



Who is meeting whom?

The lobby meetings of the new European Commission

Introduction

The new European Commission, which came into power in November 2014, announced that improving the transparency of EU decision making was one of its top priorities.¹ Subsequently, the Commission adopted a decision to publish all meetings of its Vice-Presidents, Commissioners, their cabinets and the Directors-General of the different Directorates-General (DGs) with lobbyists and interest representatives from 1 December 2014 onwards. The rules stipulate that the meetings must be published online within two weeks after they have taken place.² They do not, however, apply to meetings of lower-level Commission staff and do not cover internal meetings, conferences as well as meetings with politicians, political parties and international organisations.³

Furthermore, Commission President Juncker set out additional guidelines for the members of the European Commission and their encounters with lobbyists. Firstly, the “Members of the Commission should seek to ensure an appropriate balance and representativeness in the

¹ http://ec.europa.eu/priorities/docs/pg_en.pdf

² ec.europa.eu/news/2014/docs/c_2014_9051_en.pdf

³ The full text of the decision lists several additional exceptions: “This notion does not include representatives of other Union institutions or bodies, national, regional and local authorities of Member States and of third countries or international organisations. However, it covers any association or network created to represent regions or other sub-national public authorities collectively.

This Decision shall not apply to meetings held with social partners at Union level in the context of the social dialogue, or to meetings held in the context of the dialogue with churches, religious associations or communities, as well as with philosophical and non-confessional organisations

This Decision shall not apply to meetings held with representatives of political parties.”

stakeholders they meet” and secondly they “must not meet professional organisations or self-employed individuals which are not registered in the Transparency Register.”

With the lobby meeting reporting obligation in force for more than half a year, ALTER-EU undertook an analysis of the meeting data with Transparency International’s new online tool IntegrityWatch.eu.⁴ The key results are:

1. Lobbyists representing businesses and trade associations continue to dominate the lobbying scene in Brussels, making up 75% of all high-level meetings and more than 80% in certain areas such as financial regulation or the internal market. This contradicts the Commission’s own guidelines on balanced meetings with different stakeholders.
2. The new rules prohibiting meetings with unregistered lobbyists seem to have been mostly effective. However, concerns remain about meetings that take place on the margins of international business summits, such as the World Economic Forum. These events open up opportunities for unregistered lobbyists to hold meetings with high-level officials.
3. The Commission’s own commitment to transparency in lobby meetings seems patchy. For almost all Commissioners, a discrepancy between their published agendas and the lobby meetings listed could be found, suggesting many meetings listed in the agenda that were not reported on afterwards. The commitment of

⁴ <http://www.integritywatch.eu/>

All data used in this briefing is derived from Integrity Watch. It was not possible to independently verify the data on the European Commission’s website. The data presented in the annex has been obtained through manual comparison of agendas and lobby meeting registrations.

The figures cited in this report are based on data from 23 June 2015.

some Commissioners to publish their meetings seems to be decreasing (fewer meetings are published now than at the beginning of the year) and there are strong reasons to suspect under-reporting of lobby meetings in violation of the Commission's own rules.

In light of these findings, ALTER-EU calls on the European Commission to:

- ▶ Take measures to ensure a more balanced representation of stakeholders in high-level Commission meetings, including limiting the number of meetings with big business lobbyists
- ▶ Extend the ban on meeting unregistered lobbyists to all levels of the Commission
- ▶ Ensure the highest quality of data when publishing lobby meetings, including a fully comprehensive list of lobby meetings and notifications of cancelled meetings

I. Corporate lobbyists continue to dominate the high-level lobbying scene

Corporate lobbyists are dominating when it comes to high-level lobbying in Brussels. They have held more than 75% of all meetings with senior officials in the European Commission between 1 December 2014 and 23 June 2015. With lobby consultancies and law firms, representing mostly corporate clients, holding another 5% of high-level meetings, Commission officials overwhelmingly heard the view of business lobbyists on European policy issues.

Yet a more in-depth look reveals stark differences between different policy areas and officials in the European Commission. Some Commissioners and high-level officials (cabinet members and Directors-General) show a particularly imbalanced meeting record, while others met more evenly with different interest groups.

Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker and his cabinet are largely representative of the Commission as a whole: The vast majority 62% of the lobby meetings were held with business lobbyists and only 17% with civil society groups. The French energy company Engie (formerly GDF Suez) held most meetings with President Juncker and his cabinet. When looking at Juncker's cabinet alone, the consultancy Global Counsel, which is chaired by ex-Commissioner Mandelson and lists the controversial paper company Asian Pulp & Paper and the

Spanish bank Banco Santander among its biggest clients, had the highest number of lobby meetings.

Vice-President Maroš Šefčovič, responsible for the Energy Union, has met corporate lobbyists much more often than groups representing other sectors such as NGOs or trade unions: Of the 40 meetings officially recorded, 31 were with corporate lobby groups, 3 with civil society and 2 with trade unions. In fact, he met with Engie as often as he met with all environmental NGOs put together. Similarly his cabinet, held 73% of its meetings with corporate lobbyists, while meetings with civil society represented only 15% of the total. Fossil fuel interests dominate Šefčovič's agenda and that of his cabinet, with the Norwegian oil company Statoil, the Austrian oil and gas company OMV and the French energy company Engie securing the highest number of meetings.

When it comes to trade issues, such as the highly controversial free trade negotiations between the EU and the US (Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership – TTIP), there is a similar lack of balance between corporate and non-corporate lobby groups. Of the 225 meetings **DG Trade** has held, 171 (76%) were with business interests and only 33 with civil society representatives. All of the ten organisations DG Trade met with most often directly represent corporate interests. Most striking is the case of DG Trade Director-General Jean-Luc Demarty, who has not met with a single civil society representative since December 2014, while liaising with 18 business lobby groups.

The Directorate General with the weakest record when it comes to holding balanced meetings was **DG Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs**, where 85% of the meetings took place with business representatives, whereas civil society represented only 6% of all meetings. Three large business associations – BusinessEurope, EuroChambres and EuroCommerce – held more meetings with DG Internal Market than the entire NGO sector combined. **Commissioner Elżbieta Bieńkowska** has not registered a meeting with NGO representatives and only one with a trade union federation whilst meeting 26 business lobbyists. This is despite the fact that internal meeting records from Friends of the Earth Europe show that Bieńkowska met with the Green 10 environmental NGO umbrella group in December 2014. As of 23 June 2015, the meeting has not been registered in her lobby meeting list.

A similarly strong dominance of corporate interests can be found at **DG Financial Stability, Financial Services and Capital Markets Union**. 83% of lobby meetings took place with corporate representatives, while civil society constituted only 4% of all encounters. Among the organisations with the highest number of meetings are the Association for Financial Markets in Europe, the lobby group for Europe's biggest banks, and Insurance Europe, representing the European insurance industry, which are among the biggest spenders when it comes to lobbying in Brussels.⁵

The **DGs for Economic & Financial Affairs** and for **Taxation & Customs Union** are another example of highly imbalanced meetings held by its senior officials, including the **Commissioner Pierre Moscovici**. Business interests secured 80% of the meetings with Moscovici, his cabinet and the Directors-General. Neither of the two Directors-General have met a single representative from civil society since they started recording their meetings with interest representatives. In addition, French companies such as LVMH, l'Oréal, Société Générale or Electricité de France rank at the top of the meetings list.

Finally, the meeting records of **Vice-President for Jobs, Growth, Investment and Competitiveness, Jyrki Katainen**, and his cabinet show some interesting trends. Katainen and his cabinet held the second highest number of lobby meetings out of all of the Commissioners, and on top of that, their list of meetings is dominated by the corporate sector (75% of all meetings were with business representatives as opposed to 12% for civil society organisations). Furthermore, the three lobby groups that have held most meetings are all from Finland, with the Finnish Confederation of Industries taking the lead, having held 8 meetings in only 5 months.

Only very few DGs and Commissioners show a relatively even balance of meetings with different types of interest representatives. Encounters with corporate representatives constitute 48% of the meetings held by **Commissioner Dimitris Avramopoulos**, his cabinet and DG responsible for Migration, Home Affairs, and Citizenship. The DGs and Commissioners responsible for health and education (**DG SANTE** and **DG EAC**) also achieved a roughly equal representation of different interest groups.

