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**DECISION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION**

**on Former Commissioner Stella Kyriakides' envisaged post term of office professional activity as member of the Editorial Board of CancerWorld Magazine**

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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:

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 foreseen in paragraph 3, second subparagraph, lit. (a) to (f).

- 4) Former Commissioner Kyriakides informed the Commission, on 31 August 2025, about her intention to accept a post term of office activity as member of the Editorial Board of CancerWorld Magazine.
- 5) Former Commissioner Kyriakides' envisaged activity is related to her former Commission portfolio on 'Health and Food Safety'. The Independent Ethical Committee was therefore requested, on 5 September 2025, to deliver its opinion on the compatibility of the notified activity with Article 245 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union.
- 6) The Committee delivered its opinion on 24 September 2025. The Committee first established the facts regarding CancerWorld Magazine and the precise scope of Former Commissioner Kyriakides' envisaged activity.
- 7) The Committee noted that CancerWorld is an independent magazine focused on oncology, founded in 2004 by the European School of Oncology. It is aimed at oncologists, other cancer professionals, policymakers, and patient advocates. Its stated objective is to bring the latest developments in cancer care and research to the global oncology community. CancerWorld covers cutting-edge scientific advancements, global health policies, and the human stories of those leading efforts to prevent and treat cancer. CancerWorld mainly publishes articles, interviews, analyses and opinion pieces that address developments in cancer research, treatment, care and policy. CancerWorld operates an online platform, drawing contributions from oncologists, researchers, policymakers, patients and advocates. It also covers European and international cancer policy debates, highlights innovations in clinical practice and reports on major oncology conferences. In addition, CancerWorld produces a print edition released around twice a year.
- 8) CancerWorld is owned and published by P.53 Inc., a U.S.-based medical media company. CancerWorld's website indicates that it is part of the OncoDaily family. OncoDaily is an international oncology media platform owned by P53 Inc.. P53 Inc. provides corporate oversight and resources to CancerWorld. However, CancerWorld maintains editorial independence. Day-to-day editorial direction is managed by two co-Editors-in-Chief, supported by a managing editor and a news editor.
- 9) CancerWorld relies on the P.53 Inc.'s support and sponsorship to operate, allowing its content to be freely accessible. It is not subscriber-funded. CancerWorld Magazine does not publish specific information about its budget.
- 10) The Committee noted that the information about CancerWorld's Editorial Board is limited yet underlining that, as member of this Board, Former Commissioner Kyriakides' envisaged activity will consist on: (1) providing light editorial input on key articles and content; (2) contributing ideas and insights to enhance CancerWorld's global coverage and outreach; (3) writing editorials; and (4) inviting other professionals to contribute to the magazine.

- 11) The Committee underlined that the invitation addressed to Former Commissioner Kyriakides, according to her notification, does not mention a remuneration, the activity being described as a ‘voluntary commitment’. The Committee also mentioned that the Editorial Board’s members serve a three-year term, with the possibility of one renewal.
- 12) The Committee recalled the legal framework applicable to the assessment of the post term of office activities of former Members of the Commission and eventually concluded on the restrictions and conditions deemed necessary in order to ensure the compatibility of Former Commissioner Kyriakides’ envisaged activity with Article 245 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union.
- 13) As a preliminary consideration, the Committee noted that former Members of the Commission have a right to engage in work and to pursue a freely chosen or accepted occupation after the term of their office. This right needs to be balanced with the obligations set out in Article 245 TFEU and the Code of Conduct for the Members of the European Commission, which develops these obligations in more detail.
- 14) On the substance of the notified activity, the Committee first underlined that Former Commissioner Kyriakides’ envisaged activity as member of the Editorial Board of CancerWorld is closely tied to her former Commission portfolio. The role does not involve any lobbying or responsibilities in securing funding for CancerWorld Magazine.
- 15) The Committee further noted that the objectives of CancerWorld and Former Commissioner Kyriakides’s involvement are not profit and that the aims pursued are compatible with those of the European Union.
- 16) The Committee therefore considered that Former Commissioner Kyriakides’s envisaged activity does not represent a risk with regard to the interests of the Commission and the European Union, thereby coming to the conclusion that this activity is compatible with Article 245 TFEU.
- 17) The Committee suggested nevertheless that the Commission recalls that Former Commissioner Kyriakides remains bound by Article 11(4) of the Code of Conduct, laying down the obligation to refrain from lobbying <sup>(1)</sup> Members or staff of the European Commission on behalf of CancerWorld Magazine on matters for which she was responsible within her portfolio, for a period of two years after ceasing to hold

