

The President

D 300788 23.01.2018

Mr Jean-Claude JUNCKER
President
European Commission
Rue de la Loi, 200

B-1049 BRUSSELS

Dear President,



Thank you for your letter of 14 September 2017, forwarding the draft Commission decision on a Code of Conduct for the Members of the European Commission replacing the Code of Conduct for Commissioners of 20 April 2011, with a view to seeking Parliament's opinion, in line with point 8 of the Framework Agreement on relations between the European Parliament and the European Commission.

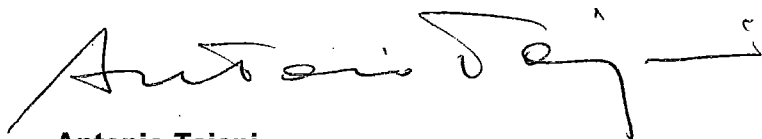
On 11 January 2018, the Conference of Presidents held an exchange of views and considered the draft Commission decision on the basis of a recommendation from the Conference of Committee Chairs.

The Conference of Presidents welcomed the revised Code of Conduct and highlighted the substantial improvements, which take into account Parliament's concerns with regard to transparency, independence, discretion, integrity, ethics and Commissioners' participation in political activities.

Nevertheless, it noted that, in line with Parliament's relevant resolutions and the recommendation from the Conference of Committee Chairs, further progress would be desirable with a view to extending the three-year 'cooling off' period to all Commissioners, preventing conflict of interest and foreseeing appropriate safeguards related to Commissioners participating in European electoral campaigns, upgrading the legal status of the Code of Conduct and enhancing the independence of the Ethical Committee, and introducing concrete timeframes for the submission of the Commissioner-designates' declarations of interest.

I trust you will take Parliament's opinion into consideration with a view to the adoption of the Code of Conduct for the Members of the European Commission.

Yours sincerely,



Antonio Tajani

Enclosure: Recommendation from the Conference of Committee Chairs on the draft Commission decision on a Code of Conduct for the Members of the European Commission