

EN

E-000768/2026

Answer given by President von der Leyen
on behalf of the European Commission
(10.6.2026)

Members of the College are subject to strict obligations arising directly under the Treaties as well as to the ethical obligations emanating from the Code of Conduct for the Members of the Commission¹.

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.

Global Counsel was removed from the Transparency Register² on 20 March 2026 following the cessation of its activities. Public information regarding its participation in meetings, previously available in the Transparency Register, remains accessible on the Commission's transparency webpages concerning meetings with Members of the Commission, members of their cabinets and Commission staff holding management functions. The Commission requires registration of interest representatives in the Transparency Register prior to such meetings and publication of information and minutes for each meeting thereafter.

The EEAS should be addressed for questions about members of its staff.

¹ Commission Decision of 31 January 2018 on a Code of Conduct for the Members of the European Commission, C(2018) 700 final.

² https://transparency-register.europa.eu/index_en.