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<sup>(1)</sup> The term ‘lobbying’ means any activity carried out with the objective of influencing the formulation or implementation of policy or legislation, or the decision-making processes of the Commission as set out in Article 3 of Interinstitutional Agreement of 20 May 2021 between the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union and the European Commission on a mandatory transparency register; it includes indirect lobbying on behalf of clients through indirect measures with the same objective of influencing the formulation or implementation of policy or legislation, or the decision-making processes of the Commission such as organising or participating in meetings, conferences, events or consultation or hearings, organising communication campaigns or the preparation of position papers and applies independently of the location; it also covers any activity with a view to obtaining EU funding.

office. The Committee noted that that this restriction does not affect a participation in public events or general exchanges of, and on, publicly available information with Members of the European Commission or its staff.

- 18) The Commission also recommended that the Commission decision should also recall the confidentiality obligation laid down in Article 339 TFEU, as well as the general obligations set out in Article 11(1) of the Code, in conjunction with Article 5. These articles provide that former Members of the Commission continue to be bound by the duty of integrity and discretion as well as by the duties of collegiality and discretion with respect to the Commission's decisions and activities during their term of office.
- 19) Finally, the decision should also recall that, according to Article 13(2) of the Code of Conduct, former Members of the Commission shall inform the President in a timely manner if they have doubts with regard to the application of this Code before acting on the matter relating to which the doubts arise.
- 20) On the basis of the above-mentioned considerations, the Committee concluded that Former Commissioner Kyriakides' envisaged activity would be compatible with Article 245 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union. The Commission has considered the Committee's opinion and shares its conclusions.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

#### *Article 1*

Former Commissioner Kyriakides' envisaged post term of office activity as member of the Editorial Board of CancerWorld Magazine is compatible with Article 245 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, subject to the respect of the conditions and restrictions set out in Article 2.

#### *Article 2*

- 1) In accordance with Article 339 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, Former Commissioner Kyriakides shall refrain from disclosing or using information of the kind covered by the obligation of professional secrecy that she obtained as Member of the Commission, in particular information about undertakings, their business relations or their cost components;
- 2) In line with Article 11(1) of the Code of Conduct for the Members of the Commission, in conjunction with Article 5 of the Code, Former Commissioner Kyriakides remains bound by the duties of collegiality and discretion, with respect to the Commission's decisions and activities during her term of office. She shall not disclose what was said at meetings of the Commission and shall apply a high sense of discretion with regard to the use of information and insights that she obtained during her mandate in relation

to the performance of her portfolio obligations and, in general, in relation to her duties as Member of the Commission;

- 3) In line with Article 11(4) of the Code of Conduct for the Members of the Commission, Former Commissioner Kyriakides shall refrain from lobbying the Commission on behalf of CancerWorld Magazine on matters for which she was responsible for withing her portfolio for a period of two years after ceasing to hold office, i.e. until 30 November 2026. This does not affect a possible participation in public events or general exchanges of, and on, publicly available information with Members of the European Commission or its staff;
- 4) In line with Article 13(2) of the Code of Conduct for the Members of the Commission, Former Commissioner Kyriakides shall inform the President of the Commission, in a timely manner, if and when she has a doubt with regard to the application 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 Strasbourg, on 21 October 2025

*The President*  
*Ursula von der Leyen*