

EU Commissioners 2014-2019

Intelligence Assessment (13 June)

ONLY FOUR OF THE INCUMBENTS FROM THE CURRENT COMMISSION LOOK CERTAIN TO BE REAPPOINTED TO THE NEXT COMMISSION, NONE OF WHOM HAVE HELD HIGH-PROFILE PORTFOLIOS IN THE LAST TERM.

INEXPERIENCE AND LACK OF CONTINUITY ARE USUALLY FACTORS POINTING TO INCREASED POWER AND INFLUENCE FOR THE SERVICES — IN PARTICULAR, THE SECRETARY GENERAL, AND THE SENIOR LEVELS IN THE GENERAL DIRECTORATES — WHO WILL PLAY A KEY ROLE IN POLITICAL AGENDA SETTING.

WITH THE QUESTION OF SENIOR POSITIONS, SUCH AS THE COMMISSION PRESIDENCY, HIGH REPRESENTATIVE, AND EUROGROUP CHAIR STILL BEING DEBATED BY EU LEADERS, MANY 'NAMES IN THE MIX' COULD FIND THEMSELVES ON THE OUTSIDE OF THE NEXT COMMISSION IF THEIR MEMBER STATE SECURES A HIGH-PROFILE POST.

FOR MEMBER STATES, GETTING ONE OF THE SENIOR POLITICAL POSITIONS IN THE NEXT COMMISSION WILL ALWAYS SUPERSEDE ISSUES OF NAMES AND PERSONAL AFFILIATIONS.

✓ **LIKELY TO BE REAPPOINTED**

? **STILL OPEN**

✗ **LIKELY TO LEAVE**

COMMISSIONER	GOVERNING PARTY*	LATEST DEVELOPMENTS
 Portugal  JOSE MANUEL BARROSO President	CENTER-RIGHT	After ten years as President of the European Commission, José-Manuel Barroso will not seek a third term. Portugal's centre-right Government is thought to be considering appointing Paulo Portas , Deputy Prime Minister, or Vítor Gaspar , former Finance Minister, who served as Director-General at the Bureau of European Policy Advisers for President Barroso.
 United Kingdom  CATHERINE ASHTON High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security policy	CONSERVATIVE	With Ashton not returning, several names have been mentioned as potential replacements, including John Cridland , the Head of the CBI, Andrew Mitchell MP, and Andrew Lansley . Lansley has publically stated he would accept the offer, however, recent questions have emerged over the support he would receive from Eurosceptic-leaning Conservative back-benchers.
 Luxembourg  VIVIANE REDING Justice, Fundamental Rights & Citizenship	LIBERAL	Reding was elected as an MEP for Luxembourg's Christian Social People's Party for the 2014-2019 European Parliament, having previously sat as an MEP from 1989 to 1999. Jean-Claude Juncker , the European Parliament's EPP candidate for Commission President is Luxembourg's most prominent candidate for the next Commission, but if he is not appointed, Nicolas Schmit is rumoured to be a potential Commissioner-designate for the country.
 Spain  JOAQUÍN ALMUNIA Competition	CENTER-RIGHT	Almunia has held the Spanish Commissioner's position since 2004, first under Prodi and then under Barroso. As a Socialist, he is unlikely to be reappointed by the center-right government led by Mariano Rajoy. Miguel Arias Cañete , who has just been elected as an MEP, and was until recently Agriculture Minister and former MEP, is rumoured to be interested in the position.
 Estonia  SIIM KALLAS Transport	LIBERAL	Kallas' party, the free-market Liberal Reform Party, is still in power in Estonia, which could give him a chance of being reappointed Commissioner for a third term in 2014. However, former Estonian Prime Minister Andrus Ansip is rumoured to be in the running to be put forth as the country's next Commissioner.
 The Netherlands  NEELIE KROES Digital Agenda	LIBERAL	Kroes has indicated that she will not stand to return as a Commissioner. The Dutch Social Democrat partner in the governing coalition has publically requested that the next Commissioner be from their party. Frans Timmermans , Ad Melkert , and Jeroen Dijsselbloem , President of the Eurogroup, are rumoured as possibilities. Alexander Pechtold , leader of the D66 party, has also been rumoured as a candidate.
 Italy  ANTONIO TAJANI Enterprise & Industry	LEFT	Tajani is not due to return as a Commissioner, and was just elected as one of the thirteen MEPs from Mr Silvio Berlusconi's Forza Italia party. He had already been an MEP between 1999 and 2008. The current coalition government made up of the centre-left PD and the centre right 'new centre' have not named a nominee. However, it is widely rumoured that former Prime Minister Enrico Letta may be put forward. Alternative names rumoured for potential appointment are Massimo D'Alema and MEP Paolo de Castro .

