

From: OETTINGER Guenther (CAB-OETTINGER)
Sent: Friday 18 November 2016 15:19
To: [REDACTED] (EP)
Cc: JUNCKER Jean-Claude (CAB-JUNCKER)
Subject: Re: Speech of EU Commissioner Oettinger in Hamburg

Dear Honourable Member,

Many thanks for your email. I very much appreciate the opportunity to answer the questions you have on my speech given in Hamburg. I am happy to reply in English as you requested.

Maybe you have seen that in the meantime, I have publicly apologized for the language I have used - orally at a press conference and in writing in a statement that was published by the EU Commission press service (http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STATEMENT-16-3601_en.htm).

In the statement I said:

"I would like to **apologise for any remark that was not as respectful as it should have been.**" Orally, to journalists at the press conference I added: Since decades I am a Liberal. For me, the decision how to found a family is a private one. For this reason, I cannot comment on it. But I have always supported gay partnerships, legally and with legislative processes."

Of course, I am also prepared to discuss further any additional questions related to the speech.

Kind Regards

Günther H. Oettinger

Member of the European Commission
Digital Economy and Society

From: [REDACTED] [\[REDACTED\]@europarl.europa.eu](mailto:[REDACTED]@europarl.europa.eu)
Sent: Saturday, October 29, 2016 1:30 AM
To: CAB GUENTHER OETTINGER CONTACT; CAB JUNCKER PRESIDENT; [REDACTED] (EP)
Subject: Speech of EU Commissioner Oettinger in Hamburg

Dear Mr President Juncker,
Dear Mr Commissioner Oettinger,
Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

As Member of European Parliament [REDACTED] I have been made aware of a recent speech of EU Commissioner Mr Oettinger at an entrepreneurial association AGA in my home town.

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=RsgbBYrGgSo>

The publisher who released the speech, [REDACTED] claims that he started to tape the speech when Mr Oettinger allegedly tried to convince the audience of the advantages of concluding trade agreements (such as CETA) by warning of "chiselers and chinky eyes" when referring to the Chinese community.

The video of the speech shows how Mr Oettinger comments his impression of the identical attributes of a members of a delegation of Chinese officials and that the delegation included no women as no gender quota had been applied.

He then continues to comment on the private life of the German Ex Chancellor Mr Gerhard Schröder as well as warning of too early retirement age in Germany finally leading to forced gay marriage.

While I appreciate humor in politics I came across better entertainment in the past.

As Mr Oettinger represents the European Commission I would like to enquire whether

- Mr Oettinger confirms or disputes the remarks about "chiselers and chinky eyes" ?
- Mr Oettinger in his capacity as digital expert confirms the authenticity of the video ?
- Mr Oettinger intended to apply for early retirement given his probably above average pension entitlements ?
- the remarks by Mr Oettinger represent the views of the European Commission and adequately qualify for the post of Budget Commissioner ?

I am looking forward to your timely response. I would appreciate if Mr Oettinger were to respond in English.

Kind Regards,

[REDACTED], MEP [REDACTED]

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