

Mr Jean-Claude Juncker
President of the European Commission

Brussels, 14 October 2014

Concern: Sustainability in the new European Commission

Dear Mr President,

In a letter on 26 September, we expressed our concerns about the political priorities for the new College, underlining the inconsistency of any economic policy that does not have sustainability as its central focus.

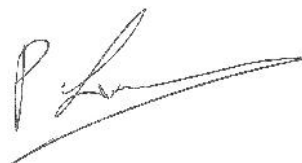
While we have not yet received a response from you, we have learned that Vice-President Frans Timmermans will have 'sustainable development' added to the responsibilities under his portfolio. If confirmed, we would welcome this change. However, the lack of any official announcement on your part, combined with very general statements about 'sustainability' made by you recently, means the issue remains unresolved from our perspective. We would welcome both confirmation of this mooted change and further clarification as regards what it means in concrete political terms. In particular, what concrete impact will it have on EU climate and energy policies and targets, environment priorities, industrial policy and social justice?

In addition, we would welcome clarification as regards how you expect Mr Timmermans, whose portfolio is already considerable, to meet this additional challenge. Finally, could you explain how this is compatible with the responsibilities and mission statement assigned to Vice-President Katainen, since he will be the one responsible for "Growth and Jobs" and as such, coordinating the climate, environment and energy portfolios?

Sincerely,



Rebecca Harms



Philippe Lamberts

Co-Presidents
Greens/EFA Group in the European Parliament