

Dear Vicky Cann,

Thank you for your message. I have tried to reply to your questions, please see below.

Concerning EPA: EPA defends privacy rights - the forgotten human right - which I have defended as an MEP and now as a private person. EPA produces scientific papers. EPA has no links with lobby consultancies. The president job is pro bono!

Yours sincerely,

Karin Riis-Jørgensen

Dear Ms Riis-Jørgensen

I work for an NGO called Corporate Europe Observatory which is a research and campaign group concerned with the access and influence enjoyed by corporations and their lobby groups in EU policy-making: <http://corporateeurope.org/>

I would like to ask you several questions about your move from the European Parliament to Kreab Gavin Andersen. It would be very useful to understand more about this from your side before we consider publishing an article on this issue.

I would appreciate receiving a response from you as soon as possible and before Friday 28 February.

1. What overlaps do you perceive in your work for Kreab Gavin Anderson with your work as an MEP?

When I was an MEP I had a lot of meetings with different interests who wanted to discuss EU policy issues affecting them. Most of these meetings were constructive and added facts and arguments which made my decisions as a legislator more informed. I believe it is important for a politician to understand how new legislation and policy will affect those concerned. I now use my experience to advise Kreab and some of their clients on how to create a dialogue with EU decision-makers. I am still working on a variety of EU issues which I guess constitute an overlap.

2. When you started to work for KGB were there any clients or dossiers which you agreed that you would not work on because of the risk of conflicts of interest with your work as a former MEP?

I assume you refer to Kreab when you write KGB? I have not come across any projects where a risk of a conflict of interest were suggested. I have an independent role as Senior Advisor and can choose where and when I want to be involved.

3. Have you ever had contact (formally or informally) with the European Parliament, MEPs or their staff on behalf of KGB or any of its clients? If so, what was the nature of these contacts, when did they occur and to what purpose?

Yes, I have participated in meetings in the Parliament on behalf of clients. All Kreab's clients are listed in the Transparency register.

4. Have you ever applied for a European Parliamentary lobbyist pass? If not, why not?

No, I have not needed one but I might apply for one in the future if that would change.

5. Do you ever use your rights as an ex-MEP to access the European Parliament for lobbying purposes ie. for KGB, its clients? If so, when and to what purpose?

I have a badge that I use to access the building.

7. We are aware that you have held lobby meetings with the European Commission on tobacco policy alongside Swedish Match employees on 16 March 2011 and 6 March 2012. What other EU lobbying have you undertaken on tobacco policy?

Swedish Match is the only tobacco client of Kreab's and it is correct that I have advised them.

9. How do you respond to concerns that your move from being an MEP to working for Kreab Gavin Anderson could provoke the risk, perception or actuality of conflicts of interest?

As stated above, I think it is positive that those affected by legislation and policy have a chance to communicate with decision-makers. If I can help make that dialogue better I think it is a good thing. I have not come across anything suggesting a conflict of interest in my role as Senior Advisor at Kreab

10. Do you have any other comments to make about these issues?

I look forward to hearing from you and thank you very much for your time.