

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-003002/26
to the Commission
Jean-Paul Garraud (Pfe)
(16 July 2026)**

Subject: Will Parliament really be able to scrutinise the Commission's decisions?

Under the new agreement governing its relations with Parliament, the Commission pledges to comply with more stringent information-sharing obligations, particularly as regards document transparency and transmission, while Commissioners will have to make themselves more available for (and attend a greater number of) hearings, committee debates and other proceedings involving MEPs. The new agreement also aims to enhance the follow-up to Parliament's legislative requests by laying down clearer deadlines and requiring the Commission to issue more structured replies.

A number of recent proceedings have highlighted that Parliament is struggling to obtain specific preparatory documents, legal opinions and information held by the Commission within a timeframe that would enable the EP to effectively exercise its powers of scrutiny.

1. What specific measures will the Commission take to ensure that it complies with the allotted deadlines for sending the confidential and other documents that Parliament needs to scrutinise its decisions?
2. Will it publish a register of Parliament's legislative requests that includes the Commission's answers, response times and the reasons given to justify any refusals?
3. How will it ensure that its members respond to Parliament's invitations and report to MEPs over the progress they have achieved in fulfilling their commitments — particularly those made at their respective confirmation hearings and before the relevant parliamentary committees?

Submitted: 16.7.2026

**Answer given by Mr Šefčovič on behalf of the European Commission
(7 September 2026)**

The revised Framework Agreement on Relations between the European Parliament and the Commission ⁽¹⁾, was signed by the Presidents of both institutions on 28 April 2026.

This agreement enhances cooperation amongst the Commission and the European Parliament, strengthens representative democracy, improves dialogue and ensures greater transparency.

In Annex II of the framework Agreement, on the forwarding of confidential information to the European Parliament, both institutions commit to act in accordance with their mutual duties of sincere cooperation.

The Commission commits to share with the European Parliament confidential information, in a timely manner, enabling it to exercise its role under the Treaties. In practice, this means that the Commission will share, with all due despatch, any confidential information required for the exercise of European Parliament's prerogatives and competences.

The Commission commits to giving prompt and detailed consideration to the European Parliament's legislative initiative reports under Article 225 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union.

This includes replying to such requests within three months, stating the intended follow-up, in full respect of the principles of proportionality, subsidiarity and better regulation.

The Commission commits to coming forward with a legislative proposal, normally after one year. In case the Commission does not intend to submit a proposal, it shall inform the European Parliament of the reasons.

The framework Agreement provides for annual meetings between the Conference of Presidents and the Conference of Committee Chairs and the College of Commissioners, to discuss relevant issues, including the preparation and implementation of the Commission Work Programme.

Moreover, Commissioners commit to attending plenary debates or parliamentary committee meetings to discuss issues related to specific files, or to provide information on matters of concern to the committee.

⁽¹⁾ https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/agree_interinst/2026/1050/oj/eng.