⁵ <http://lobbyfacts.eu/reports/lobby-costs/trade-associations>

This brief analysis of the balance of meetings held by Directors General, Commissioners and their cabinets with interest representatives yields two main conclusions:

1. There is a strong imbalance in meetings held by the top ranks in the European Commission which leans in favour of business lobbyists as opposed to all other sectors of society. This directly contradicts the guidelines set out by Commission President Juncker which call for balance and representativeness in meetings with stakeholders.
2. Some DGs and Commissioners have managed to meet equally with corporate and non-corporate interest representatives, which demonstrates that it is possible to achieve balance in high-level lobby meetings in practice.

Considering the fact that business lobbyists vastly outnumber (and outspend) lobbyists from civil society groups at the EU level it is imperative that the Commission limits the number of meetings with business lobby groups and puts in place an active policy to strengthen its contacts with civil society groups and to enable them to meet with high-level officials. This would be an effective way to ensure that there is a balanced representation of interest groups in the European Commission's decision-making processes.

II. Meetings with unregistered organisations

Alongside its commitment to publish all lobby meetings online, the European Commission also promised to only meet lobbyists who have signed up to the EU's transparency register. Overall, it appears that Commissioners, their cabinets and Directors-General have followed the guidelines and not met with unregistered lobbyists, though there are some exceptions. For example, Swedish **Trade Commissioner Cecilia Malmström** attended a breakfast meeting of the Swedish PRIME PR agency, which is not listed in the register.

Two meetings with unregistered organisations also took place at the World Economic Forum in Davos: **First Vice-President Timmermans** met with the World Business Council for Sustainable Development and **Commissioner Moscovici** held a meeting with Bridgewater, a consultancy. Neither have entries in the transparency register. Overall, of the nine members of the Commission present at the World Economic Forum,⁶ eight recorded

⁶ http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_AGENDA-15-3380_en.htm

31 lobby meetings in Davos; only two of them with civil society and the vast majority with multinational corporations. The sheer amount of lobby meetings held by Commission members in Davos and the fact that they met there with unregistered lobbyists highlights the privileged access that high-level conferences like the World Economic Forum often offer to big business.

A meeting held by **Jonathan Faull, Director-General of DG Financial Stability, Financial Services and Capital Markets Union**, raises more questions than answers: He met with the law firm Steptoe & Johnson in December 2014 to discuss one of the most important European regulations for the financial sector (the Markets in Financial Instruments Directive – MiFID) as well as “Switzerland”. However, because Steptoe & Johnson, a multinational law firm employing 15 lawyers in Brussels,⁷ has not signed up to the register, it is impossible to know on whose behalf they were lobbying.

Meetings with unregistered organisations were also announced in the Commissioners’ official agendas (even though there is no certainty that they actually took place). **Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker’s** agenda lists a meeting with a delegation from the EU-Japan Business Round Table, despite the organisation not being listed in the transparency register. Similarly, **First Vice-President Timmermans’** agenda includes a “meeting with Danish Business Forum for Simpler Rules hosted by Mr Michael Ring, CEO of STELTON”. Neither the Danish Business Forum for Simpler Rules nor Stelton are in the transparency register. Research, Science and Innovation **Commissioner Carlos Moedas** lists a meeting with the unregistered company Aeromobil, and Competition **Commissioner Margrethe Vestager** scheduled an encounter with the unregistered Danish Regional Banking Association.

III. Failure to declare lobby meetings

When the European Commission announced the disclosure of high-level lobby meetings, it said that it “intends to lead by example” on transparency matters.⁸ The new rules for Commissioners, their cabinets and the Directors-General oblige them to publish their meetings within a maximum of two weeks after they have taken place.⁹

⁷ http://www.brusselslegal.com/article/display/2787/Jean_Rusotto_Partner_of_Steptoe_Johnson_Brussels

⁸ http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-14-2131_en.htm

⁹ ec.europa.eu/news/2014/docs/c_2014_9051_en.pdf

Yet, a comparison of the list of declared lobby meetings and the Commissioners’, Presidents’ and Vice-Presidents’ agendas reveals a major discrepancy between the two: in total 131 meetings that appear in the agendas, and should have been reported under the new rules, did not find their way into the meetings register (see Annex).

