

Office of the Government of the Czech Republic

Section for European Affairs



Response to the Commission opinion C(2020) 5603 of 13th August 2020 concerning the appointment of members of the European Economic and Social Committee for the period extending until 20 September 2025

In response to the Commission opinion concerning the appointment of members of the European Economic and Social Committee for the period extending until 20 September 2025, we would like to address the doubts expressed by the Commission on some of the Czech nominees.

The Czech nominations were approved by the Government of the Czech Republic in accordance with the Government's Rules of Procedure on 25 May 2020 and were subsequently forwarded to the General-Secretariat of the Council.

As stated in the opinion, the Commission has expressed doubts regarding representativeness and current position ("Post held") of some of the proposed members, included in Annex I., and concerning an alleged case of non-compliance with the requirements of Article 300(2) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union by one of the nominees.

Regarding Mr. Sventek, Mrs. Sakařová and Mrs. Dubravská, please find attached updated supporting documents (CVs) which, in our understanding, clarify the doubts mentioned by the Commission.

Namely,

- Mr. Sventek is the statutory director of BeePartner, which is a member of Confederation of Industry and Transport, an umbrella organisation of Czech employers and member of BUSINESSEUROPE.
- Mrs. Sakařová is the international secretary of OS KOVO, Member Organisation of Czech-Moravian Confederation of Trade Unions (ČMKOS), and member of the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC), of the European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC) and of the Trade Union Advisory Committee to the OECD (TUAC).
- Ms. Dubravská is a member of Agrarian Chamber, a voluntary association of more than 100 000 individual members in the field of agriculture, forestry, husbandry, beekeeping and sustainable development.

Furthermore, the Commission mentions an alleged case of non-compliance with the requirements of Article 300(2) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union by one of the nominees.

Mr. Ungerman is managing member of Nadace zemědělské forum (Agricultural Forum Foundation), where he focuses on the development of agricultural education and on international relations, specifically on cooperation with Hungary and Poland.

He is also member of the board of Nadace Masarykovy demokratické akademie, a foundation dedicated to the support the works of Masarykova demokratická akademie, a think-tank and educational institution for politicians and trade unions, trade unions, civil society and the public.

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Furthermore, he is Member of the Supervisory Board of the Maltese Cross Endowment Fund who works closely with representatives of the Order of the Knights of Malta and focuses on supporting medical, humanitarian and social facilities and companies that deal with elderly, sick or disabled people and charitable activities.

He is a noted scholar with extensive publishing history, has authored numerous analysis in the field of macroeconomics.

Finally, Mr. Ungerman has been a member of the European Economic and Social Committee since 1st October 2015. His tenure's compliance with Treaty requirements (notably Article 300(2) and Article 300(4) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union) and the relevant parts of the Code of Conduct of Members of the EESC and the Statute of the Members of the EESC was never put in doubt.

Therefore, we are of the opinion that he represents the organizations mentioned in the Treaties, namely "organisations of employers, of the employed, and of other parties representative of civil society, notably in socio- economic, civic, professional and cultural areas." Consequently, his nomination is in our opinion fully in line with the requirements of Article 300(2) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union.

To sum up, we would like to express our continued support to his nomination.