

DRAFT

Written questions in view of the hearings of Commissioners-designate

Rules of Procedure, Annex VII - Article 4(5):

*The committees shall submit written questions to the Commissioners-designate in good time before the confirmation hearings. For each Commissioner-designate there shall be two common questions drafted by the Conference of Committee Chairs, the first of which shall relate to the issues of general competence, European commitment and personal independence, and the second of which shall relate to the management of the portfolio and cooperation with Parliament. **The committee responsible shall submit five other questions.** In the case the Commissioner-designate is heard jointly by two or more committees, each of them shall have the right to submit three questions. Each invited committee shall have the right to submit one question. **Sub-questions shall not be allowed.***

The curriculum vitae of the Commissioners-designate and their response to the written questions shall be published on Parliament's website in advance of the confirmation hearing.

I. Draft written questions regarding Transport

1. President von der Leyen tasked the future Commissioner for sustainable transport and tourism in her mission letter to “*make European transport more competitive, more sustainable and more resistant to future shocks and to ensure transport is safe, accessible and affordable for all EU citizens*”. What would be your strategy and priorities, also in terms of concrete legislation, to accomplish this task and under what timetable? What are in your view the most pressing challenges and how do you intend to address them?

2. What actions will you take to ensure that the EU reaches its climate goals in transport, both in terms of implementing and/or adapting current and proposing new legislation, while ensuring a level playing field for European transport companies, the competitiveness of the European transport sector and high-quality and attractive jobs in Europe?

3. According to the Draghi report, improved infrastructure and services, as well as more effective railway and inland waterway management, can unlock further growth, help to tackle congestion and accommodate increasing demand. Road congestion is estimated to cost the EU around EUR 230 billion a year. Furthermore, there is currently a persistent shortage of qualified labour across all transport modes. What steps do you intend to take to turn modal shift and multimodality targets into a reality, for both passengers and freight in line with the Sustainable and Smart Mobility Strategy? In this context, how will you ensure that more effective rail and inland waterway transport (the latter notably absent from the mission letter) remain a full part of this strategy? Also in terms of multimodality, what concrete legislative actions do you intend to take to make multimodal transport more effective, accessible and affordable for EU citizens? Under what timeline?

4. The completion of the TEN-T network is projected to bring an annual GDP increase of EUR 467 billion in 2050, but will require an estimated EUR 845 billion and so far the Commission and the Member States have not presented a comprehensive plan to secure the necessary financing. How would you ensure that the implementation of the TEN-T network is adequately financed, notably under the upcoming CEF Regulation and in the next MFF? How can the Commission incentivise and attract private investment to close the gap and how would you suggest to boost public-private partnerships?

II. Draft written question regarding Tourism

5. How do you intend to promote a resilient, sustainable and competitive tourism sector, in line with the EU Agenda for Tourism 2030 and the 2023 Palma Declaration, while ensuring economic growth and better management of tourism flows in line with the needs of local communities? Ahead of the next MFF negotiations, would you commit to insist on the longstanding TRAN Committee call for a separate budgetary line for tourism?