Two caveats need to be made: It is perfectly possible that some of the meetings listed in the officials agendas were cancelled at the last minute, but it is highly unlikely that this has been the case for all of the missing ones. At the same time, only a selection of meetings is included in the published agenda and many lobby meetings are not. It also needs to be pointed out that three Commissioners do not publish an online agenda at all whilst others publish their agenda inconsistently— with entire months missing. Thus, while some meetings listed in the annex might not have taken place, it is equally possible that a number of meetings are missing from both the lobby meetings list and the official agendas.¹⁰

Only one single Commission member – **Vice-President Valdis Dombrovskis** – declared all the relevant meetings listed in his agenda also in his list of lobby meetings (although his agenda only starts in January 2015). All other members of the Commission who publish their agendas online failed to register between one and 13 lobby meetings that should have been declared according to the internal Commission rules (this excludes three **Commissioners Phil Hogan, Dimitris Avramopoulos and Elżbieta Bieńkowska**, who do not publish their agendas online).

Several Commissioners show particularly high discrepancies between their agendas and the reported lobby meetings: For example **Vice-President Maroš Šefčovič** failed to report 11 meetings that appear in his agenda, while **Commissioner Jonathan Hill**, responsible for the financial sector, did not list 13 meetings that are in his agenda. The majority of his missing meetings were with representatives from private financial institutions.

The commitment to make their lobby contacts public might also have waned from several Commissioners. For example the number of reported meetings of agriculture

¹⁰ Consumer Organisation BEUC confirmed that meetings with Vice-President Ansip and Commissioner Cañete took place, despite their missing entry in the lobby meeting register. Friends of the Earth Europe confirmed a missing meeting with Commissioner Vella.

Commissioner Hogan, trade **Commissioner Malmström**, transport **Commissioner Bulc** and health **Commissioner Andriukaitis** has dropped markedly after the first months of reporting very frequent lobbying contacts. It would be surprising if the number of lobby meetings has actually gone down to such a high degree – furthermore, the Commissioners’ agendas indicate otherwise.

The comparison between agendas and reported meetings leaves serious doubts about how effectively the new rules have been implemented thus far. It gives the impression that a significant number of meetings are not currently reported, contrary to the Commission’s own rules.

Conclusion

An analysis of the meeting data has shown that the European Commission, despite President Juncker’s guidelines on balanced stakeholder representation, continues to meet largely with lobbyists who represent business interests. Overall, 75% of all high-level lobby meetings took place with lobbyists representing corporate interests.

Although meetings with unregistered lobbyists seem to have happened mainly on the margins of the World Economic Forum, the wide-spread discrepancies between the meetings listed in the agendas and the registered lobby meetings raise questions about the application in practice of the new Commission’s commitment to greater transparency. If the highest level officials are failing to comply with the rules, this not only reflects poorly on the Commission as a whole, but also sets a questionable example for lower level staff on the importance of transparency rules.

To improve transparency at the Commission level, ALTER-EU therefore recommends that the European Commission:

- ▶ Takes measures to ensure a more balanced representation of stakeholders in high-level Commission meetings, including limiting the number of meetings with big business lobbyists
- ▶ Extends the ban on meeting unregistered lobbyists to all levels of the Commission
- ▶ Ensures the highest quality of data when publishing lobby meetings, including a fully comprehensive list of lobby meetings and notifications of cancelled meetings

Annex Meetings listed in the official agendas but not in the lobby meeting overview ¹¹

President **Jean-Claude Juncker**

- ▶ 2 March 2015: meets with Reiner Hoffmann, Chairman of the German Trade Union Confederation, Berlin
- ▶ 23 April 2015: Receives the president of the Austrian Federal Economic Chamber, Mr Christoph Leitl
- ▶ 29 April 2015: Receives a Delegation of the EU-Japan Business Round Table

First Vice-President **Frans Timmermans** (Better Regulation, Interinstitutional Relations, the Rule of Law and the Charter of Fundamental Rights)

- ▶ 30 January 2015: meeting with Danish Business Forum for Simpler Rules hosted by Mr Michael Ring, CEO of STELTON
- ▶ 30 January 2015: meeting with union leaders hosted by Mrs Bente Sorgenfrey, president of FTF (the main umbrella organisation for public sector employees)

High Representative **Frederica Modgherini** (High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy / Vice-President of the Commission)¹²

- ▶ 16 February 2015: Meets think-tanks, Madrid
- ▶ 3 March 2015: Meets Mr David Milliband, President of the International Rescue Committee
- ▶ 27 May 2015: Meets Mrs Winnie Byanyima, Executive Director of Oxfam International
- ▶ 3 June 2015: Receives Ms Melinda Gates, co-founder of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

