



Brussels, 1.12.2019
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DECISION OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

of 1 December 2019

on the creation of Commissioners' Groups

THE PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the European Union,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Atomic Energy Community,

Having regard to the Rules of Procedure of the Commission¹, and in particular Article 3(4) and Article 18 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) In their areas of responsibility, the Executive Vice-Presidents and Vice-Presidents coordinate work across the Commission on behalf of the President.
- (2) Such coordinating work involves bringing together several Members of the Commission to shape coherent policies and deliver results.
- (3) To help the Executive Vice-Presidents and Vice-Presidents deliver on this mission, it is appropriate to establish Commissioners' Groups to steer the work on each of the six headline ambitions for Europe identified by the President.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

Six Commissioners' Groups are created to help deliver on the political priorities of the Commission while focusing on cross-cutting issues, with a view to shaping coherent policies and building joint ownership. Without prejudice to the decision-making process of the College and the responsibility of the collegial preparatory bodies, they shall ensure coordination and provide political steer for the development of initiatives and implementation of priorities.

The Commissioners' Groups are created as follows:

- **A European Green Deal**, chaired by the Executive Vice-President for a European Green Deal;
- **A Europe Fit for the Digital Age**, chaired by the Executive Vice-President for a Europe Fit for the Digital Age;

¹ OJ L 55 of 5.3.2010, p. 60.

- **An Economy that Works for People**, chaired by the Executive Vice-President for an Economy that Works for People;
- **A Stronger Europe in the World**, chaired by the High Representative / Vice-President;
- **A New Push for European Democracy**, chaired by the Vice-President for Values and Transparency;
- **Promoting our European Way of Life**, chaired by the Vice-President for Promoting our European way of Life.

For initiatives mentioned in the Political Guidelines or Mission Letters and key initiatives of the Commission Work Programme, Executive Vice-Presidents and Vice-Presidents can set up **Project Groups** that report to the relevant Commissioners' Group.

Article 2

The composition of the Groups shall be as set out in Annex I.

Article 3

The working arrangements for the Commissioners Groups shall be as set out in Annex II.

Done at Brussels, on 1 December 2019

The President

Ursula von der Leyen

ANNEX I COMPOSITION OF THE COMMISSIONERS' GROUPS

Chair

The meetings of each Group will be chaired by the relevant Executive Vice-President or Vice-President. Whenever the President of the Commission attends a meeting of a Commissioners' Group, she may decide to chair it.

For the Commissioners' Group on A New Push for European Democracy, the Vice-President for Interinstitutional Relations and Foresight and the Vice-President for Democracy and Demography will chair the points of the agenda falling under their respective responsibility.

In addition to its Chair, each Commissioners' Group is composed of the following members:

- **A European Green Deal:** the Commissioner for Agriculture, the Commissioner for Health and Food Safety, the Commissioner for Environment, Oceans and Fisheries, the Commissioner for Energy, the Commissioner for Transport and the Commissioner for Cohesion and Reforms;
- **A Europe Fit for the Digital Age:** the Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth, the Commissioner for Internal Market, the Commissioner for Justice and the Commissioner for Jobs and Social Rights;
- **An Economy that Works for People:** the Commissioner for Economy, the Commissioner for Jobs and Social Rights, the Commissioner for Cohesion and Reforms, and the Commissioner for Trade;
- **A Stronger Europe in the World:** the Commissioner for Trade, the Commissioner for Neighbourhood and Enlargement, the Commissioner for Crisis Management and the Commissioner for International Partnerships;
- **A New Push for European Democracy:** the Vice-President for Democracy and Demography, the Vice-President for Interinstitutional Relations and Foresight, the Commissioner for Equality and the Commissioner for Justice;
- **Promoting our European Way of Life:** the Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth, the Commissioner for Health and Food Safety, the Commissioner for Jobs and Social Rights, the Commissioner for Equality and the Commissioner for Home Affairs.

Other Vice-Presidents and Commissioners may participate in relevant meetings of the Groups and contribute to the work upon their request or invitation by the Chairs.

The Secretary-General of the Commission or a Deputy Secretary-General, the Director-General of the Legal Service, the Director General of Directorate General for Communication, the Cabinet of the President, the Heads of Cabinet of the participating Members of the Commission and the responsible Director-General/Head of Service have standing invitations to attend the meetings of the Commissioners' Groups.

For the Commissioners' Group – A Stronger Europe in the World, the Secretary-General of the European External Action Service or his/her Deputy also has a standing invitation to attend the meetings of that Group.

ANNEX II WORKING ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE COMMISSIONERS' GROUPS

Secretariat

The Secretariat-General shall ensure the secretariat for each Group. In the case of the Commissioners' Group – A Stronger Europe in the World, the Secretariat-General and the European External Action Service shall jointly ensure the secretariat.

The secretarial tasks consist of:

- assisting in the organisation of the Group's meetings;
- sending invitations on behalf of the Chair to the participants of each meeting of the Group;
- ensuring the timely preparation and/or circulation of meeting documents (agendas, discussion notes);
- preparing draft minutes of the meetings and circulating them after their approval.

Date of meetings / frequency

The Groups shall meet whenever deemed necessary by the Chair or by the President, and at least once every three months.

Participants shall be invited by the Chair through the secretariat, normally three weeks, but no later than two weeks, before each meeting.

A list of Project Groups and a calendar of meetings for Commissioners' Groups and Project Groups shall be provided to the College by the Secretariat-General on a regular basis.

Agendas and minutes of meetings

The agendas of meetings of the Group shall be decided by the Chair in agreement with the Cabinet of the President.

The Chair shall draw the conclusions of that meeting. She or he shall approve the minutes of the meetings of the Group in agreement with the Cabinet of the President. The minutes are not subject to correction after circulation.

Documents for meetings

Possible documents for meetings of the Group shall be short and politically focused and identify the main questions and options, to help steering the discussions of the Group.

The list of documents to be discussed at meetings of the Group shall be approved by the Chair in agreement with the Cabinet of the President.

Preparation of meetings

Each meeting of the Groups shall be prepared at a preparatory meeting convened by the secretariat of each Group. The preparatory meeting shall focus on enabling a fruitful discussion at Group meetings and the appropriate orientation of the work of the Commission and its services.

The preparatory meeting shall be chaired by the Secretary-General or a Deputy Secretary-General. For the Commissioners' Group – A Stronger Europe in the World, the preparatory meeting shall be co-chaired by the Secretary-General or a Deputy Secretary-General and the Secretary-General of the European External Action Service or his/her Deputy.

Participants shall include the Heads of Cabinet of the President and of the Chair (or their replacements), the Heads of Cabinet of the other participants of the Group and the respective Directors-General/Heads of Service.

The preparatory meeting shall discuss the documents to be presented to the Group. The secretariat shall inform the relevant services of the tasks allocated to them and clear all documents to be tabled with the Cabinets of the President and of the Chair.

The draft agenda and all related documents shall be made available for the preparatory meeting by the secretariat.

For the Commissioners' Group – A Stronger Europe in the World, a monthly **standing planning meeting** shall also be organised between the Secretary-General or a Deputy Secretary-General, the Secretary-General of the European External Action Service or his/her Deputy, the Cabinets of the President and of the High Representative/Vice-President, assisted by the secretariat of the Group. The planning meeting shall be chaired by the Cabinet of the High Representative/Vice-President.

This meeting shall prepare a rolling calendar of dates and topics for future meetings, the agenda for the next meeting and the list of proposed attendees and decide on the services which should prepare the documents to be discussed. The secretariat of the Group shall inform the relevant services of the tasks allocated to them and clear all documents to be tabled.