

Chair

Committee on Petitions

Brussels, *EK/ek [IPOL-COM-PETI D (2021)27220]* 

D 308554 07.12.2021



**Subject:** Petition No. 0712/2021 (reference to be quoted in all correspondence)

Dear ,

I am pleased to inform you that the Committee on Petitions has examined your petition and has declared it admissible, since the matter you raise falls within the European Union's fields of activity.

On this basis, I have asked the European Commission to conduct a preliminary investigation of the issue.

Given the subject matter, I have also referred your petition to the European Parliament's Committee on Budgetary Control and committee on Regional Development.

Moreover the Parliament is very much concerned with possible conflict of interest and the protection of EU budget as reflected in three resolutions adopted in 2018, 2019 and 2020 (see: <a href="https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20210517IPR04145/conflict-of-interest-and-misuse-of-eu-funds-the-case-of-czech-pm-babis">https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20210517IPR04145/conflict-of-interest-and-misuse-of-eu-funds-the-case-of-czech-pm-babis</a>).

The European Parliament in its resolution of 10 June 2021 on the conflict of interest of the Prime Minister of the Czech Republic (2021/2671(RSP)), the Parliament considered it regrettable that audit and contradictory procedures, as well as procedures on the application of financial correction as regards payments of EU funds, currently stretch out over several years and urged the Commission to revise the rules of audit and financial correction procedures to allow for more timely conclusions and recovery of unduly paid out EU funds (full text of the resolution available here: <a href="https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/TA-9-2021-0282\_EN.html">https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/TA-9-2021-0282\_EN.html</a>).

Rest assured, I will keep you informed of any further action taken on your petition.



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Yours sincerely,



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