Vice-President **Kristalina Georgieva** (Budget & Human Resources)

- ▶ 17 April 2015: Receives Ms Nathalie Loiseau, Director of France's Ecole Nationale d'Administration
- ▶ 21 May 2015: Breakfast meeting with German Network of Women in management in the EC (Frauenmanagementnetzwerk)
- ▶ 21 May 2015: Lunch meeting with the Network of Italian Female Managers in the Commission, Brussels
- ▶ 25 May 2015: meets with Mr Peter Maurer, President of the International Committee of the Red Cross
- ▶ 4 June 2015: receives Ms Bernadette Ulens and Ms Walthera Hudig, President and Vice-President of Femmes d'Europe

Vice-President **Andrus Ansip** (Digital Single Market)

- ▶ 18 December 2014: Meets Monique Goyens, Director-General of European consumer organisation BEUC¹³
- ▶ 5 February 2015: Meets representatives of Eurochambres
- ▶ 24 February 2015: Meets Eddy Leviten, Director General of the Alliance for Intellectual Property (in margins of Digital4EU event)
- ▶ 30 March 2015: Meets Yves Gassot, CEO of IDATE
- ▶ 13 April 2015: Meets Thierry Breton, Chairman and CEO of Atos
- ▶ 23 April 2015: Meets representatives of the European CIO Association

Vice-President **Maroš Šefčovič** Energy Union

- ▶ 1 December 2014: Maroš Šefčovič meets representatives of the national Automotive Industry Associations from the 4 Visegrad countries; Brussels.
- ▶ 26 January 2015: Maroš Šefčovič receives Mr Martin Winterkorn, CEO of Volkswagen AG; Brussels
- ▶ 29 January 2015: Maroš Šefčovič receives representatives of the Slovak business (U.S.Steel Košice, Eustream, Slovnaft, SE ENEL, SPP, Východoslovenská energetika, Západoslovenská energetika)
- ▶ 2 February 2015: Maroš Šefčovič meets with representatives of the Confederation Lewiatan, the Polish business organisation; Warsaw.

¹¹ The list was compiled by comparing the agendas and lobby meeting lists on the Commission website. Meetings with organisations that should have been included in the lobby meeting register have been added to this list – the nature of these could not be confirmed for the individual case. The last check took place on 23 June 2015. The Commissioners are listed in the same order they appear on the Commission's website.

¹² In her function as High Representative, Frederica Modgherini does not need to register any meeting; in her role as member of the Commission she does. In her agenda it is not possible to discern in what role Modgherini participates in meetings. It is therefore possible that the meetings listed here did not need to appear in Modgherini's lobby meeting register.

¹³ This meeting has been confirmed by BEUC

- ▶ **19 February 2015:** Maroš Šefčovič receives Mr. Jean-Bernard Lévy; Chairman and CEO of EDF Group; Brussels.
- ▶ **24 March 2015:** Maroš Šefčovič receives Mr. Paweł Olechnowicz, Chairman of the Board of Directors of CEEP; Brussels.
- ▶ **14 April 2015:** Maroš Šefčovič meets Mr Jean-Dominique Senard, CEO of Michelin, Berlin.
- ▶ **13 May 2015:** Maroš Šefčovič receives Mr. Myron Brilliant, Executive Vice-president of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce; Brussels.
- ▶ **29 May 2015:** Energy Union Tour: Maroš Šefčovič in Lower Saxony, Germany and the Netherlands. He meets politicians and CEO's, visits some energy projects and debates with students of the Energy Academy on the challenges in the Energy Union.
- ▶ **2 June 2015:** Maroš Šefčovič meets Mr John Abbott, Shell Executive Director for Europe; Brussels.
- ▶ **2 June 2015:** Maroš Šefčovič receives Mr. Jean-Pol Poncelet, Director General of Foratom; Brussels.

