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COVER NOTE

From:	Mr Thomas OBERREITER, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Austria to the European Union
date of receipt:	28 April 2025
To:	Ms Thérèse BLANCHET, Secretary-General of the Council of the European Union

Subject:	Renewal of the European Economic and Social Committee for the period 2025-2030 - Letter from the Republic of Austria
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Delegations will find attached a translation of a letter from Mr Thomas OBERREITER, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Austria to the European Union, proposing a list of candidates to be appointed to the European Economic and Social Committee for the period 2025-2030.

Encl.: IM 4223 2025

Permanent Representation
of Austria to the
European Union

bmeia.gv.at/oev-bruessel

Thérèse Blanchet
Secretary-General
Council of the European Union -
General Secretariat of the Council
1048 Brussels

Ambassador Dr Thomas Oberreiter
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Brussels, 28 April 2025

nominations@consilium.europa.eu

Ref. 2025-0.326.489

Dear Secretary-General,

Pursuant to Article 302(1) TFEU, the Council appoints the members of the European Economic and Social Committee for five years on the basis of a proposal made by each Member State. The General Secretariat of the Council has asked the Member States to nominate the members for the term of office 2025-2030.

Accordingly, on 23 April 2025 the Austrian Federal Government decided on the nomination of the Austrian members.

Please find enclosed the names and details of the nominees in the form requested by the General Secretariat of the Council.

I would kindly request that you take note of this information.

(Complimentary close)

Thomas Oberreiter
Ambassador

ANNEX I

Renewal of the European Economic and Social Committee for the period 2025-2030

Form to be submitted for the appointment of members and alternate members of the European Economic and Social Committee

In the context of the procedure for the appointment of the new members of the European Economic and Social Committee for the period from 21 September 2025 to 20 September 2030, **the Austrian Government** proposes the following candidates /in alphabetical order by surname/:

Mr David HAFNER

Post currently held: Director ÖGB EU-Office

Suggested affiliation:

- ☐ Group I (Employers)
- X Group II (Workers)
- ☐ Group III (Civil Society Organisations)

Mr Thomas KATTNIG

Post currently held: Member of the Federal Steering Committee and Management Board
Gewerkschaft younion

Suggested affiliation:

- ☐ Group I (Employers)
- X Group II (Workers)
- ☐ Group III (Civil Society Organisations)

Mr Dipl.-Ing. Rudolf KOLBE

Post currently held: Member of the Executive Board of the BUKO (Austrian Federal Conference of the Liberal Professions), Spokesman of the category European and international institutions; Member of the Executive Board of the Austrian Federal Chamber of Architects and Chartered Engineers, Spokesman of the Category European institutions

Suggested affiliation:

- ☐ Group I (Employers)
- ☐ Group II (Workers)
- ☒ Group III (Civil Society Organisations)

Mr MMag. Sebastian REHSE

Post currently held: Head of Group Corporate Affairs and Stakeholder Management at Erste Group Bank AG and Member of the Board of Directors at wiiw (The Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies)

Suggested affiliation:

- ☒ Group I (Employers)
- ☐ Group II (Workers)
- ☐ Group III (Civil Society Organisations)

Mr Johannes REHULKA

Post currently held: Secretary General of the Austrian Raiffeisen Association

Suggested affiliation:

- X Group I (Employers)
- ☐ Group II (Workers)
- ☐ Group III (Civil Society Organisations)

Ms Sophia REISECKER

Post currently held: Head of EU and International Affairs Gewerkschaft GPA

Suggested affiliation:

- ☐ Group I (Employers)
- X Group II (Workers)
- ☐ Group III (Civil Society Organisations)

Mr Dr. Paul RÜBIG

Post currently held: Member of the Administrative Board of ACER, President of SME Connect, Board Advisor of Water Europe, Honorary President of SME Europe (Small and Medium Entrepreneurs of Europe)

Suggested affiliation:

- X Group I (Employers)
- ☐ Group II (Workers)
- ☐ Group III (Civil Society Organisations)

Mr Ing. Mag. Martin SCHAFFENRATH, MBA, MBA, MPA

Post currently held: Member of the Central Works Council of Tirol Kliniken GmbH, Member of the Council of the Tyrol Chamber of Labour (AK Tirol), Member of the Board of Directors of the

Austrian Health Insurance Fund, Chair of the Supervisory Board of the Pension Fund AG of the Austrian Social Security System

Suggested affiliation:

- ☐ Group I (Employers)
- ☐ Group II (Workers)
- ☒ Group III (Civil Society Organisations)

Ms Mag. Christa SCHWENG

Post currently held: Senior advisor to the Social Policy Department of the Austrian Federal Economic Chamber, Member of the Advisory Committee on Safety and Health at Work, Member of the Governing Board of the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work, Member of the information group of the European Labour Authority, Member of the Social Affairs committee of SMEunited (Crafts and SME in Europe)

Suggested affiliation:

- ☒ Group I (Employers)
- ☐ Group II (Workers)
- ☐ Group III (Civil Society Organisations)

Mr Dipl.-Ing. Andreas THURNER

Post currently held: Head of Unit EU and International Relations, Austrian Chamber of Agriculture

Suggested affiliation:

- ☐ Group I (Employers)
- ☐ Group II (Workers)

X Group III (Civil Society Organisations)

Ms Mag. Judith Karin Ingrid VORBACH

Post currently held: Head of AK EUROPA office of the Federal Chamber of Labour in Brussels

Suggested affiliation:

- ☐ Group I (Employers)
- X Group II (Workers)
- ☐ Group III (Civil Society Organisations)

Mr Mag. Thomas WAGNSONNER

Post currently held: Head of the Division of Interest Policies, Chamber of Labour of Lower Austria

Suggested affiliation:

- ☐ Group I (Employers)
- X Group II (Workers)
- ☐ Group III (Civil Society Organisations)