



The Quaestors

Ms Vicky CANN
Corporate Europe Observatory
Mundo-B (2nd floor)
Rue d'Edimbourg 26,
1050 Brussels

D 320666 03.12.2015

Dear Ms Cann,

Thank you for letter of 28 October regarding MEP forums in the European Parliament and the implementation of Rule 34 of Parliament's Rules of Procedure.

The Quaestors considered your letter and the issues you raise at their meeting on 24 November. Rule 34 refers to intergroups and other unofficial groupings of Members. The wording of the latter and its place in this Article of the Rules of Procedure has raised a number of issues with respect to its interpretation.

The Conference of Presidents formally adopted on 11 December 2014 the list of 28 intergroups for the current legislature. The overwhelming majority of these intergroups has already been formally constituted. However, as no binding deadline exists, a few pending ones, are expected to do so in the near future. The state of play with regard to each intergroup is fully reflected on Parliament's internet site, which is regularly updated. In any case, an intergroup may only commence its activities and benefit from Parliament's facilities once the necessary documents have been registered and published on Parliament's internet site.

Moreover, Members are required by Parliament's Code of Conduct to declare any support, whether financial or in terms of staff or material, they receive from third parties. This register is kept by Parliament's services and is regularly updated on the Members' own responsibility.

As to the implementation of Rule 34, the Quaestors have initiated an internal review process with a view to clarifying any necessary issues for the future.

Yours sincerely,

Catherine BEARDER
Chair-in-Office
The Quaestors