Vice-President Valdis Dombrovskis (Euro & Social Dialogue)

- ▶ No missing meetings

Vice-President Jyrki Katainen (Jobs, Growth, Investment and Competitiveness)¹⁴

- ▶ **24 March 2015:** Meeting with President of Microsoft
- ▶ **25 March 2015:** Meeting with Corien Wortmann Kool and board of pension fund ABP
- ▶ **25 March 2015:** Meeting with Hellenic Federation of Enterprises
- ▶ **26 March 2015:** Meeting with Pierre Gattaz and members of MEDEF (French business confederation)
- ▶ **30 March 2015:** Meeting with Mr Weise, Chair of European Network of Public Employment Services
- ▶ **15 April 2015:** Meeting with CEOs from German Insurance companies
- ▶ **4 May 2015:** Meeting with Mr Ari Korhonen, of the European Trade Association for Business Angels
- ▶ **3 June 2015:** Meeting with Mr Nicholas Dufourcq, CEO of Bpifrance, French National Promotional Bank

Commissioner Günther Oettinger (Digital Economy & Society)¹⁵

- ▶ **3 February 2015:** 2015 2nd Stakeholder-Meeting on Copyright

- ▶ **19 February 2015:** 2015 Stakeholder Meeting on Copyright
- ▶ **9 March 2015:** 2015 Pascal Lamy, Delors Institute
- ▶ **23 March 2015:** 2015 Deutsche Content-Allianz
- ▶ **24 March 2015:** 2015 Meeting SAA (Society of Audio-visual Authors)
- ▶ **24 March 2015:** Meeting with Management European Broadcasting Union
- ▶ **30 March 2015:** Meeting with Bernard Spitz, Président de la Fédération française des sociétés d'assurances
- ▶ **31 March 2015:** 2015 Meeting with Deutsche Content-Allianz
- ▶ **7 May 2015:** Meeting Dr. Steul Intendant Deutschlandradio

Commissioner Johannes Hahn (European Neighbourhood Policy & Enlargement Negotiations)

- ▶ **26 January 2015:** 11:45 Mr Johannes Hahn receives Vice-President of SOCAR Mr Elshad Nassirov
- ▶ **15 April 2015:** 07:30 Mr Johannes Hahn meets Mr. Ales Bialiatski, Chairman of Human Rights Centre Viasna and Vice-President of FIDH Belarus
- ▶ **26 May 2015:** 17:00 Mr Johannes Hahn meets Western Balkans Executive Directors
- ▶ **28 May 2015:** Mr Johannes Hahn receives Mr Joe Borg Chairman and Mr Stephen Calleya Executive Director of the Mediterranean Academy of Diplomatic Studies

Commissioner Cecilia Malmström (Trade)

- ▶ **1 December 2014:** In Stockholm, SE: Meeting Carolina Lemne, CEO of the Confederation of Swedish Enterprise
- ▶ **1 December 2014:** In Stockholm, SE: Meeting Save the Children
- ▶ **2 December 2014:** Meeting the international committee of the Swedish Trade Union Confederation
- ▶ **25 February 2015:** Meeting with Carola LEMNE, CEO of Svenskt Näringsliv
- ▶ **14 April 2015:** Meeting with Mr José Manuel GONZALEZ-PARAMO, EU Chairman of the TABD
- ▶ **26 May 2015:** Meeting with Ms Gaëlle DUSÉPULCHRE, Fédération Internationale des Droits de l'Homme

Commissioner Neven Mimica (International Cooperation & Development)

- ▶ **18 December 2014:** Meeting with Mr Seth Berkley, CEO of GAVI
- ▶ **22 January 2015:** Meeting with Bill Gates
- ▶ **22 January 2015:** Meeting with ONE
- ▶ **11 February 2015:** Julia Gillard, Board Chair, Global Partnership for Education

¹⁴ Incomplete agenda

¹⁵ Agenda only starts on 20 January

- ▶ 9 March 2015: Meeting with the Global Polio Eradication Initiative
- ▶ 17 March 2015: Meeting with Mr Charles Nelson, Chief Executive at Malaria Consortium
- ▶ 4 May 2015: Meeting with Representatives of EU Water Alliance

Commissioner Miguel Arias Cañete
(Climate Action & Energy)

- ▶ 3 March 2015: Receives Mr John Knight, Statoil's executive vice president at the Radisson Hotel in Brussels
- ▶ 25 March 2015: Receives Mr Carlos Lopez Blanco, Global Head, Public and Regulatory Affairs and Member of the Executive Committee of Telefónica S.A
- ▶ 9 April 2015: Receives Mrs Monique Goyens, Director General of the European Consumer Organisation, BEUC¹⁶
- ▶ 26 May 2015: Meets Mr. Dirk Forrister, President and CEO of the International Emissions Trading Association (IETA), in Barcelona

