

The Chair
Committee on Regional Development

IPOL-COM-REGI D (2024) 33911
CONFIDENTIAL

D 309106 21.11.2024

Mr Bernd Lange
Chair of the Conference of Committee Chairs
SPINELLI 12G301

Dear Mr Lange,

The Committee on Regional Development, in accordance with Rule 129 of the Rules of Procedure of the European Parliament, held a public confirmation hearing on 12 November 2024 with Raffaele Fitto, the Commission's Executive Vice-President-designate for Cohesion and Reforms, who, subject to the positive outcome of the nomination procedure, will be responsible for Cohesion and Reforms.

On 16 October 2024 the Committee on Regional Development, pursuant to Rule 129 of the Rules of Procedure and Article 2 of Annex VII thereto, received the letter from the Chair of the Committee on Legal Affairs regarding the scrutiny of the declaration of financial interests of Mr Fitto.

Prior to the confirmation hearing, Parliament had sent the Executive Vice-President-designate a list of written questions. My committee took note of the replies provided by Mr Fitto to those questions.

The course of the confirmation hearing is described in the verbatim transcript of the proceedings.

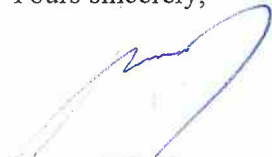
In accordance with Rule 129 of the Rules of Procedure and Article 5 of Annex VII thereto, the REGI coordinators representing a large majority of at least two thirds of committee members belonging to a political group approved that the Executive Vice-President-designate Fitto is qualified both to be a member of the College of Commission and to carry out the specific tasks assigned to him.

The minority opinions of the Greens/EFA group and the Left group are annexed to this letter. In addition, the opinions of the Committee on Transport and Tourism, the Committee on Budgets, the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development, the Committee on Fisheries, the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs, and the Committee on Economic and Monetary

Affairs, which were invited to participate in the confirmation hearing, are also annexed to this letter.

I would be grateful if you could bring this evaluation to the attention of the Conference of Presidents.

Yours sincerely,



Dragoș BENEĂ

Annexes:

- Annex I: Minority opinions of the Greens/EFA group and the Left group
- Annex II: Minority view of the S&D and Renew Europe groups
- Annex III: Opinions of invited Committees

cc: Elissavet VOZEMBERG-VRIONIDI, Chair of the Committee on Transport and Tourism
Johan VAN OVERTVELDT, Chair of the Committee on Budgets
Veronika VRECIKOVÁ, Chair of the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development
Carmen CRESPO DÍAZ, Chair of the Committee on Fisheries
Li ANDERSSON, Chair of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs
Aurore LALUCQ, Chair of the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs

MINORITY OPINION OF THE VERTS/ALE GROUP

In the hearing that took place on November 12th, commissioner-designate Raffaele Fitto was unfortunately unable to provide a satisfactory reassurance that, contrary to the evidence of his voting record in the European Parliament and public statements, as well as his record as minister for cohesion policy and in charge of the implementation of the Recovery and Resilience Facility, he is fit to be a Commissioner or to be entrusted with ultimate responsibility for Cohesion policy and the RRF, as well as with overseeing agriculture, transport, and fisheries policy. Along with his ambiguous track record on pro-European issues, he also failed to provide a clearly discernible strategy for the future of economic, social, and territorial cohesion of the European Union. Additionally, his lack of commitment to the Green Deal and the climate neutrality targets, as well as his unconvincing responses on his votes on rule of law make it impossible to support him as Executive Vice-President of the European Commission.

MINORITY OPINION OF THE LEFT GROUP

The Left believes that Raffaele Fitto was not able to ensure strong commitments for the social and environmental aspects of the cohesion policy, the importance of the partnership with local and regional authorities and the link with rule of law and fundamental rights. Nor did he give reassuring answers on the worrying link between cohesion and reforms of the European semester, or on his past activities on the implementation of RRF. The Left has also strong concerns on Raffaele Fitto's national party and government, notably their policy on rule of law, RRF or migration.

Furthermore the left strongly denounces the whole process of the Commissioners' evaluations which appeared to be a farce organised by the big groups and strongly weakened the European Parliament role within the E.U.

MINORITY VIEW OF THE S&D AND RENEW EUROPE GROUPS

The S&D and Renew Europe groups regret Ursula von der Leyen's choice to provide Raffaele Fitto with the position of Executive Vice-President. The groups expect him to be fully independent from his national government as required by the Treaties and fully committed to apply the rule of law conditionality mechanism and to work on the strengthening of the rule of law in the Union.

Committee on Transport and Tourism
The Chairwoman



TRAN/D/2024/32262

CONFIDENTIAL

D 309029 21.11.2024

Mr Adrian-Dragoş Benea
Chair
Committee on Regional Development
SPINELLI 13G354

Dear Chair,

The Committee on Transport and Tourism, invited to the confirmation hearing of Commissioner-designate Raffaele Fitto, which took place on 12 November 2024, considers that the Commissioner-designate is qualified to be member of the College and is qualified to carry out the particular duties he has been assigned relating to Cohesion and Reforms, as regards guiding the work on sustainable mobility and tourism.

This opinion has been adopted by Coordinators representing a broad majority of committee members belonging to a political group.

