



Alliance for Lobbying Transparency and Ethics Regulation
Rue d'Edimbourg 26
1050 Brussels

Brussels, 1st April 2015

Dear President Schulz MEP

Ten policy recommendations for a strengthened MEP Code of Conduct & Navigating the lobby labyrinth: A guide to transparency and ethics for MEPs

The Alliance for Lobby Transparency and Ethics Regulation (ALTER-EU) has today launched two new publications and we are pleased to provide you with a copy of each one. **We would also like to request a meeting with you to discuss how you might take these matters forward within the Parliament.**

Four years after the 2011 'cash for amendments' scandal in the European Parliament, and three years after the adoption of the Code of Conduct for MEPs, ALTER-EU believes that it is time for a review of the rules for MEPs to ensure that conflicts of interest and undue influence are avoided. Our new briefing **Ten policy recommendations for a strengthened MEP Code of Conduct** sets out ALTER-EU's proposals which include a ban on side jobs with companies or groups that are involved in EU lobbying. We also recommend tighter disclosure requirements for outside financial interests; a strengthened ethics advisory committee; and stronger sanctions for violations of the rules.

Today we are also launching **Navigating the lobby labyrinth: A guide to transparency and ethics for MEPs**. The guide offers practical advice for MEPs on how to navigate the Brussels bubble while maintaining their independence and integrity, especially when it comes to contacts with lobbyists. The guide is intended to help MEPs demonstrate their commitment to transparency and fulfil their obligations to be receptive to public opinion, open to public scrutiny, and fully independent in order to defend the public interest.

We hope that you will find both of these documents useful; please do get in touch with us if you have any comments or questions and we look forward to hearing from you about a meeting.

Yours faithfully,

ALTER-EU steering committee

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