Commissioner Karmenu Vella (Environment, Maritime Affairs and Fisheries)¹⁷

- ▶ 13 March 2015: Mr Karmenu Vella receives Mr Simon Collins, Executive Officer of the Shetland Fishermen's Association
- ▶ 31 March 2015: Meeting Jeremy Rifkin (the Foundation on Economic Trends)
- ▶ 17 April 2015: Meeting with Green 10 environmental NGOs¹⁸
- ▶ 30 April 2015: Meeting with President of Eurelectric Mr Johannes Teyszen

Commissioner Vytenis Andriukaitis
(Health & Food Safety)

- ▶ 4 February 2015: European Cancer Patients Coalition
- ▶ 19 February 2015: Meeting with Executive Director European Federation of Neurological Associations (EFNA) and President of Pain Alliance Europe (PAE)
- ▶ 25 March 2015: Meeting with PGEU, the European association representing pharmacists
- ▶ 26 March 2015: Meeting with European Hospital and Healthcare Federation
- ▶ 26 March 2015: Meeting with Lithuanian Confederation of Industrialists
- ▶ 13 May 2015: Meeting with EuroHealth Net

¹⁶ This meeting has been confirmed by BEUC.

¹⁷ incomplete agenda

¹⁸ This meeting has been confirmed by Friends of the Earth Europe

- ▶ 27 May 2015: Meeting with the World Federation of Advertisers
- ▶ 5 June 2015: Meeting with The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria

Commissioner Dimitris Avramopoulos
(Migration, Home Affairs and Citizenship)

- ▶ No agenda

Commissioner Marianne Thyssen (Employment, Social Affairs, Skills and Labour Mobility)

- ▶ 24 February 2015: meeting with AB Inbev
- ▶ 17 March 2015: Meeting Mr Herman Siebens, Vice-president of AEHT Europe and President of AEHT Belgium
- ▶ 17 March 2015: Meeting with Mr. Luk Zelderloo, President of Social Services Europe
- ▶ 17 March 2015: Meeting with Mr Willemen and Mr Pesenti, European Federation of Building and Wood Workers
- ▶ 30 April 2015: Meeting with Mr Fons Leroy, Managing Director of Vlaamse Dienst voor Arbeidsbemiddeling en Beroepsopleiding (VDAB)
- ▶ 5 May 2015: Meeting with Mr Matthew John Brittin, President of Google Europe

Commissioner Pierre Moscovici (Economic and Financial Affairs, Taxation and Customs)

- ▶ 18 December 2014: Visit in Washington D.C.: Breakfast with US members of the Chamber of Commerce.
- ▶ 11 March 2015: rencontre M. Pascal Lamy, Président d'honneur du think tank Notre Europe - Institut Jacques Delors (Paris)
- ▶ 27 March 2015: rencontre M. Jean-Noël Tronc, Directeur Général de la SACEM (Paris)

Commissioner Christos Stylianides
(Humanitarian Aid & Crisis Management)

- ▶ 5 March 2015: Meeting with Dr Joanne Liu, President of MSF
- ▶ 5 March 2015: Meeting with Mr Toby Porter, Chief Executive, HelpAge International
- ▶ 7 May 2015: Meeting Ms Shaima Al Zarooni, CEO of the International Humanitarian City/Dubai

Commissioner Phil Hogan
(Agriculture & Rural Development)

- ▶ No agenda

Commissioner Jonathan Hill (Financial Stability, Financial Services and Capital Markets Union)

- ▶ 1 December 2014: Receives Hans HOOGERVORST, Chairman of the International Accounting Standards Board
- ▶ 2 December 2014: Receives Lord MANDELSON, Chairman of Global Counsel
- ▶ 4 December 2014: Meets Pascal LAMY, Honorary President of Notre Europe
- ▶ 19 January 2015: Receives John LONGWORTH, Director General, British Chambers of Commerce
- ▶ 21 January 2015: Receives Sir Nigel SHEINWALD GCMG, former UK Permanent Representative to the EU
- ▶ 12 February 2015: Receives Mr Luca BERTALOT, European Mortgage Federation and European Covered Bond Council (EMF-ECBC)
- ▶ 16 March 2015: Meets Thomas BOOK, CEO of Eurex Clearing (Frankfurt)
- ▶ 27 March 2015: Meets Mr Georg FAHRENSCHON, President of the German Savings Banks Association (Berlin)
- ▶ 15 April 2015: Receives Mr Alexander ERDLAND, President of the German insurers' association (GDV)
- ▶ 4 May 2015: Madrid: working dinner with senior representatives of Spanish financial institutions
- ▶ 21 May 2015: Paris: meeting with the Council of the Financial Markets Authority (AMF) and representatives of the French Banking Federation, Amundi and Better Finance
- ▶ 29 May 2015: Receives Mr Jack Inglis, CEO of the Alternative Investment Management Association
- ▶ 4 June 2015: Amsterdam: meets with CEOs of Dutch crowdfunding industry

