

EXPO-COM-AFET D (2024)31501

CONFIDENTIAL

D 104632 06.11.2024

Bernd Lange
Chair, Conference of Committee Chairs
European Parliament

Subject: Evaluation of Dubravka ŠUICA, Commissioner-designate for the Mediterranean

Dear Chair,

The Committee on Foreign Affairs in accordance with Rule 129 of the Rules of Procedure of the European Parliament, held a public confirmation hearing on Tuesday 5 November 2024 with Dubravka ŠUICA, Commissioner-designate, who, subject to the positive outcome of the nomination procedure, will be Commissioner for the Mediterranean.

On 16 October 2024 the Committee on Foreign Affairs, pursuant to Rule 129 of the Rules of Procedure and Article 3 of Annex VII thereto, received the letter from the Chair of the Committee on Legal Affairs regarding the scrutiny of the declaration of financial interests of Ms ŠUICA.

Prior to the confirmation hearing, Parliament had sent the Commissioner-designate a list of written questions. The Committee on Foreign Affairs noted that Ms ŠUICA answered those questions in a satisfactory manner.

Coordinators agreed with the Commissioner-designate that particular attention must be given to strengthen the EU's role in the Middle East, secure an immediate cease-fire and the unhindered access to humanitarian assistance, the release of hostages and the safeguard of the respect for international law, human rights and the Two State solution.

The course of the confirmation hearing is described in the verbatim transcript of the proceedings.

Opinions of the committees invited to participate in the confirmation hearing are annexed to this letter.

On the basis of the comments made by the coordinators of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, who met in camera after the confirmation hearing under my chairmanship, I hereby give the following assessment of her:

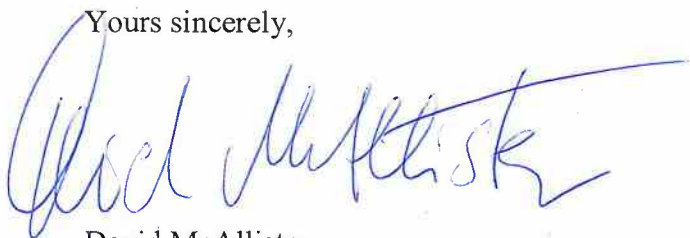
The general outcome of this confirmation hearing is that the Commissioner-designate is qualified both to be a member of the College of Commissioners and to carry out the specific tasks assigned to her.

In accordance with Rule 129 of the Rules of Procedure and Article 5 of Annex VII thereto, the coordinators of the Committee on Foreign Affairs representing a majority of at least two-thirds of committee members belonging to a political group approved that the Commissioner-designate Dubravka ŠUICA is qualified both to be a member of the College of Commissioners and to carry out the specific tasks assigned to her.

During the evaluation meeting, the coordinator of the Patriots for Europe requested the inclusion of the attached minority view.

I would be grateful if you could bring this assessment to the attention of the Conference of Presidents.

Yours sincerely,



David McAllister

Annex: Opinion of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs
 Opinion of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs
 Minority view of the Patriots for Europe

D(2024)32766
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CONFIDENTIAL

D 308510 06.11.2024

David MCALLISTER
Chair of the Committee on Foreign
Affairs (AFET)
SPINELLI 15E201

Dear Chair,

The Committee on Employment and Social Affairs (EMPL), invited to the confirmation hearing of Commissioner-designate for the Mediterranean, Dubravka ŠUICA, which took place on Tuesday 5 November 2024, considers that the Commissioner-designate is qualified to be member of the College and is qualified to carry out the particular duties she has been assigned in the field of employment and social affairs, notably addressing demographic challenges.

However, the EMPL Committee would like to see more clear commitments by the Commissioner-designate, if she is confirmed, on concrete measures for supporting the largest possible participation in the labour market, especially for under-represented groups, for improving data collection on hard-to-reach populations, as well as for adapting strategies for people living in rural areas. The Committee expects the Commissioner-designate to work closely with it on these matters.

This opinion has been adopted by Coordinators representing a majority of committee members belonging to a political group.

I would like to thank you in advance for taking this opinion into consideration.



Johan Danielsson
Vice-Chair

cc. Bernd Lange, Chair of the Conference of Committee Chairs

Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs
The Chairman

IPOL-COM-LIBE D (2024) 33153

CONFIDENTIAL

D 308512 06.11.2024

Mr David McAllister
Chair of the Committee on Foreign Affairs (AFET)

Dear Mr MCALLISTER,

The Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs was invited to the confirmation hearing of the Commissioner-designate for the Mediterranean, Dubravka Šuica, which took place on 5 November 2024.

The Committee considers that the Commissioner-designate is qualified to be a member of the College. Following her replies to LIBE-related questions, and in particular her commitment to sharing with the Parliament all information regarding the negotiation, implementation and monitoring of strategic partnership agreements, the Committee also believes that Ms Šuica is qualified to carry out the particular duties she has been assigned in the LIBE Committee's remit.

The LIBE Committee takes note of the commitments made by Ms Šuica during the course of the hearing to cooperate with the European Parliament and its committees in the development of the Pact for the Mediterranean.

This opinion has been adopted by Coordinators representing a majority of committee members belonging to a political group.

Yours sincerely,



Javier ZARZALEJOS

cc:
Bernd LANGE, Conference of Committee Chairs
Committee Coordination and Legislative Programming Unit (Coordleg)

Minority view of the Patriots for Europe on the evaluation of Dubravka ŠUICA, Commissioner-designate for the Mediterranean

The Patriots for Europe Group was not sufficiently satisfied with Commissioner-designate Šuica's answers during the hearing, particularly on migration and the Middle East.

First, on migration, we do not support legal pathways for migration. Furthermore, the Commissioner-designate only focussed on voluntary returns and insufficiently addressed the involuntary returns and the need for third countries' cooperation to take back their citizens who are illegally staying in Europe and refuse to leave by themselves.

Secondly, on the Middle East, we were satisfied with her position on the need to reform the Palestinian Authority, however, unsatisfied with her insufficient recognition of Israel as an important ally and key partner in the region.

Hence, the Patriots therefore asked for a written procedure to clarify these policy statements.

Lastly, we look forward to receiving her written answer to the question posed by MEP Tertsch during the hearing about the reported looting of private property by illegal immigrants in the dramatically flooded region of Valencia.