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**DECISION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION**

**on Former High Representative / Vice-President Josep Borrell i Fontelles' post term of office activity with the United Nations Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean**

## DECISION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

### **on Former High Representative / Vice-President Josep Borrell i Fontelles' post term of office activity with the United Nations Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean**

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on European Union,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Atomic Energy Community,

Having regard to the Commission Decision of 31 January 2018 (C(2018) 700 final) on a Code of Conduct for the Members of the European Commission, and in particular Article 11(3) thereof,

Considering that:

Whereas:

- 1) According to the second paragraph of Article 245 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, the Members of the Commission, when entering upon their duties, shall give a solemn undertaking that, both during and after their term of office, they will respect the obligations arising therefrom and, in particular, their duty to behave with integrity and discretion as regards the acceptance, after they have ceased to hold office, of certain appointments or benefits.
- 2) Article 339 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union provides that the Members of the institutions of the Union shall be required, even after their duties have ceased, not to disclose information of any kind covered by the obligation of professional secrecy, in particular information about undertakings, their business relations or their cost components.
- 3) Article 11 of the Code of Conduct for the Members of the European Commission establishes a specific procedure for the assessment of planned professional activities which the Members or former Members of the Commission intend to take up after they have ceased to hold office. The Commission shall examine the information provided in order to determine whether the nature of the planned activity is compatible with Article 245 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union. If the planned activity is related to the portfolio of the Member or former Member, the Commission shall decide only after having consulted the Independent Ethical Committee unless the planned activity falls within the exceptions foreseen in paragraph 3, second subparagraph, lit. (a) to (f).

- 4) On 16 December 2024, Former High Representative / Vice-President Josep Borrell i Fontelles informed the Commission about his intention to accept a non-remunerated assignment with the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, more precisely as member of its commission in charge of studying the effects of globalization. Mr. Borrell informed that the commission's meetings, which will be held in Chile and Mexico, will give rise to the payment of a 'per diem' and to the reimbursement of travel expenses.
- 5) The United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean is one of the five regional commissions of the United Nations. Established in 1948 and headquartered in Santiago, in Chile, the main goal of the commission is to promote economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean.
- 6) The United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean carries out studies and research, providing technical cooperation to governments, and promoting regional and subregional integration. It gathers and disseminates economic and social data, supports the design of public policies, and executes development projects that align with regional priorities.
- 7) With Mr Borrell's notification, the Commission notes that the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean has established a commission to study the effects of globalization.
- 8) The nature of the envisaged activity is related to Mr Borrell's former responsibilities as High-Representative and Commission Vice-President for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy. However, the consultation of the Independent Ethical Committee is not necessary as the envisaged activity corresponds to the category mentioned in Article 11(3), second subparagraph, letter (c) of the Code of Conduct for the Members of the Commission as it concerns an engagement with international organisations or other international bodies dealing with public interests and in which either the European Union or one or several of its Member States are represented.
- 9) On substance, the envisaged activity does not present any risk of incompatibility with Mr Borrell's former functions as High Representative / Vice-President for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy or with the interests of the Institution.
- 10) The continued obligation to respect the duties of collegiality and discretion with respect to the Commission's decisions and activities during Mr Borrell's term of office, as set out in Article 11(1) of the Code of Conduct for the Members of the Commission, in conjunction with Article 5 of the Code, is fully applicable.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

*Sole Article*

Former High Representative / Vice-President Josep Borrell i Fontelles' envisaged assignment with the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, more precisely as member of its commission in charge of studying the effects of globalization, is compatible with the second paragraph of Article 245 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, subject to the respect of the duties set out in Article 339 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union and in Article 11(1), in conjunction with Article 5, of the Code of Conduct for the Members of the European Commission.

Done at Brussels, on 5 February 2025

*The President*  
*Ursula von der Leyen*