



Brussels, 16 September 2016
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PE 87
INST 358

'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From:	Presidency
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 2)/Council
Subject:	Committee of independent eminent persons under Article 5(2) of Regulation (EC) No 2004/2003 - Appointment of a member and approval of a letter to the European Parliament

1. On 26 May 2016, Mr Schulz, President of the European Parliament, sent a letter¹ to Mr Bert Koenders, President-in-Office of the Council, requesting the Council to appoint a member of the committee of independent eminent persons in conformity with Article 5(2) of Regulation 2004/2003². President Juncker received a similar letter.
2. Article 5 of Regulation 2004/2003 reads as follows:
“1. The European Parliament shall verify regularly that the conditions set out in Article 3(a) and (b) continue to be met by political parties at European level.
2. With regard to the condition specified in Article 3(c)³, at the request of one quarter of its members, representing at least three political groups in the European Parliament, the European Parliament shall verify, by a majority of its members, that the condition in question continues to be met by a political party at European level.

¹ 9759/16.

² OJ L 297, 15.11.2003, p. 1.

³ Article 3(c): “it must observe, in particular in its programme and in its activities, the principles on which the European Union is founded, namely the principles of liberty, democracy, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, and the rule of law”.

Before carrying out such verification, the European Parliament shall hear the representatives of the relevant political party at European level and ask a committee of independent eminent persons to give an opinion on the subject within a reasonable period.

The committee shall consist of three members, with the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission each appointing one member. The secretariat and funding of the committee shall be provided by the European Parliament.

3. If the European Parliament finds that any of the conditions referred to in Article 3(a), (b) and (c) is no longer satisfied, the relevant political party at European level, which has for this reason forfeited this status, shall be excluded from funding under this Regulation.”

A similar procedure applies to Political Foundations at European level⁴.

3. COREPER is invited to recommend to the Council to:

- agree on the appointment, until 31 December 2016, of Mr Ivan Korčok, ministre délégué for the Slovak Presidency of the Council of the EU, as a member of the committee of independent eminent persons under Article 5(2) of Regulation 2004/2003;
- approve the content of the letter to the President of the European Parliament set out in the Annex.

⁴ Cf. Article 5(4) of Regulation (EC) no 1524/2007 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2007 amending Regulation (EC) No 2004/2003 on the regulations governing political parties at European level and the rules regarding their funding, OJ L 343, 27.12.2007, p. 5.

(draft reply)

Brussels,

President Martin SCHULZ
European Parliament
60, rue Wiertz
B-1047 Brussels

Dear President Schulz,

Thank you for your letter of 26 May 2016 by which you requested that the Council appoint a member to the committee of independent eminent persons established under Article 5 of Regulation (EC) No. 2004/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 4 November 2003 on the regulations governing political parties at European level and the rules regarding their funding.

I am pleased to inform you that the Council has appointed, until 31 December 2016, Mr Ivan Korčok, ministre délégué for the Slovak Presidency of the Council of the EU, to the committee.

Yours sincerely,
