

# **Integrity Watch MEP meetings section**

# **Background note**

#### Introduction

The European Parliament's <u>Code of Conduct regarding Transparency and Integrity</u> (Article 7) makes it compulsory for MEPs to publish all scheduled meetings with interest representatives falling under the scope of the EU Transparency Register and representatives of third countries. The new rules, introduced in the September 2023 reform of the Code of Conduct, significantly expand the transparency provisions inside the European Parliament related to interest representation. Previously, only certain MEPs (Rapporteurs, Shadow Rapporteurs and Committee Chairs) had to publish their meetings. The new rules now stipulate that <u>all</u> MEPs and their assistants must publish.

### Transparency Register vs Free text organisation name

However, MEPs retain considerable leeway on how these meetings are reported. Please find an overview below:

Meeting recorded via the EU Transparency Register

MEPs can record meetings with registered organisations by logging either the name or the EU transparency register ID. These meetings are automatically linked to those organisations' <u>EU transparency register</u> entries. It is not currently mandatory to record meetings via the transparency register, with only half of MEPs engaging in this good practice.

#### Meetings recorded via free text

The other half records meetings via a free text form. Unfortunately, many MEPs also record registered organisations via this option, resulting in various iterations of an organisation's name appearing on the Integrity Watch EU platform. For example, our organisation appears as: "transparency international liaison office to the EU" (Official transparency register name), "Transparency International EU", "TI EU", "Transparency Europe", "TI Brussels office". IW EU automatically flags how an organisation's name was logged.



# Meetings linked to legislative procedure

MEPs can, on a voluntary basis, link an interest representation meeting with a specific parliamentary procedure. Integrity Watch EU automatically highlights linked meetings by providing the corresponding procedure number and link to the European Parliament's <u>legislative observatory</u> procedure page.

### Integrity Watch EU platform disclaimer

<u>Integrity Watch EU</u> collects all meetings published on MEPs' individual pages from the European Parliament website. This data is entirely self-reported. The tool updates automatically at midnight of each day.

TI EU and Integrity Watch EU bears no responsibility for the accuracy of the original data. Where further processing is required, for example flagging meetings linked to either the EU transparency register or European Parliament's legislative observatory, this is directly indicated in the corresponding interactive graph or table.

If you are using Integrity Watch EU data for research, journalism or other purposes, please always confirm your findings with the original information on the EU Institutions' websites, and please credit us:

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## Scope of the analysis

TI EU has collected all meetings published between 1 June 2024 and 17 June 2025. Meetings published after this cut-off point were not considered for this analysis.

**Please note** due to the automatic daily updates, the total number of meetings per political group, committee, individual MEP, interest representative or subject might vary during the time elapsed between our published analysis and the data provided on Integrity Watch EU.

For questions related to methodology, access to datasets and general press enquiries, please contact: <a href="mailto:eupress@transparency.org">eupress@transparency.org</a>.