



Solemn undertaking by the President and the Members of the European Commission before the Court of Justice of the European Union

Formal sitting of 10 December 2014

Today at 15:30, at a formal sitting of the Court of Justice of the European Union, the President and the Members of the European Commission gave the solemn undertaking required under the Treaties, in the presence of Their Royal Highnesses, the Hereditary Grand Duke and the Hereditary Grand Duchess, and the Prime Minister of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, Xavier Bettel.

The solemn undertaking was given by Mr Jean-Claude Juncker, President, Mr Frans Timmermans, First Vice-President, Ms Federica Mogherini, Vice-President and High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, Ms Kristalina Georgieva, Vice-President, Mr Andrus Ansip, Vice-President, Mr Maroš Šefčovič, Vice-President, Mr Valdis Dombrovskis, Vice-President, Mr Jyrki Katainen, Vice-President, Mr Günther Oettinger, Mr Johannes Hahn, Ms Cecilia Malmström, Mr Neven Mimica, Mr Karmenu Vella, Mr Vytenis Andriukaitis, Mr Dimitris Avramopoulos, Ms Marianne Thyssen, Mr Pierre Moscovici, Mr Christos Stylianides, Mr Phil Hogan, Mr Jonathan Hill, Ms Violeta Bulc, Ms Elżbieta Bieńkowska, Ms Věra Jourová, Mr Tibor Navracsics, Ms Corina Crețu, Ms Margrethe Vestager and Mr Carlos Moedas.

Although the Treaties do not lay down any specific requirements as to the manner in which the solemn undertaking is to be given, the Commission has always attached great importance to that undertaking being given before the Court of Justice of the European Union. Reiterating its strong commitment to this tradition, the new Commission has been minded to give its undertaking sooner than has previously been the case, approximately just one month after starting its term.

The solemn undertaking given by the President and the Members of the European Commission is as follows:

“Having been appointed as a Member of the European Commission by the European Council, following the vote of consent by the European Parliament

I solemnly undertake:

to respect the Treaties and the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union in the fulfilment of all my duties;

to be completely independent in carrying out my responsibilities, in the general interest of the Union;

in the performance of my tasks, neither to seek nor to take instructions from any Government or from any other institution, body, office or entity;

to refrain from any action incompatible with my duties or the performance of my tasks.

I formally note the obligation laid down under the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, by virtue of which each Member State is to respect this principle and is not to seek to influence Members of the Commission in the performance of their tasks.

I further undertake to respect, both during and after my term of office, the obligations arising therefrom, and in particular the duty to behave with integrity and discretion as regards the acceptance, after I have ceased to hold office, of certain appointments or benefits.”

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Images of the formal sitting are available on [‘Europe by Satellite’](#) ☎ (+32) 2 2964106