



Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs
The Chair

ACCES RESERVE

CONFIDENTIAL

315837 09.10.2014

Jerzy BUZEK
Chair
Conference of Committee Chairs

Dear Chair,

In accordance with Rule 118 of the Rules of Procedure of the European Parliament, the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs (ECON) held a public hearing¹ on Thursday, 2 October 2014 with Mr Pierre Moscovici, Commissioner-designate, who, subject to the positive outcome of the nomination procedure, will be responsible for Economic and Financial affairs, Taxation and Customs Union. A full transcript of the hearing is enclosed. On 3 October 2014 further information was requested from the Commissioner-designate.

After the hearing and in accordance with Annex XVI to the Rules of Procedure, the Coordinators of the ECON Committees met on 2 and 8 October 2014 to evaluate the Commissioner-designate. Concerning Mr Moscovici's portfolio and the working arrangements with other Commissioners, the Coordinators took note of the enclosed further information from President-elect Juncker.

However, the Coordinators were unable to reach a consensus on the evaluation. Therefore at the request of one political group, I convened a full committee meeting, which took place on 8 October 2014.

At that meeting, no consensus was reached on the evaluation and therefore the ECON Committee proceeded to vote by secret ballot. The Committee decided, by 44 votes in favour, 12 against and 3 abstentions that Mr Moscovici was qualified to be a member of the College of Commissioners, and by 32 votes in favour, 15 against and 12 abstentions, that he was qualified to carry out the particular duties assigned to him.

We would be grateful if you could bring this assessment to the attention of the Conference of Presidents.

Yours sincerely,



Roberto Gualtieri

Annex: The opinions of the IMCO and TRAN Committees

¹ The following committees were associated: the Committee on Internal Market and Consumer Protection (IMCO) and the Committee on International Trade (INTA).

ANNEX 1

Brussels, 8 October 2014

OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE ON INTERNAL MARKET AND CONSUMER PROTECTION ON THE EVALUATION OF MR PIERRE MOSCOVICI, COMMISSIONER-DESIGNATE FOR ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS, TAXATION AND CUSTOMS UNION

With regard to issues falling within the remit of the Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection, Mr Moscovici answered questions and made commitments on the following subjects:

- to be faithful to his mission and actively defend and promote the Customs Union by ensuring the enforcement and uniform implementation of the Customs Union Code ensuring that its substantive provisions will apply by the 1st May 2016 and closely involve the European Parliament in the preparation of its delegated acts;
- to promote the development of commonly managed IT tools in all customs related areas where customs authorities, market surveillance authorities and stakeholders can interact, notably through the use of a single window system;
- to foster consumer product safety and protect Intellectual Property Rights (IPR), the non-respect of which could hamper innovation and exclude new entrants, especially SMEs, from the market;
- to maximise opportunities for smart and inclusive growth, innovation, competitiveness, sustainability and jobs, and to address the fragmentation of the IPR landscape in the EU through the Customs Union;
- to fight Customs fraud by fostering a climate of reciprocal trust and cooperation among Member State;
- to be attentive to the European Parliament's own initiative reports and ensure that the Commission responds to parliamentary resolutions or requests made on the basis of Article 225 TFEU, within 3 months after their adoption.

Other subjects addressed by the Commissioner-designate included the challenges and opportunities of the Europe 2020 strategy, the application of the Stability and Growth Pact, the Financial Transaction Tax (FTT) and the Common Consolidated Corporate Tax Base (CCCTB).

On this basis, the Commission-designate has shown a good general knowledge of the Customs areas. We regret, however that little time was devoted by the EP to questions in the area of Customs.

The Committee confirmed that they look forward to early meetings with the Commissioner, once confirmed in office, at which he would spell out in more detail his specific approach on the dossiers in his Customs remit.

ANNEX 2

Brussels, 2 October 2014

OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE ON THE EVALUATION OF MR PIERRE MOSCOVICI, COMMISSIONER-DESIGNATE FOR ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS, TAXATION AND CUSTOMS UNION

Overall, the INTA finds the Commissioner-designate sufficiently knowledgeable on the necessary priorities within the Customs Union related part of his portfolio.

The INTA welcomes the commitments expressed and emphasis put by Commissioner-designate Moscovici during the hearing on:

- the importance of the Customs Union as part of his portfolio;
- the implementation of the Union Customs Code by May 2016, working closely with the Parliament's competent committees;
- International customs cooperation on supply chain security and risk management, notably with partners such as the US and China (together with the Eastern partners and the Mediterranean); and with the latter in particular on customs enforcement of IPR;
- international cooperation in the context of the World Customs Organisation and the World Trade Organisation;
- the close cooperation with the new trade commissioner on matters of international customs cooperation;



Jean-Claude JUNCKER
President-elect of the European Commission

Rue de la Loi, 200
B-1049 Brussels
T. +32 2 295 50 33
jean-claude.juncker@ec.europa.eu

Brussels, 6 October 2014
Ares (2014) 3310913

Dear President Schulz,

Further to my letter of 25 September 2014, I am pleased to confirm that Mr Dombrovskis, as Vice-President for the Euro and Social Dialogue, will manage and coordinate the participation of the Commission in the Council configuration "Economic and Financial Affairs", in the Eurogroup, in the economic dialogue with the European Parliament, in the Macroeconomic Dialogue and in the Governing Council of the European Central Bank, as well as for the preparation of the Tripartite Social Summits. And to do this, I have asked him to agree on pragmatic arrangements with the relevant Commissioners in the first weeks of the mandate.

Based on recent contacts, I can also confirm that Mr Moscovici, as Commissioner for Economic and Financial Affairs, Taxation and Customs, will indeed represent the Commission in the Eurogroup and ECOFIN in his area of responsibility. I must stress that myself and Vice-President Dombrovskis may decide to participate in such meetings when necessary, following past practices.

As regards participation in international meetings such as the G20 and IMF, these should be addressed in the pragmatic arrangements mentioned above. As a rule, I would expect the decision to be taken depending on the topics on the agenda, with due consideration to the need to provide continuity of contacts for our partners, but also to allow Commissioners to meet their EU obligations, notably to make themselves available for and to take an active part in European Parliament's plenary sessions and committee meetings, as well as trilogue negotiations.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Martin SCHULZ
President of the European Parliament

E-mail: martin.schulz@europarl.europa.eu

