

Members of the Committee on Foreign Affairs (AFET)
and Subcommittee on Security and Defence (SEDE)
European Parliament
60 rue Wiertz
Brussels 1047

Brussels, 10 October 2024

Dear Member of the AFET Committee and SEDE Subcommittee,

The upcoming hearings of the Commissioners-designate provide an opportunity for Members of the European Parliament to put boosting the EU economy and its attractiveness for investment at the top of the political agenda. As the voice for more than 160 American companies committed to Europe on trade, investment and competitiveness issues, the American Chamber of Commerce to the EU (AmCham EU) has a vital interest in ensuring that the EU's competitiveness ambitions are translated into actionable policies.

AmCham EU's internal committees and taskforces, composed of American company representatives invested in Europe and staunchly supportive of the Single Market, have identified several key questions for the European Parliament's upcoming confirmation hearings of the Commissioners-designate. The following questions are designed to elicit concrete strategies to embed competitiveness in their respective portfolios and guide the evaluation of candidates at the hearings for which the AFET Committee (including the SEDE Subcommittee) is jointly responsible:

High Representative and Vice-President Kaja Kallas (Estonia)

- **International support for Ukraine:** What is the EU's role in maintaining international support for Ukraine and enable business investment?
- **Hybrid threats:** Under your leadership, how would the European External Action Service address hybrid threats, including attribution of those threats, and is there a plan to develop a structured cooperation with the private sector on this issue?

Marta Kos (Slovenia)

- **Ukraine's economy recovery and reconstruction:** In implementing the Ukraine Facility, how would you ensure that the EU favours projects that provide both immediate relief and long-term support for Ukraine's economic development and infrastructure? What would you propose for EU financial support for Ukraine's reconstruction beyond the duration of the current Multi-annual Financial Framework?
- **Ukraine's Euro-Atlantic integration:** How would you ensure that the EU provides the necessary support to align Ukraine's legal and regulatory frameworks with those of the EU to foster better governance and combat corruption?

Andrius Kubilius (Lithuania)

- **European Defence Union:** How would you ensure closer cooperation between the EU and like-minded allies to strengthen Europe's Defence Technological and Industrial Base, focusing on its long-term competitiveness, while producing the capabilities required by Member States' armed forces?
- **Space Regulation:** Would you consolidate the EU-US Space Dialogue to coordinate policies and share information on space activities, address emerging threats, harmonise standards and develop joint

strategies for space exploration and commercial activities? Additionally, how would you concretely encourage transatlantic public-private partnerships to drive innovation and commercial growth in the space sector?

- **Procurement:** How would you define EU companies eligible for procurement in defence in policies and proposed regulations? Would that definition include European companies that are owned by US companies?

We hope these questions will contribute to a robust and constructive dialogue during the hearings. AmCham EU remains at your disposal for any further information.



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