

Committee on Transport and Tourism
The Chairwoman

TRAN/D/2024/32097

D 104598 05.11.2024

CONFIDENTIAL

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

Dear Chair,

The Committee on Transport and Tourism, in accordance with Rule 129 of the Rules of Procedure of the European Parliament, held a public confirmation hearing on 4 November 2024 with Mr Apostolos Tzitzikostas, Commissioner-designate, who, subject to the positive outcome of the nomination procedure, will be responsible for the portfolio on Sustainable Transport and Tourism.

On 16 October 2024, the Committee on Transport and Tourism, 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 Apostolos Tzitzikostas.

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

The course of the confirmation hearing as well as the commitments made by the Commissioner-designate are 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, we hereby give the following assessment:

Mr Tzitzikostas gave a convincing impression concerning his professional experience, his knowledge of the transport and tourism portfolios and his commitment to put forward concrete strategies for these two sectors, in line with the specific tasks assigned to him in the mission letter by President von der Leyen.

Mr Tzitzikostas also committed to ensure that his interactions with the TRAN committee will be open, transparent, constructive and regular.

In accordance with Rule 129 of the Rules of Procedure and Article 5 of Annex VII thereto, the TRAN coordinators representing a large majority of at least two thirds of committee members

belonging to a political group, approved that the Commissioner-designate Mr Apostolos Tzitzikostas is qualified both to be a member of the College of Commissioners and to carry out the specific tasks assigned to him.

During the evaluation meeting, the Coordinator of the ESN group requested the inclusion of the following minority view:

"The ESN group cannot support the Commissioner-designate for Sustainable Transport and Tourism because his statements and proposals are clearly characterised by centralist, EU-wide requirements that run counter to the national interests and needs of our citizens. The idea of imposing a uniform European transport and tourism policy while at the same time implementing far-reaching and misguided decarbonisation policies across all Member States ignores the diverse economic, social and infrastructural conditions in the individual member states. The centralist measures, including those of the Green Deal, are already having a considerable negative impact on the competitiveness of many of our national manufacturing and service companies and are jeopardising and destroying jobs. Instead of pursuing ideologically motivated and pointless climate targets at the expense of our economy, the EU should show more respect for the sovereignty of the Member States and respect their national competences in this policy area."

The opinion of the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety invited to participate in the confirmation hearing is 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.

Yours sincerely,



Elissavet Vozemberg-Vrionidi

cc: CoordLeg Secretariat

Antonio Decaro, Chair of the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety

Sabina Magnano, Director of Directorate for Structural and Cohesion Policies

Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety
The Chair

SD/HL/gg
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CONFIDENTIAL

Ms Elissavet Vozemberg-Vrionidi
Chair of the Committee on Transport and
Tourism

Dear Chair,

The Committee on on Environment, Public Health and Food safety, invited to the confirmation hearing of Commissioner-designate Apostolos Tzitzikostas, which took place on 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 sustainable transport and tourism.

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

Antonio Decaro



Cc: Bernd Lange, Chair of CCC