



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT INTERGROUP
INTEGRITY, TRANSPARENCY
CORRUPTION AND ORGANISED CRIME

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Proposal for a mandatory transparency register reflects ITCO input

Today, Commissioner Timmermans presented his proposal for a mandatory Transparency Register. The ITCO intergroup welcomes the proposal as it reflects the intergroup's input delivered at the public consultation.

ITCO co-president Dennis de Jong: 'It is of crucial importance that we receive reliable information from lobbyists and that we can properly supervise the quality of this information. Lobbyists who deliver wrong or incomplete information have to be removed from the register. In cases of fraud, sanctions based on criminal law should be imposed. In addition, the negotiations about the proposal should be done in a transparent way and include the EU institutions at play.'

The ITCO Intergroup has consistently called for increasing the capacity of the Joint Transparency Register Secretariat, to only include up-to-date verified data, to ensure sanctions for lobbyists who do not provide accurate data and even recommended sanctions under criminal law for those who include fraudulent information. In addition, further transparency at the decision-making level is necessary when it comes to the procedures, leading to these recently announced reforms.

Earlier this year, ITCO co-president Dennis de Jong handed over a *transparency plaque* and declaration to Commissioner Timmermans. Co-president Dennis de Jong explains: "A mandatory EU Transparency register is a necessary step to increase lobby transparency. Ten thousands of lobbyists are active in influencing the EU institutions. In the end, what we really want is balanced representation of all stakeholders and an end of the dominant position of big business."

ITCO Co-Chair Elly Schlein MEP adds: "This a great step forward to creating more lobby transparency in the EU-institutions, which is crucial to rebuild trust of the citizens in the EU policy making and to reduce distance between people and the institutions."