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 Slovakia  MAROŠ ŠEFČOVIČ Inter-Institutional Relations and Administration	 LEFT	Šefčovič is expected to return as part of the next Commission. Widely seen as an experienced politician and diplomat, he is regarded as having been an effective Commissioner and continues to enjoy relatively good political support in Slovakia.
 Finland  OLLI REHN Economic & Monetary Affairs	 CENTER-RIGHT	Rehn was elected as MEP in this year's election and is likely to take up the position. Current Prime Minister Jyrki Katainen has announced that he will step down from his position and seek a role at the EU level. His name has been raised in recent discussions on the nomination of the next Commission President.
 Slovenia  JANEZ POTOČNIK Environment	 N/A	Potočnik will be in a difficult position to be reappointed Commissioner for a third term in 2014, as his party, Liberal Democracy, failed to enter the Slovenian Parliament in the 2011 national elections. There is no clear frontrunner yet for the Commission post, and general elections are due to be held in July following resignation of the current government.
 Latvia  ANDRIS PIEBALGS Development	 CENTER-RIGHT	Piebalgs is unlikely to return to the next Commission. Valdis Dombrovskis , Latvia's former Prime Minister, who was just elected as an MEP, publically ran for the EPP Group nomination for Commissioner President candidate and is still considered to be a dark-horse candidate in the mix for the Commission Presidency.
 France  MICHEL BARNIER Internal Market & Services	 LEFT	Barnier is unlikely to be re-appointed given his party's loss in France's 2012 elections. Pierre Moscovici , the former socialist Finance Minister, has already expressed interest in joining the Commission, and is thought to likely have the support of President François Hollande. Elisabeth Guigou , a former Minister of European Affairs (Socialist) and Socialist Perwenche Bérès (MEP) have also expressed strong interest in becoming Commissioner. The appointment of either IMF head Christine Lagarde , or former WTO boss Pascal Lamy as Commission President are also considered outside chances.
 Cyprus  ANDROULLA VASSILIOU Education, Culture, Multilingualism & Youth	 CENTER-RIGHT	Vassiliou is unlikely to return to the next Commission. Christos Stylianides , former spokesman for the Cypriot Government, is seen as a potential Commissioner-designate for the country.
 Lithuania  ALGIRDAS ŠEMETA Taxation & Customs Union	 N/A	Several names are being mentioned as replacement for Algirdas Šemeta, who will not be re-nominated as his party, the Homeland Union, is currently in opposition. Zigmantas Balčytis , a current MEP and former Minister of Finance, is viewed as the frontrunner. However, much will depend on the results of the upcoming presidential elections.

