

Committee on Culture and Education  
The Chair



CONFIDENTIAL

Bernd Lange  
Chair  
Conference of Committee Chairs

IPOL-COM-CULT D (2024) 32969

Dear Mr Lange,

The Committee on Culture and Education, in accordance with Rule 129 of the Rules of Procedure of the European Parliament, held a public confirmation hearing on 4 November with Glenn Micallef, Commissioner-designate, who, subject to the positive outcome of the nomination procedure, will be responsible for Intergenerational Fairness, Youth, Culture and Sport.

On 16 October the Committee on Culture and Education, 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 Micallef.

Prior to the confirmation hearing, Parliament had sent the Commissioner-designate a list of written questions. My committee noted that Mr Micallef answered those questions and dealt with the priorities outlined in a satisfactory manner.

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

On the basis of the responses of the Members present at the confirmation hearing, as well as the comments made by my committee's coordinators, who met in camera after the confirmation hearing under my chairmanship, I hereby give the following assessment:

- The Commissioner-designate communicated his plans for the policy areas in his portfolio, namely on Intergenerational Fairness, Youth, Culture and Sport, in a clear manner. He demonstrated that his ideas are coherent and that he has clear objectives on how his portfolio will contribute to the development of the European project. He held various EU related positions and had direct experience in engaging with youth, sport and cultural organisations at local, national and international level and in the policy areas under his future responsibilities.
- The Commissioner-designate showed a clear commitment to key values such as diversity, fairness, solidarity, democracy, gender equality and social inclusion. Overall,

he demonstrated a very positive attitude to engaging with the Members, notably through future participation in structured dialogues with the European Parliament.

- Throughout the confirmation hearing, the Commissioner-designate was able to answer Members' questions with openness, clarity and, in general, showed a good grasp of the different policy areas. On occasions, his replies focused on headline policy priorities and lacked some details on future budgetary aspects within his portfolio. Furthermore, some specificities on the future Culture Compass could have been better explained and a detailed overview on the explicit cooperation between the Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture (DG EAC) and the Directorate-General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology (DG CONNECT) was equally absent. Finally, coordinators were expecting a comprehensive overview on the future of the European Solidarity Corps programme as well as a stronger commitment in engaging with young people with fewer opportunities. In relation to these points, coordinators expect a thorough follow-up by Mr Micallef in the near future.

Opinions of committees invited to participate in the confirmation hearing are in the annex.

The general outcome of this confirmation hearing is that the Commissioner-designate gave a convincing impression of his aptitude to be a member of the College of Commissioners and to carry out the specific tasks assigned to him.

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

During the evaluation meeting, the coordinator of the Europe Sovereign Nations Group and the coordinator of the Patriots for Europe Group requested the inclusion of the following minority views:

The coordinator of the Patriots for Europe Group:

- It is not possible to determine from Mr Micallef's hearing whether he would be suitable to be a member of the College of Commissioners and whether he is qualified to perform his duties:
  - First, Mr Micallef did not make a clear commitment to respect all parliamentarians, including members of sovereigntist opposition groups, by dissociating himself from any form of cordon sanitaire or anti-democratic boycott.
  - This conviction is reinforced by Mr Micallef's answers to written questions from the Culture Committee, where he stressed on a number of occasions his socialist political affiliation.
  - Second, from the substantive answers to questions we asked Mr Micallef, for example on the follow-up to the RAAP judgment of 8 September 2020 on the payment of royalties to third-country musicians and composers or on the prevailing legislative inflation in the field of digital technologies, it was not possible to

- determine whether the future Commissioner genuinely wishes to contribute to correcting these problems.
- The answers are too broad and too evasive to determine whether his actions would have a real impact and make it possible to resolve the various problems. For example, on artists' income, with the problem of streaming.
  - The same applies to intergenerational fairness, where he refers only to young people. Finally, in a three-hour hearing, it was not possible to obtain a clear answer on what the culture compass would include.

The coordinator of the Europe Sovereign Nations Group:

- Mr Micallef gave very evasive answers to our questions about the protection of freedom of expression on the Internet, the increasing ideologization of science, the cancellation of Erasmus+ funding for various Hungarian universities and the EU's ideological promotion of culture, indicating that he is not willing to change the wrong course of EU policy. The ESN group therefore does not consider him suitable to fill the role of Commissioner.

