Emma Brown
President
Society of European Affairs Professionals (SEAP)
Chaussée Saint-Pierre 70
1040 Brussels

Mr. Alessandro Chiocchetti
Secretary-General
European Parliament
Rue Wiertz 60
1047 Brussels

16 July 2025

Subject: Potential expansion of lobbying bans in the European Parliament

Dear Mr Chiocchetti,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Society of European Affairs Professionals (SEAP) in light of recent media reports concerning discussions within the European Parliament about the potential expansion of lobbying bans to include third-party organisations affiliated with certain companies.

While SEAP fully supports transparency and accountability in the interactions between policymakers and interest representatives, we are deeply concerned about the precedent that such measures could set. The suggestion to revoke access not only from individual companies but also from a broad array of professional associations and third-party firms risks undermining the very principles of democratic dialogue and informed decision-making on which the European Union is built.

If the Parliament begins restricting access to legitimate representatives based on affiliation alone — without a transparent procedure or opportunity for dialogue — it becomes increasingly difficult to know where such exclusions end. This approach could have a detrimental effect on the exchange of information between policymakers and stakeholders, weakening the quality and balance of the decision-making process.

SEAP would welcome the opportunity to contribute constructively to any discussions around reforms or safeguards concerning access to the Parliament. We ask you to ensure that future measures in this area are developed through open consultation with key stakeholders, including SEAP and other organisations representing the public affairs

community. This is essential to preserve both institutional integrity and the inclusive character of the EU's policymaking process.

We would appreciate the opportunity to meet with you or the relevant services to discuss these matters further and better understand the Parliament's intentions.

Yours sincerely,

Emma Brown
President
Society of European Affairs Professionals (SEAP)