

Press Release



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SEAP: Review of ETI lobbyist register

The European Commission has today published its one-year review of the Register of Interest Representatives.

Commenting on today's Communication, SEAP President Lyn Trytsman-Gray said:

"If nothing else, the Register has got people talking about the transparency and ethics of lobbying, which can only be a good thing. We are pleased that the Commission is proposing a common register with the European Parliament while sticking to its voluntary approach.

"The Commission has heeded our calls to make certain changes and clarifications, such as on the scope of activities and double counting. However I hope the changes to the financial reporting rules are simply an adjustment and not a step towards detailed and onerous financial reporting.

"I also welcome the Commission's intention to set out more clearly the process for enforcing compliance with the rules of registration - something we also called for. Public affairs practitioners and bodies such as SEAP could play a useful role in this respect.

"I would note that some of the language used by the Commission with respect to law firms and think-tanks is not helpful but I am pleased by the Commission's intention "to actively pursue its contacts with the bar associations to resolve this issue."

ENDS

Information

SEAP is the Society of European Affairs Professionals established in 1997. It is the recognised organisation of EU public affairs professionals operating in trade associations, corporations, consultancies and representative bodies. SEAP encourages the highest standards of professionalism for European affairs activity and promotes self-regulation of the profession.

Contact:

Gary Hills, Secretary General

secretariat@seap.be

www.seap.be