Commissioner Violeta Bulc (Transport)

- ▶ 19 February 2015: Meeting with representatives from the European Community Shipowners' Association (ECSA), Antwerp

Commissioner Elżbieta Bieńkowska (Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs)

- ▶ No agenda

Commissioner Věra Jourová (Justice, Consumers and Gender Equality)¹⁹

- ▶ 17 March 2015: Ms Věra Jourová receives Ms Maria Ślęzak, President of the Council of Bars and Law Societies of Europe
- ▶ 14 April 2015: Ms Věra Jourová in Berlin: meets Klaus Müller, Executive Director of The Federation of German

Consumer Organisations, meets Mr Markus Kerber, Chief Executive Officer of The Federation of German industries

- ▶ 4 May 2015: Ms Věra Jourová receives Mr David Harris, Executive Director of American Jewish Congress

Commissioner Tibor Navracsics (Justice, Consumers and Gender Equality)

- ▶ 26 January 2015: Meeting with Zbigniew Rau and Marek Tracz-Tryniecki from Alexis de Tocqueville Centre for Political and Legal Thought
- ▶ 24 February 2015: Meeting with representatives of UK universities
- ▶ 26 March 2015: Meeting with Professor Hippler pres. of German Rector's Conference
- ▶ 11 May 2015: Meeting with Professor Joseph H.H. Weiler, President of the European University Institute
- ▶ 1 June 2015: Meeting with Mr Thomas BACH, President of the International Olympic Committee

Commissioner Corina Crețu (Regional Policy)

- ▶ 21 January 2015: The Commissioner receives the CEOs members of the Union des Industries Ferroviaires Européennes (UNIFE - the Association of the European Rail Industry)
- ▶ 3 February 2015: Corina Crețu meets M. Vasco Cordeiro, President of the Conference of the Peripheral Maritime Regions of Europe (CPMR)
- ▶ 19 February 2015: Corina Crețu meets Ms Violeta Alexandru, Director of the Institute of Public Policy of Bucharest
- ▶ 2 June 2015: The Commissioner meets Alexandru Capatu, President of Pro-Danube International

Commissioner Margrethe Vestager (Competition)

- ▶ 4. February 2015: Meeting with IBA
- ▶ 24 February 2015: European Social Insurance Platform
- ▶ 24 February 2015: CEO of VKU Mr Reck
- ▶ 12 March 2015: Roundtable Meeting "Competition in an ailing economy – Towards better times" with Kreab
- ▶ 7 May 2015: Participates in the meeting at the Danish Business Authority for Danish Pension fund Managers and other key decision makers together with EIC-representative
- ▶ 4 June 2015: Receives the Board of Directors of the Danish Regional Banks Association, Brussels

¹⁹ Incomplete agenda

Commissioner Carlos Moedas
(Research, Science and Innovation)

- ▶ **1 December 2014:** Commissioner Moedas meets with Paul Stoffels, Chairman of Janssen Pharmaceutical Companies of Johnson and Johnson, in Cape Town, South Africa
- ▶ **18 December 2014:** Commissioner Moedas receives Mr Markus J. Beyrer, Director General of BUSINESSEUROPE
- ▶ **28 January 2015:** Commissioner Moedas receives Mr Phillip Campbell, Editor-in-Chief of Nature Magazine
- ▶ **9 April 2015:** Commissioner Moedas receives Simon Godwin, Director of EUCAR (European Council for Automotive Research)
- ▶ **8 May 2015:** Commissioner Moedas receives Mr. Martin Bruncko, Board Member and Chief Strategy Officer of Aeromobil
- ▶ **26 May 2015:** Commissioner Moedas receives Mr Luis Felipe Reis, Chief Corporate Center Officer of SONAE

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