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C(2026) 9001 final

**DECISION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION**

**on Former Commissioner Elisa Ferreira's post term of office professional activity with  
the Oporto Football Club's Foundation (Fundação Futebol Clube do Porto)**

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**on Former Commissioner Elisa Ferreira's post term of office professional activity**  
**with the Oporto Football Club Foundation (*Fundação Futebol Clube do Porto*)**

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,

Whereas:

- 1) According to the second paragraph of Article 245 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 any 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 set out in Article 11(3), second subparagraph.
- 4) Former Commissioner Elisa Ferreira informed the Commission, on 18 December 2025, of her intention to accept a post term of office activity as member of the Council of the Oporto Football Club Foundation (*Fundação Futebol Clube do Porto*).
- 5) Former Commissioner Ferreira underlined the non-profit nature of this Foundation whose purpose, as she underlined, is to contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals, to develop projects of social responsibility directed towards the workers,

athletes, ex athletes, and the society in general, to support humanitarian causes in particular to support the most vulnerable elements of the society, to provide scholarships to young athletes, to promote sports among vulnerable and fragile elements of the society (including homeless, institutionalised children, ex prisoners etc)

- 6) *Futebol Clube do Porto* is a major Portuguese multi-sports club founded in 1893, best known for its professional football team, which constantly competes in the top tier of Portuguese football. The club is one of the ‘Big Three’ in Portugal and among the most successful Portuguese teams in international football, having won multiple domestic championships and several major European titles. *Futebol Clube do Porto* is a members’ club with a General Assembly of members (associates), which approves major corporate decisions and reports. The club is structured as a sports association and manages its sporting operations through a subsidiary company (*Futebol, S.A.D*) listed on the Lisbon stock exchange. The club’s governance includes a Board of Directors responsible for executive management and strategic direction, and corporate bodies such as supervisory and disciplinary boards. In recent years the club has implemented transparency measures, including a transparency portal providing information on organisation, contracts, financials, compliance and reporting channels.
- 7) *Futebol Clube do Porto’s* funding base is mixed and typical of professional football clubs. Revenue streams include sporting income such as ticket and season-ticket sales, participation in competitions (including UEFA competitions), and commercial income from sponsorship, merchandising, broadcasting and licensing rights. According to financial reporting for the year ending June 2025, the subsidiary *Futebol, S.A.D.* generated approximately €149.5 million in revenue. Shareholders recently approved a consolidated net profit of around €39.2 million for the 2024/25 season, reflecting revenues from matchday earnings, competitions and transfer-market activity.
- 8) The Oporto Football Club Foundation (*Fundação Futebol Clube do Porto*) is a charity foundation established on 28 September 2025 which presents itself as a social and solidarity body created to expand and institutionalise *Futebol Clube do Porto’s* social responsibility and sustainability efforts, with its own legal identity, independent assets and financial autonomy, while remaining closely connected to the Club.
- 9) The Foundation’s stated goals include supporting initiatives across poverty alleviation and social inclusion, family support, education, health, sport, culture, environment and climate transition, developing projects that benefit the wider community, club members, workers, athletes and former players either autonomously or in partnership with public and private entities. The Foundation also aims to reinforce the Club’s identity and values in society and strengthen ties with its supporters.
- 10) The Foundation’s initial endowment was set at €250 000, provided by the Club as seed capital for its launch. The Foundation’s statutes provide that its assets may later include additional resources contributed by the founder (*Futebol Clube do Porto*) and other partners, as well as resources acquired through its own activities or external

funding, in line with its statutory purpose of supporting social causes, education, health, inclusion and sustainability.

- 11) The Commission has assessed the envisaged activity notified by Former Commissioner Ferreira and finds that, based on the description of the activity in the notification, it can be considered not to be linked to her former portfolio responsibilities on ‘Cohesion and Reforms’.
- 12) On the substance, the Commission concludes that the envisaged activity does not present any risk of incompatibility with the interests of the institution, provided that Former Commissioner Ferreira respects the duties imposed on her by Article 11 of the Code of Conduct for the Members of the Commission, including the duty of integrity and discretion as well as the duty to refrain from lobbying the Commission, on behalf of the Foundation (*Fundação Futebol Clube do Porto*) and or the Club (Futebol Clube do Porto) and notably to obtain Community funding, for a period of two-years following her term of office, i.e. until 30 November 2026. Furthermore, Former Commissioner Ferreira should inform the President of the Commission if she has doubts with regard to the application and scope of the Decision or the Code of Conduct in general before acting on the matter relating to which the doubts arise.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

#### Article 1

Former Commissioner Elisa Ferreira’s envisaged post term of office activity as member of the Council of the Oporto Football Club Foundation (*Fundação Futebol Clube do Porto*) is compatible with Article 245 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, subject to the respect of the duties of integrity and discretion and of the duty to refrain from lobbying the Members of the Commission or Commission staff on behalf of Oporto Football Club Foundation and/or the Oporto Football Club, for a period of two years following her term of office.

#### Article 2

In line with Article 13(2) of the Code of Conduct for the Members of the Commission, Former Commissioner Ferreira shall inform the President of the Commission, in a timely manner, if and when she has a doubt with regard to the application and scope of the present Decision or the Code of Conduct in general before acting on the matter in relation to which the doubt arises.

Done at Brussels, on 29 January 2026.

*The President*  
*Ursula von der Leyen*