3.3.2021 A9-0013/1

Amendment 1 Clare Daly, Mick Wallace on behalf of The Left Group

Report A9-0013/2021

Sylvie Guillaume

Activities of the European Ombudsman - annual report 2019 (2020/2125(INI))

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 20

Motion for a resolution

20. Notes that the Commission has committed to implementing many of the European Ombudsman's proposals, such as asking individuals who switch to the private sector to provide additional information about the organisation they are joining and more details about the type of professional activity they are embarking on; emphasises that such transfers cannot be taken lightly, as they could lead to conflicts of interest when former public officials take up a job with a firm to lobby on policies that they previously legislated or worked on; notes that according to a recent report⁷ 99 % of requests for transfer into the private sector were approved by the Commission, with a rejection rate of only 0.62 %, which points to the need to strengthen oversight; recalls that ethics rules are not a mere formality and should be adhered to by all institutions; urges the Commission to implement all recommendations made by the Ombudsman, to take a more robust approach to the issue of 'revolving doors' and to follow through with the proposed measures, including forbidding new activity when there is evidence that this activity would lead to a conflict with the legitimate interests of the Commission and publishing, directly on its ethics website and in a timely manner, all related information on each case of former senior

Amendment

20. Notes that the Commission has committed to implementing many of the European Ombudsman's proposals, such as asking individuals who switch to the private sector to provide additional information about the organisation they are joining and more details about the type of professional activity they are embarking on; emphasises that such transfers cannot be taken lightly, as they could lead to conflicts of interest when former public officials take up a job with a firm to lobby on policies that they previously legislated or worked on; notes that according to a recent report⁷ 99 % of requests for transfer into the private sector were approved by the Commission, with a rejection rate of only 0.62 %, which points to the need to strengthen oversight; recalls that ethics rules are not a mere formality and should be adhered to by all institutions; urges the Commission to implement all recommendations made by the Ombudsman, to take a more robust approach to the issue of 'revolving doors' and to follow through with the proposed measures, including forbidding new activity when there is evidence that this activity would lead to a conflict with the public interest and publishing, directly on its ethics website and in a timely manner, all related information on each case of former senior staff members assessed with

 staff members assessed with a view to implementing the one-year lobbying and advocacy ban;

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Or. en

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⁷ Corporate Europe Observatory, 'From Facebook friends to lobby consultants – EU revolving door rules not fit for purpose', 22 October 2020 (https://corporateeurope.org/en/2020/10/facebook-friends-lobby-consultants)

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