

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-000730/26
to the Commission
Sergio Berlato (ECR)
(20 February 2026)**

Subject: Getting to the bottom of Jeffrey Epstein's trips to Brussels

In late January 2026, the United States Department of Justice published around 3.5 million of the more than 6 million documents ⁽¹⁾ related to the case of influential US businessman and convicted sex offender and child trafficker Jeffrey Epstein. The Epstein files potentially point to the existence of a vast international network of heads of state and government, diplomats and entrepreneurs that is responsible for financial crimes and sexual abuses ⁽²⁾.

These documents also reveal that Epstein travelled to Brussels on a number of occasions between 2009 and 2018 ⁽³⁾, probably in order to meet intermediaries.

Pending further releases, and having regard for the European principle of transparency ⁽⁴⁾, could the Commission answer the following questions:

1. Does it agree that it should initiate enquiries to ascertain whether Epstein or any of his intermediaries met any members or officials of the EU institutions between 2009 and 2018?
2. Does the Commission agree that it should call for the remaining documents to be released and work alongside the authorities in order to bring the perpetrators and accomplices mentioned in the Epstein files to justice?

Submitted: 20.2.2026

**Answer given by President von der Leyen on behalf of the European Commission
(10 June 2026)**

The Commission is aware of the allegations against Peter Mandelson, who was Member of the Commission between November 2004 and October 2008.

It takes these allegations very seriously and has referred the matter for appropriate follow-up to the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF), within the latter's independent investigative function.

OLAF has confirmed it has opened a case but is not in a position to share details on individual cases or probes beyond the information and data already made public.

This is in order to protect the confidentiality of investigations and of possible ensuing judicial proceedings, as well as to ensure respect for personal data and procedural rights. OLAF fully respects the presumption of innocence and the rights of defence of the persons/entities concerned.

The EU has a strong legal and operational framework to support Member States in tackling serious crime with a cross-border dimension, including trafficking in human beings and child sexual exploitation.

However, the investigation of criminal offences remains the competence of national authorities.

Finally, since 2014 the Commission publishes transparent information on meetings held between Members of the Commission or Commission officials and interest representatives, and Members of the Commission publish additional information on their activities in their online public agendas.

There are no registered meetings held between Jeffrey Epstein and/or his consultancy with the Commission in these publicly available sources.

¹ <https://www.justice.gov/epstein>.

² <https://www.axios.com/2026/02/16/epstein-associates-consequences-usa-world>.

³ <https://www.politico.eu/article/jeffrey-epstein-link-brussels-belgium/>.

⁴ https://european-union.europa.eu/principles-countries-history/principles-and-values/access-information_it.