



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT INTERGROUP  
INTEGRITY, TRANSPARENCY  
CORRUPTION AND ORGANISED CRIME

## **ITCO Press Statement: Juncker not willing to seriously address revolving doors**

**Brussels 25th November, 2015**

Over the past few weeks, various scandals involving Commissioners have been revealed. Wednesday, Commission President Juncker presented new measures to prevent revolving doors. Juncker proposes to increase the lobby ban from 1.5 to 3 years for the President of the Commission and to extend the cooling-off period for Commissioners from 1.5 to 2 years.

ITCO co-President **Dennis de Jong** is not satisfied with the rules: *'the ITCO intergroup demands a 3 year ban on lobby activities for former Commissioners. It is hard to understand why former Commissioners are entitled to a transitional allowance for three years, in order to prevent conflicts of interest, but can start working as a lobbyist two years after they have left office. You can't explain this to the citizens. I foresee a new scandal in the near future with another former Commissioner who can't resist a tempting offer from a large corporation.'*

ITCO has urged the Commission to create a stronger Code of Conduct several times. Apart from an extension of the cooling-off period to 3 years for both the Commission President and the Commissioners, ITCO demands a reformation of the composition of the Ethical Advisory Committee, in order to become truly independent and transparent about its decision-making. In addition, it is important to have binding guidelines for former commissioners on the meaning of ethical behaviour after the cooling-off period.

**Elly Schlein**, co-President ITCO intergroup comments: *"What happened with the Barroso case clearly showed that the current rules are inadequate. We expect a clear commitment from the EU Institutions against conflict of interest and for full transparency. It's a matter of credibility".*