

**Subject:** INVITATION to address the COMECE Commission on EU External Relations

**Importance:** High

Dear Ms. Asenius,

The *Commission of the Episcopates of the EU* ([COMECE](#)) representing the Catholic Bishops' Conferences of 28 EU Member States is a partner in the Dialogue foreseen by Article 17 (3) TFEU. Currently, COMECE is planning the **next annual meeting of its Commission on the EU External Relations** which is due to take place on **9-10 October 2018 in Brussels**. This working party of COMECE is chaired by [REDACTED] (Lithuania) and is composed of fifteen foreign policy experts delegated by the Bishops' Conferences belonging to EU Member States. The Holy See is represented through an observer.

H.E. Mgr. Norvila and the experts would wish to include in the agenda of their next meeting also a discussion on the **EU trade policy** in the context of the current developments in the global arena. In this regard, the COMECE Commission would be particularly interested in a **brief state of play** of the EU's response to the ongoing "trade wars" (in particular in relation to the recent measures of the US and China); but also beyond, a broader exchange about **perspectives for EU's role in global trade** would be very much appreciated.

Writing also in the name of [REDACTED], we would be honoured if you would be able to accept our invitation for this exchange with our Commission, which would be foreseen for **Wednesday, 10 October 2018, from 9.00 to 10.00** at the Secretariat of COMECE, *19 Square de Meeûs, B-1050 Brussels* (we still have some flexibility on the time slots of the agenda which could potentially be adjusted according to your availabilities). We might suggest that you give a **brief presentation of about 15 minutes** (in English), followed by a **short discussion/question and answers session** with the experts. The meeting is not open to public and your presence would only be required for the time slot devoted to this agenda item.

EU institutional speakers regularly participate to our Commission's meetings, also as an **element of concrete implementation of the requirements of the Art 17(3) TFEU Dialogue**. In case you should not be able to attend, we would be grateful if you could indicate to us a Colleague who could attend and take active part in the meeting.

In case of any questions or need for complementary information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

We would like to thank you for your kind attention and we look forward to your reply at your earliest convenience.

Best regards,

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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19 Square de Meeûs,  
B-1050 Brussels  
Tel.: +32(0)2 [REDACTED]  
[www.comece.eu](http://www.comece.eu)**