

JYRKI KATAINEN
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Brussels, 31. 01. 2018

Dear Ms Silva,

Thank you for your email of 24 January requesting further information regarding my meeting with Goldman Sachs on 25 October 2017.

Indeed, I met with Mr Barroso from Goldman Sachs in the Silken Berlaymont Hotel in Brussels on 25 October 2017. Mr Barroso and I were the only participants to this meeting, where we mostly discussed trade and defence matters.

The meeting was set up at Mr Barroso's request and it was arranged over the phone by my office.

I usually do not take notes in meetings and I did not do so at this meeting either. For these reasons, there are no documents regarding this event.

Regarding your last point on my professional contacts with Mr Barroso, please note that other than the meeting on 25 October 2017, Mr Barroso and I did not have the opportunity to meet since he joined Goldman Sachs in July 2016.

Transparency is a priority for the European Commission. When it comes to meetings, we have jointly with the European Parliament increased transparency by preconditioning our meetings with professional organisations or self-employed individuals, making sure that they are registered in the Transparency Register¹, and we also make public such meetings. Our next step is to start interinstitutional tripartite negotiations, involving also the Council, on the basis of the Commission's proposal for an Interinstitutional Agreement on a mandatory Transparency Register.

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¹ <http://ec.europa.eu/transparencyregister/public/homePage.do>

In addition, the Commission has adopted on 31 January 2018 the new Code of Conduct² for Members of the European Commission, taking effect immediately, continuing the Commission's push for greater transparency and accountability since the beginning of this mandate.

Yours sincerely,



Jyrki KATAINEN