

## WEISKORN Michael

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**From:** Carla Chiaretti [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 11 December 2015 10:49  
**To:** EO-TriloguesConsultation  
**Subject:** [EOWEB] Trilogues Consultation

### Sender

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**Sender** Carla Chiaretti [REDACTED]  
**To** Trilogues Consultation  
**Date** Friday, December 11, 2015 10:48:43 AM CET

### Your data

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#### Part 1 - Contact information

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<b>Language you would like to receive an answer in</b>	en - English
<b>Other language you would accept an answer in (if applicable)</b>	fr - français

#### Part 2 - Data

**To** Trilogues Consultation  
**Subject** Trilogues Consultation  
Dear Ombudsman,

I am an expert in European Affairs and European decision making, having worked for the Secretariat General of the European Commission in the interinstitutional directorate and later for the successful Irish Presidency of the Council of the EU.

I have attended over 50 trilogues and I think I can say I am an expert in trilogues more than any academic that has never attended one.

#### Content

Rather than the transparency in trilogues, the focus of the ombudsman should be on the transparency in the Council decision making.

The European Commission sends a legislative proposal to the two Co-legislators, the Parliament and the Council. While the European Parliament is more transparent (documents are on-line, meetings are open to the public and webstreamed and amendments are signed and publicly available), the Council of the EU is a black hole.

The Working Groups or Working Parties are not open nor webstreamed, nor recorded. There are no Member States' comments available: they translate in amendments when the Presidency drafts the Presidency (Council)

text.

The meetings of the COREPER are not public, nor are the documents.

And this is the big problem: while citizens know what is the Parliament text when entering a trilogue, citizens and stakeholders do not know what the Council text is at the beginning of the negotiations between the two institutions.

The trilogues are a very delicate moment of the legislative process and they should not be public, since the result will be decisions made under pressure, while legislation needs to be carefully drafted in a good and serious atmosphere. I have seen very successful trilogues but also very bad ones.

What the citizens should know, however, is the Council position and within the Council, each Government/Member State position.

Only in this way the institutions will be accountable and transparent.

Best Regards,

Carla Chiaretti