

METHODOLOGY

MEP DECLARATIONS OF FINANCIAL INTERESTS BRIEFING

The European Parliament [Code of Conduct for Members](#) with respect to financial interests and conflicts of interests make it compulsory for MEPs to disclose their financial interests and outside activities at the beginning of their mandate (art 4).

The list of outside activities that must be reported are: local mandates, any activity as an employee or self-employed, memberships to board or committees of any type of entities including companies and NGO's, holdings as well as occasional economic activities that exceed a remuneration of more than 5000 euros per year.

Income is not reported in exact amounts but provided in broad gross ranges:

Categories of gross income / per month
Unremunerated
1€ - 499€
500€ - 1,000€
1.001€ - 5,000€
5,001€ - 10,000€
> 10,000€ with an indication of the nearest 10,000

As such, each MEP has a range within which her or his gross monthly income is reported. For this analysis, this range has been multiplied by 12 to reach the total minimum and maximum yearly income. The large discrepancy between the total minimum and maximum is due to the fact that the majority of paid activities are reported in the 1.001€ to 5.000€ category.

TI EU has collected the most recent declarations published on MEPs' personal pages on the European Parliament website as of 1 September 2023. Please note MEPs bear the sole responsibility for the contents of their declarations and must update their declaration by the end of the month during which any changes have occurred.

Updated declarations published after 1 September are not taken into consideration for this analysis. Please consult the EP website for the most up to date list of declaration. These are uploaded to our online platform [Integrity Watch EU](#) on the 1st and 15th of every month.

According to the Code of Conduct, activities must be reported in a "precise manner" (art.4). Accuracy and verifiable information are essential for the prevention of conflicts of interest. Descriptions of activities should at minimum allow the wider public to know the exact source of income, the nature of the activity, the exact name of the employer, organisation or holding wherever applicable.

For the purpose of our analysis, an activity description is deemed imprecise if one or several of the following criteria are fulfilled:

- A generic description, such as “economic activity” or “company owner”
- Provide the name of an entity without specifying in what capacity the MEP is involved.
- Conversely, providing a role without specifying for which entity the MEP is involved with or if it is self-employment.
- The name or acronym of an organisation cannot be found after a thorough search online
- For holdings, the nature and stake in the any given entity is not specified.

For questions related to methodology and access to the dataset of collected side activities, as well as general press enquiries, please contact: eupress@transparency.org.



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