During the confirmation hearing, Mr Micallef made the following important specific commitments that coordinators requested to be listed in this evaluation letter, as follows:

- To strengthen the Erasmus+ programme in the next Multiannual Financial Framework in strong coordination with responsible Commissioners;
- To work towards avoiding fragmentation as regards the financial support to the culture and creative sectors;
- To further simplify the programmes within his portfolio;
- To follow-up the Parliament's resolution on the "EU framework for the social and professional situation of artists and workers in the cultural and creative sectors", including through possible legislative initiatives;
- To strengthen cooperation with Ukraine;
- To ensure youth mainstreaming also through the establishment of a 'youth check' as of 2025, to be applied to a full range of Commission initiatives and to further ones if requested and in dialogue with the European Parliament;
- To implement the EU Youth Strategy to address combined gender and age inequalities;
- To develop a new Culture Compass as a future oriented vision for culture in the European Union, including by taking forward a more strategic approach for the cultural and creative sectors and industries and by addressing AI related challenges;
- To submit an annual progress report on Intergenerational Fairness, Youth, Culture and Sport.

Yours sincerely,



Nela Riehl  
Chair, Committee on Culture and Education

Committee on Employment and Social Affairs  
The Chair



D(2024)32555  
ABR/MKN/vf

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**D 104570 05.11.2024**

Nela RIEHL  
Chair of the Committee on Culture and  
Education  
SPINELLI 04F368

Dear Chair,

The Committee on Employment and Social Affairs, invited to the confirmation hearing of Glenn MICALLEF, Commissioner-designate for Intergenerational Fairness, Youth, Culture and Sport, which took place on Monday 4 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 in the following fields: youth and intergenerational fairness and the working conditions of artists and cultural professionals.

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

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



Jagna MARCZUŁAJTIS-WALCZAK

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

D 104612 05.11.2024



Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs  
The Chairman

IPOL-COM-LIBE D (2024) 33113

*Nela RIEHL*  
*Chair of the Committee on Culture and Education*

***Subject: LIBE Committee opinion on the Confirmation Hearing of Glenn MICALLEF***

The Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs (LIBE) was invited to the confirmation hearing of the Commissioner-designate for Intergenerational Fairness, Youth, Culture and Sport, Glenn MICALLEF, which took place on Monday 4 November 2024.

Following his replies to LIBE-related questions, the Committee considers that the Commissioner-designate is qualified to be a member of the College and is qualified to carry out the particular duties he has been assigned in the LIBE Committee's remit. The LIBE Committee expects concrete measures, in particular with regard to the protection of children's rights and physical integrity, and the fight against cyberbullying. Mr Micallef also committed to cooperate with the European Parliament and its committees, including in the context of the EU Children's Participation Platform, and to working with the other Commissioners concerned, which is essential for his broad portfolio.

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

Yours sincerely,



Javier ZARZALEJOS, Chair of the LIBE Committee

cc:

Bernd LANGE, Conference of Committee Chairs  
Committee Coordination and Legislative Programming Unit (Coordleg)

Committee on Legal Affairs  
The Chair

D 104565 05.11.2024

CONFIDENTIAL

Ms Nela RIEHL  
Chair of the Committee on Culture and Education  
European Parliament  
ASP 04F368

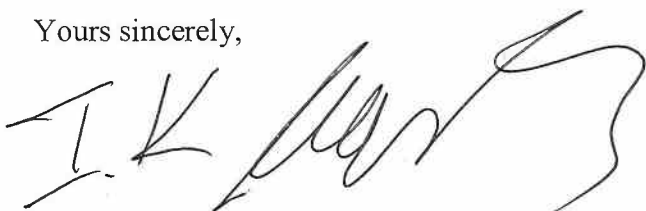
**Subject: Opinion of the JURI Committee concerning the Commissioner - designate  
Glenn Micallef following the assessment meeting of the JURI Coordinators**

Dear Chair,

The Committee on Legal Affairs, invited to the confirmation hearing of Commissioner-designate Glenn Micallef, which took place on 4 November 2024, considers that the Commissioner-designate is qualified to be a member of the College and is qualified to carry out the particular duties that he has been assigned in the field of those parts of a candidate's portfolio on Intergenerational Fairness, Youth, Culture and Sport, which fall to a substantial extent within the responsibility of the Committee on Legal Affairs.

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

Yours sincerely,



Ilhan KYUCHYUK

Copy:  
Mr Bernd Lange, Chair of the Conference of Committee Chairs  
CCC Secretariat