

(English version)

**Priority question for written answer P-000829/26
to the Commission
Fabio De Masi (NI)
(27 February 2026)**

Subject: Investigations into the connection between Epstein and European officials/politicians

On Monday 23 February 2025, former EU Trade Commissioner Peter Mandelson was arrested (and subsequently released on bail) on suspicion of passing market-sensitive government information to Jeffrey Epstein ⁽¹⁾. This occurrence raises alarming concerns about the possibility of a connection between European officials or politicians and Jeffrey Epstein.

1. Is the Commission, or any other competent authority (e.g. Europol), independently and systematically examining the Epstein files to uncover any such connections?
2. What concrete steps does the Commission intend to take on this matter?

Submitted: 27.2.2026

**Answer given by Mr Serafin on behalf of the European Commission
(11 May 2026)**

The Commission takes the allegations regarding the former Commissioner for Trade very seriously and has referred the matter to the European Anti-Fraud Office ('OLAF') for appropriate follow-up, within its 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 investigation of other criminal offences remains the competence of national authorities.

¹ <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c8xy5jzrrxzo>.