

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-000826/25
to the Commission
Dolors Montserrat (PPE)
(24 February 2025)**

Subject: Suspicion of a possible case of influence peddling affecting Commission Vice-President Teresa Ribera

The fight against corruption and the upholding of the rule of law are fundamental pillars of the European Union and indispensable principles for all public office-holders. However, an analysis of the mobile phone seized from the ringleader of the hydrocarbons plot, Víctor de Aldama, reveals direct contacts with Commission Vice-President Teresa Ribera, with the apparent aim of pushing forward projects through suspected influence peddling. Among them, there is one related to España Vaciada (Empty Spain), involving Begoña Gómez, wife of the President and charged with several offences, and Globalia, through its subsidiary Wakalua.

I would like to ask the Commission:

1. Can Teresa Ribera guarantee that these contacts did not influence any political or administrative decision under her responsibility?
2. Given the seriousness of the matter and the need to preserve trust in the institutions, does the Vice-President of the European Commission consider her relationship with Víctor de Aldama to have been ethical and in accordance with the principles of transparency governing the EU?
3. If irregularities are proven to have taken place, does Teresa Ribera pledge to assume responsibility and tender her resignation to the President of the Commission?

Submitted: 24.2.2025

**Answer given by President von der Leyen on behalf of the European Commission
(8 August 2025)**

The respect of the rule of law and of ethical principles are crucial and of paramount importance for the President of the Commission, for the Commission as a College and for all individual Members of the Commission.

The Executive Vice-President for a Clean, Just and Competitive Transition replied to all questions raised by the Members of the European Parliament during her hearing with the European Parliament which took place before the Parliament's vote on the composition of the Commission.

The issues mentioned by the Honourable Member in her question related to the Executive Vice-President's responsibilities as former Spanish Minister for Ecological Transition and Demographic Challenge are not linked to the exercise of her current responsibilities as Member of the Commission.

Consequently, it is not for the Commission to comment on these topics.