Yours sincerely,



Elissavet Vozemberg-Vrionidi

*cc : CoordLeg Secretariat
Bernd Lange, Chair of Conference of Committee Chairs
Sabina Magnano, Director of Directorate for Structural and Cohesion Policies*



Европейски парламент Parlamento Europeo Evropský parlament Europa-Parlamentet Europäisches Parlament
Euroopa Parlament Ευρωπαϊκό Κοινοβούλιο European Parliament Parlement européen Parlaimint na hEorpa
Europski parlament Parlamento europeo Eiropas Parlaments Europos Parlamentas Európai Parlament
Parlament Ewropew Europees Parlement Parlament Europejski Parlamento Europeu Parlamentul European
Európsky parlament Evropski parlament Euroopan parlamentti Europaparlamentet

Committee on Budgets
The Chairman

CONFIDENTIAL
D(2024)33293

D 309020 21.11.2024

Mr Adrian- Dragoş Benea
Chair of REGI Committee

Subject: BUDG Assessment of Executive Vice-President-Designate for Cohesion and Reforms, Raffaele Fitto

The Committee on Budgets, invited to the confirmation hearing of Commissioner-designate Fitto, which took place on 12 November, considers that the Commissioner-designate is qualified to be member of the College and is qualified to carry out the particular duties he has been assigned in the field of cohesion and reforms.

This opinion has been adopted by Coordinators representing at least a simple majority of committee members belonging to a political group.

Yours sincerely,

Johan Van Overtveldt
Chair of the BUDG Committee

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT
THE CHAIR

Adrian-Dragoş Benea
Chair of the Committee on Regional Development
ASP 13G354
Brussels

D 309039 21.11.2024

CONFIDENTIAL

IPOL-COM-AGRI D (2024) 32741

Dear Chair,

On 12 November, the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development (AGRI) was invited to participate in the confirmation hearing of Mr Raffaele Fitto, Executive Vice-President-designate for Cohesion and Reforms. The meeting was organised by the Committee on Regional Development.

The hearing, and the answers to the written questions he had provided previously, gave the impression that Mr Fitto was capable of taking on the responsibilities relating to AGRI to be entrusted to him.

Consequently, in accordance with Rule 129 of the Rules of Procedure and Annex VII thereof, AGRI coordinators, representing the majority of Committee members belonging to a political group, agreed that Mr Raffaele Fitto, Executive Vice-President-designate for Cohesion and Reforms, is qualified to be a member of the College and to carry out the particular duties he has been assigned, as far as AGRI remit is concerned.

Yours sincerely,



Veronika Vrecionová

CC: Mr Bernd Lange, Chair of the Conference of the Committee Chairs

Committee on Fisheries
The Chair

CONFIDENTIAL

IPOL-COM-PECH D (2024) 32781

D 309038 21.11.2024

Mr Adrian-Dragoş BENEÀ
Chair
Committee on Regional Development
SPINELLI 13G354

Dear Chair,

The Committee on Fisheries, invited to the confirmation hearing of the Executive Vice-President-designate Raffaele FITTO, which took place on 12 November 2024, considers that the Executive Vice-President-designate is qualified to be Member of the College of Commissioners and is qualified to carry out the particular duties he has been assigned with regard to cohesion and reforms, in relation to fisheries and aquaculture policies.

This opinion has been adopted by PECH Coordinators by written procedure on 20 November 2024, by 22 votes in favour, 4 votes against and no abstention, representing a large majority (18/26) of committee members belonging to a political group.



Carmen CRESPO DÍAZ

Chair of the Committee on Fisheries

cc: Bernd Lange, Chair of CCC



Committee on Employment and Social Affairs
The Chair

D(2024)32713
MC/YM/mk

CONFIDENTIAL

D 309022 21.11.2024

Adrian-Dragoş BENEĂ
Chair of the Committee on Regional
Development
SPINELLI 13G354

Dear Chair,

The Committee on Employment and Social Affairs, invited to the confirmation hearing of Commissioner-designate for Cohesion and Reforms, Raffaele FITTO, which took place on Tuesday 12 November 2024, considers that the Commissioner-designate is qualified to be member of the College and is qualified to carry out the particular duties he has been assigned in the field of employment and social affairs, notably related to reforms and investments in this field, and on the European housing programmes and policies.

This opinion has been adopted by Coordinators representing a simple majority of committee members belonging to a political group.

I would like to thank you in advance for taking this opinion into consideration.

Li ANDERSSON

cc. Bernd Lange, Chair of the Conference of Committee Chairs

Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs
The Chair

D 309024 21.11.2024

CONFIDENTIAL

Mr. Adrian-Dragoş Benea
Chair
Committee on Regional
Development

Subject: Assessment of Commissioner-designate Raffaele FITTO - opinion of the ECON committee

Dear Mr. Benea,

The Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs, invited to the confirmation hearing of Commissioner-designate Raffaele FITTO, which took place on 12 November 2024, considers that the Commissioner-designate is qualified to be member of the College and is qualified to carry out the particular duties he has been assigned in the field of RRF, NextGenerationEU, and Reform and Investments.

This opinion has been adopted by Coordinators representing at least a simple majority of committee members belonging to a political group.

Yours sincerely,



Aurore Lalucq