



## **Establishment of a Committee of inquiry (pursuant to Article 215 RoP) on the European Commission's funding of private entities engaged in Green Deal-related activities**

Honourable Colleague,

On 22 January 2025, the Dutch newspaper *De Telegraaf* reported that "*The European Commission has subsidised environmental groups for years, tasking them with lobbying in favour of the green plans of former European Commissioner Frans Timmermans.*"

According to the article, the Commission allegedly funded these organisations with hundreds of thousands euros to exercise their lobbying efforts towards many stakeholders, including Members of the European Parliament, in order to push them to support the Commission proposals related to the European Green Deal.

Eu Budget Commissioner Piotr Serafin confirmed the reasonable basis for this suspicion, at first during his confirmation hearing on 7 November 2024 and then in the Plenary session on 22 January 2025, adding these words: "*However, I have to admit that it was inappropriate for some services in the Commission to enter into agreements that oblige NGOs to lobby activities Members of the European Parliament specifically.*"

Should these facts be further substantiated, they would constitute serious misconduct, potentially indicating an improper use of public funds and a violation of the principles of loyal cooperation between EU institutions (Article 13(2) TEU) and the balance of powers, as upheld by multiple rulings of the Court of Justice.

For these reasons, **it is deemed necessary to establish a Committee of inquiry, pursuant to Article 215 of the Rules of Procedure of the European Parliament**, in order to shed full light on:

- The nature and objectives of the contracts concluded between the European Commission (DG Envi, DG Clima, DG Agri, and related Eu Agencies) and

private entities (NGOs, associations, foundations, etc.) involved in Green Deal-related topics;

- The amount, proper use, and reporting of the funds allocated to these entities;
- The legislative measures allegedly targeted by lobbying activities and their intended recipients.

We are confident that this initiative can contribute to making our institutions - already shaken by unfortunate events in the recent past - more transparent and therefore stronger and more credible in the eyes of European citizens.

If you want to support the establishment of the Committee of inquiry, please fill and sign the attached form and send it back to this email address as soon as possible.

Thank you for your attention and, hopefully, for your support.

With our warmest regards,

*Carlo Fidanza*



*Nicola Procaccini*



*Patryk Jaki*