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 Belgium	 KAREL DE GUCHT Trade	 LEFT De Gucht has expressed his desire to continue as Belgium’s Commissioner, and to potentially continue as Trade Commissioner. Although he was elected as an MEP in May, he has indicated before the elections that he will not take up his seat. Other names rumoured as potential candidates are MEP Marianne Thyssen and current Minister of Finance Koen Geens . Former Belgian Prime Minister Guy Verhofstadt ran as the Liberal Group’s candidate for the Commission Presidency and may yet still take a prominent role.
 Ireland	 MÁIRE GEOGHEGAN-QUINN Research, Innovation & Science	 CENTER-RIGHT Geoghegan-Quinn is not expected to return as Ireland’s Commissioner. Phil Hogan , the Fine Gael Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government, and Eamonn Gilmore , the Deputy Prime Minister (Tánaiste) are considered potential candidates to replace her. Further to this, Enda Kenny , Ireland’s Taoiseach, is often mentioned as a potential candidate for the Commission Presidency.
 Poland	 JANUSZ LEWANDOWSKI Financial Programming and Budget	 CENTER-RIGHT Lewandowski, who has been elected as an MEP in the next Parliament, is rumoured to be one of the candidates for Poland’s Commissioner position. This, however, hinges on whether or not Poland succeeds in claiming a top EU role, where Donald Tusk , the Prime Minister, has been discussed as a possible Commission President, and Radoslaw Sikorski , Poland’s Foreign Minister, has been promoted by his government as a candidate for the role of EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy.
 Greece	 MARIA DAMANAKI Fisheries & Maritime Affairs	 CENTER-RIGHT Whilst not a front-runner to return as the Greek Commissioner, Damanaki’s successful tenure has not placed her out of the running in Athens. Dora Bakoyanni , the former Mayor of Athens and current Foreign Minister, is rumoured, however, to be the preferred choice of the ruling conservative government.
 Bulgaria	 KRISTALINA GEORGIEVA International Cooperation, Humanitarian Aid & Crisis Response	 LEFT Georgieva is not due to return to the next Commission, as the new nominee is widely expected to come from the Socialist party. Many expect Sergei Stanishev , Bulgaria’s former Prime Minister and leader of the Socialist party, to be put forth for the position.
 Germany	 GÜNTHER OETTINGER Energy	 CENTER-RIGHT Oettinger has expressed his interest in returning as a Commissioner, which may be possible now that Martin Schulz, the Social Democratic group nominee for the Commission Presidency, looks unlikely to succeed in his bid for that post. Others in the frame include David McAllister , top candidate for the German CDU in the EP elections, Peter Altmaier , current head of the Chancellor’s Office, and Peter Hintze , Vice-President of the Bundestag.
 Austria	 JOHANNES HAHN Regional Policy	 LEFT Hahn has expressed strong interest in staying on as Austria’s Commissioner, and has suggested his prospects are fairly good given the “signals” he has been receiving from prominent figures in both coalition parties. This may be a likely outcome as Austria’s traditional center-right/center-left coalition continues to hold power in Vienna.

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COMMISSIONER	GOVERNING PARTY*	LATEST DEVELOPMENTS
 Denmark  ✗ CONNIE HEDEGAARD Climate Action	 LEFT	Hedegaard is not expected to return as Danish Commissioner. Denmark's current Justice Minister Morten Bødskov is rumoured as her potential replacement. However, this would be superseded if current Prime Minister Helle Thorning-Schmidt emerges as the preferred European choice for a Social Democrat to head the Commission – speculation on this option has increased in recent days.
 Czech Republic  ✗ ŠTEFAN FÜLE Enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy	 LEFT	Füle will not return as his Party is out of government in the Czech Republic. The ruling party the Czech Social Democrats (CSSD) are expected to put forward Pavel Mertlík , former Finance Minister, as their candidate for the post.
 Hungary  ✗ LÁSZLÓ ANDOR Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion	 CENTER-RIGHT	Andor is not expected to return. Tibor Navracsics , the Minister of Justice, has been mentioned by Prime Minister Viktor Orbán as a potential replacement. Other names mentioned in Budapest include Enikő Győri , Minister of State of EU Affairs, who is a former MEP, and Péter Györkös , Hungary's Permanent Representative to the EU.
 Sweden  ? CECILIA MALMSTRÖM Home Affairs	 CENTER-RIGHT	Malmström may potentially remain for another term as Sweden's Commissioner. Much depends on the general election in September 2014, which the opposition Social Democrats are expected to win. Even if the ruling center-right coalition stays in power, Moderaterna (the largest party in the current government) may want a candidate from their party to become Commissioner.
 Romania  ✓ DACIAN CIOLOȘ Agriculture and Rural Development	 CENTER-RIGHT	Cioloș has expressed interest in returning as Romania's Commissioner. Although belonging to parties of opposite political spectrum, both the President and Prime Minister of Romania strongly support Cioloș' mandate as a Commissioner.
 Malta  ✗ TONIO BORG Health	 LEFT	Borg is not due to return to the Commission. Maltese Prime Minister Joseph Muscat has announced that he intends to nominate Karmenu Vella , the former Minister for Tourism, as Malta's next Commissioner.
 Croatia  ✓ NEVEN MIMICA Consumer Protection Policy	 LEFT	Mimica joined the College of Commissioners on 1 July 2013 upon the accession of Croatia as the 28th EU Member State. He is keen on coming back for a full term and continues to enjoy the support of his home government. He is, however, unlikely to have the Consumer Protection portfolio again.

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