



Greens/EFA Initiative on Transparency of Meetings with Lobbyists

The Green/EFA group in the European Parliament is committed to transparency and accountability. We believe that citizens have a right to know what their political representatives are doing and that they should be able to see and control how power is being exercised in Brussels.

This is why we have decided, as a first step, to publish lists of meetings that we have with outside lobbyists and interest groups, using an open-source tool which exports meetings from our calendars and publishes them online. Here you will find more information about exactly which meetings we declare.

Which meetings we declare

- We declare meetings with outside lobbyists and interest representatives. The definition of "lobbying" is already set out in the Transparency Register, and it covers "all activities... carried out with the objective of directly or indirectly influencing the formulation or implementation of policy and the decision-making processes of the EU institutions, irrespective of where they are undertaken and of the channel or medium of communication used".
- We declare meetings that have been planned in advance. Public events or conferences at which lobbyists may approach us are not necessarily listed here.
- We declare (planned) meetings held both inside and outside the European Parliament.
- We do not publish meetings held with endangered political dissidents, with whistle-blowers or with journalists.

When are meetings declared?

- Meetings are automatically published the day after they have taken place, in an automated way.

How much detail do you declare?

- We publish the date of the meeting, the name of the organisation met with, and the topic of the meeting.
- We also strive to publish links to the lobby groups' entry in the Transparency Register as well as the name of the individual lobbyists met.
- Some MEPs' assistants and group advisors are also declaring their meetings with lobbyists.
- Some MEPs declare meetings held with the Permanent Representations of Member States or with regional representatives, or with third countries.
- Some MEPs also declare meetings that they have had with other influential public bodies such as the International Monetary Fund or the United Nations.

