

José Manuel Barroso
President of the European Commission

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Brussels,
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Dear Mr Diamandouros,

Thank you for your letter of 25 February concerning your initiative to launch a public consultation on a draft statement of public service principles. You raised this issue at the meeting with the College of Commissioners on 15 February.

The staff regulations impose strong rules for officials of the European Union and for other servants and the Commission is committed to the highest ethical values which guide its administration in its contacts with the public, particularly in regard to lawfulness, non-discrimination, proportionality and consistency, in accordance with the Code of Good Administrative Behaviour adopted on 17 October 2000.

Over the past years the Commission has taken action to raise the awareness of its staff and encourage the implementation of those rules and principles, and is committed to continuing to do so.

Your initiative could be seen as a valuable initiative to enlarge the public debate on ethical rules at an interinstitutional level.

Yours sincerely,



José Manuel BARROSO

Mr Nikiforos DIAMANDOUROS
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