

Committee on Foreign Affairs
The Chair



EXPO-COM-AFET D (2024) 32080

D 309054 21.11.2024

CONFIDENTIAL

Bernd Lange
Chair, Conference of Committee Chairs
European Parliament

Subject: Evaluation of Kaja KALLAS, designate for the post of the Vice-President of the European Commission and High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy

Dear Chair,

The Committee on Foreign Affairs in accordance with Rule 129 of the Rules of Procedure of the European Parliament, held a public confirmation hearing on Tuesday 12 November 2024 with Kaja KALLAS, Commissioner-designate, who, subject to the positive outcome of the nomination procedure, will be Vice-President of the European Commission and High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy.

On 16 October 2024 the Committee on Foreign Affairs, pursuant to Rule 129 of the Rules of Procedure and Article 3 of Annex VII thereto, received the letter from the Chair of the Committee on Legal Affairs regarding the scrutiny of the declaration of financial interests of Ms KALLAS.

Prior to the confirmation hearing, Parliament had sent the Commissioner-designate a list of written questions. The Committee on Foreign Affairs noted that Ms KALLAS answered those questions in a satisfactory manner.

The course of the confirmation hearing is described in the verbatim transcript of the proceedings.

Opinions of the committees invited to participate in the confirmation hearing are annexed to this letter.

On the basis of the comments made by the coordinators of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, who met in camera after the confirmation hearing under my chairmanship, I hereby give the following assessment of her:

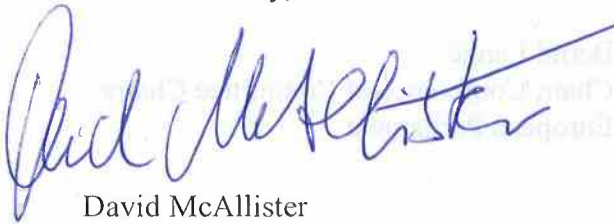
In accordance with Rule 129 of the Rules of Procedure and Article 5 of Annex VII thereto, the coordinators of the Committee on Foreign Affairs representing a majority of at least two-thirds of committee members belonging to a political group approved that Kaja KALLAS is

qualified both to be a member of the College of Commissioners and to carry out the specific tasks assigned to her.

During the evaluation meeting, the Coordinators of the Patriots for Europe and the Left Groups requested the inclusion of the minority views, which are annexed to this letter.

I would be grateful if you could bring this assessment to the attention of the Conference of Presidents.

Yours sincerely,



David McAllister

Annex:

- Opinion of the Committee on Development
- Opinion of the Committee on International Trade
- Opinion of the Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality
- Minority view of the Left group in the European Parliament – GUE/NGL
- Minority view of the Patriots for Europe Group

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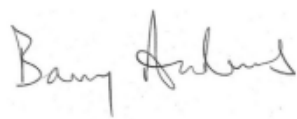
Mr David McAllister
Chair
Committee on Foreign Affairs

Dear Chair,

The Committee on Development, invited to the confirmation hearing of Commissioner-designate Ms Kaja KALLAS, which took place on 12 November 2024, considers that the Commissioner-designate is qualified to be member of the College and is qualified to carry out the particular duties she has been assigned in the field of foreign affairs and security policy, as regards in particular partnerships with developing countries, NDICI - Global Europe, Policy Coherence for Development and the Sustainable Development Goals.

This opinion has been adopted by Coordinators representing a large majority of committee members belonging to a political group.

Yours sincerely,



Barry Andrews

Committee on International Trade
The Chair

D 309051 21.11.2024

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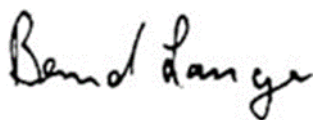
Mr David MCALLISTER
Chair of AFET Committee

Dear Chair,

The Committee on International Trade, invited to the confirmation hearing of Ms. Kaja Kallas, designate for the post of Vice-President of the European Commission and High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, which took place on 12 November 2024, considers that the designate for the post of the Vice-President of the European Commission and High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy is qualified to be member of the College and is qualified to carry out the particular duties she has been assigned in the areas falling to a substantial extent within the responsibility of the INTA Committee.

This opinion has been adopted by INTA Coordinators representing a large majority of committee members belonging to a political group.

Yours sincerely,



Mr Bernd LANGE
Chair
Committee on International Trade

Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality
The Chair

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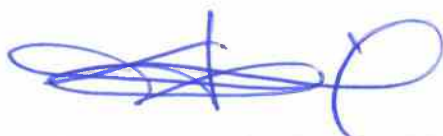
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Addressee

David McAllister, Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee

The Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality, invited to the confirmation hearing of High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice-President Kaja Kallas, which took place on 12 November 2024, considers that the candidate is qualified to be member of the College and is qualified to carry out the particular duties she has been assigned in the field of FEMM committee's competence.

This opinion has been adopted by Coordinators representing at least a simple majority of committee members belonging to a political group.



Lina Gálvez

Chair of the Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality

Minority view of the Left Group on the evaluation of Kaja KALLAS, designate for the post of the Vice-President of the Commission and High Representative of the Union for foreign affairs and security policy

The answers provided by Commissioner-designate Ms. Kallas were deeply disappointing. Throughout the world, the European Union's double standards are called out.

The credibility of Europe lies in shatters as the European establishment imposes sanctions on Russia for its war on Ukraine but refrains from imposing any sanctions at all on Israel that stands accused of genocide in front of the International Court of Justice. Yet, Ms. Kallas proposed no policy change in this regard. Even on the Azerbaijan-Armenia war, or the violations of the sovereignty of the Democratic Republic of Congo by Rwanda, Ms. Kallas could not commit to a EU foreign policy fully in line with international law.

Advocating for a more militarized EU, without opening new perspectives to bring back peace to our continent, she also failed to address the challenges raised by Trump's presidency and instead aligned fully with US diplomacy and NATO. Even on Gaza, she abdicated any autonomous diplomatic role for the European Union by referring to the need to first talk to the United States. Therefore, The Left does not support the nomination of Ms. Kallas as the next High Representative.

Minority view of the Patriots for Europe Group on the evaluation of Kaja KALLAS, designate for the post of the Vice-President of the Commission and High Representative of the Union for foreign affairs and security policy

The Patriots for Europe Group was not satisfied with Commissioner-designate Kallas' responses during her confirmation hearing. (1) Ms. Kallas failed to be clear about her approach and dealings with all political groups and Members equally, without ideological bias. The view that she presented during the confirmation hearing made it clear, that she has an ideological, politically driven motivation when it comes to approaching certain countries, and in case of certain countries, ideological conditionality is also present. (2) Regarding the Middle East conflict, the designated commissioner adopted a rigid stance on resolving the conflict, demonstrating a lack of flexibility and diplomatic capability. (3) Concerning the EEAS, she displayed a complacent attitude, despite clear evidence that the service requires a profound review at its foundational level. (4) Ms. Kallas deliberately avoided to condemn the totalitarian regimes in Latin America, such as Venezuela and Cuba, reflecting an extremely weak position in such an important region for the EU. (5) While Ms. Kallas showed a tough political stance against the threat posed by Russia, she did not satisfactorily explain her husband's business involvement with Russia after the beginning of the illegal war against Ukraine, only simply deflecting the claim without a substantive response.