

(English version)

**Priority question for written answer P-002802/25
to the Commission
Michael McNamara (Renew)
(9 July 2025)**

Subject: Commissioner McGrath's attendance at a Tony Blair Institute event

Recent reporting by the *Financial Times* ⁽¹⁾ revealed that staff from the Tony Blair Institute for Global Change participated in a controversial post-war Gaza reconstruction plan, amounting to a proposal for the forced displacement of Palestinians, raising legitimate fears of ethnic cleansing, which is contrary to international law. The Tony Blair Institute has also issued invitations to a summer reception at the BELvue Museum in Brussels on Tuesday 15 July 2025, naming Commissioner McGrath as the Institute's 'special guest', describing the event as an opportunity for policy dialogue in a rapidly changing world.

Can the Commission confirm whether Commissioner McGrath will attend this event and provide his reasons for so doing?

Submitted: 9.7.2025

**Answer given by Mr McGrath on behalf of the European Commission
(24 September 2025)**

The Commissioner regularly meets with a wide range of stakeholders in the course of his duties. Such engagement is an essential part of the policymaking process, ensuring that proposals are informed by diverse perspectives and experiences. It should be emphasised that participation in a meeting does not constitute an endorsement of the views expressed by any particular group or organisation.

¹ <https://www.ft.com/content/0b1bc761-c572-4b61-882a-fb4467259dcd>.