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DECISION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

**on Former Commissioner Johannes Hahn's post term of office professional activity as
member of the European Investment Bank's 'Appointment Advisory Committee'**

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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) On 6 June 2025, Former Commissioner Hahn informed the Commission about his intention to accept an invitation addressed to him by the European Investment Bank as member of its 'Appointment Advisory Committee'.
- 5) According to Article 1 of the Operating Rules of the Appointment Advisory Committee, read together with the European Investment Bank's Rules of Procedure, that Committee shall give non-binding opinions on candidates' suitability to perform the duties of a member of the Management Committee, the permanent representative and decision-making body of the Bank, and of a full member or an observer of the Audit Committee of the European Investment Bank, which is called to annually verify that the operations of the Bank have been conducted and its books kept in a proper manner.
- 6) The Commission has considered the nature of the notified activity and come to the conclusion that it is covered by the exception foreseen in Article 11(3), second subparagraph, lit. (a) of the Code of Conduct for the Members of the Commission, which lifts the obligation of consulting the Independent Ethical Committee where a former Member intends to continue to serve the European interest in an Institution or Body of the European Union
- 7) As concerns the substance, the Commission has concluded that Former Commissioner Hahn's envisaged post term of office activity does not present any risk of incompatibility with his former function as Member of the Commission or with the interests of the institution, provided he respects the duties imposed on him by Article 339 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU and by the Code of Conduct for the Members of the Commission, namely as concerns the respect of collegiality and discretion as set out in Article 11(1) in conjunction with Article 5 of the Code.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Sole Article

Former Commissioner Hahn's envisaged post term of office activity as member of the European Investment Bank's 'Appointment Advisory Committee' is compatible with Article 245 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, provided that he abides by the obligation of confidentiality laid down in Article 339 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, as well as by the general obligations set out in Article 11(1), in conjunction with Article 5, of the Code of Conduct for the Members of the Commission, as concerns the respect of collegiality, integrity and discretion with regard to the decisions and activities of the Commission during his term of office.

Done at Brussels, on 25 June 2025.

The President
Ursula von der Leyen