

ITCO PRESS STATEMENT WEDNESDAY 30 MARCH 2016

ITCO supports Transparency International's petition for a mandatory EU lobby register

Transparency International has launched a petition for a mandatory EU lobby register. ITCO endorses this petition as we believe lobbying transparency is of crucial importance for all EU institutions. The European Commission will present a new inter institutional agreement for the transparency register so ITCO Intergroup encourages all its members to sign the petition. We must plead together for a mandatory register. On 1 March, the European Commission already initiated a [public consultation](#).

The petition launched by Transparency International is available in English, French and German:

EN: change.org/eu-lobbying

DE: change.org/eu-lobbyismus

FR: change.org/eu-lobbyisme

When the number of signatures (currently already over 50.000) reaches 75.000, the petition will be delivered to the European Parliament, the European Commission and the Council of the EU. The petitioners urge the three EU Institutions to live up to their political promises, by:

1. Making sure that all lobby organisations sign-up to the EU Register. Unregistered lobby organisations should no longer get meetings and should not be invited to hearings or expert groups.
2. Ensuring that all EU institutions are covered, including the Council, which has not even joined the current voluntary system. Political leaders and their close advisors should publish their meetings online.
3. Making the information provided on the register much more reliable. Therefore we need a robust monitoring system and sanctions for those lobbyists that do not play by the rules.

See the campaign video here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R_A3loKYsW4&feature=youtu.be