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DECISION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

**on former Commissioner Christos Stylianides' post term of office professional activity at
the University of Nicosia Medical School**

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THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on European Union,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Atomic Energy Community,

Having regard to the Commission Decision of 31 January 2018 (C(2018) 700 final) on a Code of Conduct for the Members of the European Commission, and in particular Article 11(3) thereof,

Considering that:

- 1) According to Article 245(2) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, the Members of the Commission, when entering upon their duties, shall give a solemn undertaking that, both during and after their term of office, they will respect the obligations arising therefrom and, in particular, their duty to behave with integrity and discretion as regards the acceptance, after they have ceased to hold office, of certain appointments or benefits.
- 2) Article 339 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union provides that the Members of the institutions of the Union shall be required, even after their duties have ceased, not to disclose information of the kind covered by the obligation of professional secrecy, in particular information about undertakings, their business relations or their cost components.
- 3) Article 11 of the Code of Conduct for the Members of the European Commission establishes a specific procedure for the assessment of planned professional activities which the Members or former Members of the Commission intend to take up after they have ceased to hold office. The Commission shall examine the information provided in order to determine whether the nature of the planned activity is compatible with Article 245 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union. If the planned activity is related to the portfolio of the Member or former Member, the Commission shall decide only after having consulted the Independent Ethical Committee unless the planned activity falls within the exceptions foreseen in subparagraphs 3 (a) to (f), notably as concerns academic activities (Art. 11(3)(d)).
- 4) By letter of 25 November 2019, Commissioner Christos Stylianides, in charge of humanitarian aid and crisis management, informed the President of the Commission about his intention to accept an invitation addressed to him by the University of Nicosia Medical School to become a Faculty Member for the period 7 January 2020 to 7 January 2022, with a possibility of an extension, based on Health Policy.

- 5) Former Commissioner Stylianides' duties will consist of teaching, research and scholarly activities, without prejudice to other tasks for the University which may be requested.
- 6) The Commission considered the nature of former Commissioner Stylianides' envisaged post term of office activity and considers it to be essentially an academic activity.
- 7) The University of Nicosia is a recipient of EU funding for specific projects, notably under Horizon 2020, Erasmus +, the European Neighbourhood Instrument and the Development Cooperation Instrument.
- 8) Article 11(4) of the Code of Conduct provides that former Members of the Commission shall not lobby Members or their staff on behalf of their new employer on matters for which they were responsible within their portfolio for a period of two years after ceasing to hold office. Former Commissioner Stylianides informed the President of the Commission that he would abstain from any lobbying with the European Commission for the University of Nicosia Medical School during and after his term of office.
- 9) Former Members of the Commission remain bound by the duties of collegiality and discretion, as laid down in Article 5 of the Code of Conduct, with respect to the Commission's decisions and activities during their term of office.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

Former Commissioner Christos Stylianides' envisaged activity as a Faculty Member of the University of Nicosia Medical School is compatible with Article 245(2) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, provided that Mr Stylianides abides by the obligations set out in Articles 5 and 11(1) and (4) of the Code of Conduct for the Members of the Commission.

Done at Strasbourg, on 17 December 2019.

The President
Ursula von der Leyen