



European Council
The President

SGS 20 / 001968

Brussels, 14. 05. 2020

Subject: Transparency of the EU Covid-19 crisis response – SI/1/2020/TE

Dear Mrs. O'Reilly,

Thank you for your letter of 20 April 2020 raising awareness about the importance of transparency in the EU's Covid-19 crisis response. I have taken good note especially of your four observations on how to ensure that transparency and good administration are maintained when responding to Covid-19.

In this period of crisis, I attach the greatest importance to the information given to European citizens and the general public: before and after each Videoconference of the Members of the European Council, I communicated widely with the press and either Members of the European Council adopted a Statement which was immediately made public or I issued Conclusions of the President right after the meeting. Moreover, any letters convening the meetings were immediately made publicly available and contained the list of topics and actions to be discussed. In addition, the website of the European Council and the Council of the European Union contains a dedicated section on the Covid-19 outbreak and the EU's response¹ which is updated regularly and provides easily accessible information on current developments.

Therefore, I can assure you of my commitment to facilitate efficient decision-making and to transparently provide information, at European Council level, on the EU's response to Covid-19.

Yours sincerely,

Charles MICHEL

¹ <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/policies/covid-19-coronavirus-outbreak-and-the-eu-s-response/>
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