Annual priorities for the Transparency Register in 2024

In accordance with points (b) and (c) of Article 7(2) of the Interinstitutional Agreement (IIA) on a mandatory transparency register, the Management Board (MB) shall determine the annual priorities for the Transparency Register (TR) as well as the budget estimates and share required for the implementation of those priorities, and it shall issue general instructions to the Secretariat.

In 2024, the signatory institutions of the IIA should continue building upon the experience and lessons learned in the implementation of the IIA, with the objective of further increasing the use, visibility and prominence of the Transparency Register, as well as the reliability of its content. As a public tool, the Transparency Register has an important role to play in preserving public trust and strengthening accountability, within the wider transparency policy of the EU institutions, and in order to showcase the common commitment to promoting transparent and ethical interest representation.

1. Targeted checks on data quality

Further to concluding the monitoring exercise into the entire content of the register further to the migration of registrants to the new system, the Secretariat shall fine-tune its monitoring activities, to include tailored screenings of the content of the register. This should cover intermediaries or non-commercial registrants who may act as vectors of foreign influence on EU policy-making, to increase the visibility of third-country lobbying in the Register. The Secretariat should also monitor closely and provide further guidance for applicants and registrants on the information to be provided on financial and funding disclosure. Enhanced and more regular checks should target interest representatives which perform activities subject to conditionality measures of the institutions, requiring prior registration in the Transparency Register.

2. A state-of-the-art register

The new state-of-the-art digital platform will need to respond to expectations and needs identified by the institutions, using long-lasting and flexible IT solutions. Additional features will be introduced to modernise the tool and ensure that the new online register fully adapts to accessibility and visual identity requirements and is easily accessible to an ever-larger group of stakeholders.
3. Communication and awareness-raising

Communication and awareness-raising actions concerning the IIA and the related transparency measures of the signatory institutions should be ramped up and be directed to both internal (i.e., members and staff of the signatory institutions) and external stakeholders. The Secretariat will provide guidance to registrants on the rules applicable to former Members of the European Parliament, members of the Commission or staff of the signatory institutions after leaving the respective institution, with a view to facilitating observance of point (i) of the code of conduct. The Secretariat will also provide online information sessions for stakeholders to raise awareness of the information requirements, where appropriate.

4. Synergies with other Union actors

The Secretariat will engage in further contacts with other Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies, and Member States’ permanent representations that express an interest to be involved in the Transparency Register. In some cases this may lead to such bodies taking their own measures associated with the register and therefore, help to bolster the unified approach on ethical and transparent interest representation. A reflection paper on the implementation of Articles 11 and 12 of the IIA will provide the basis for facilitating this process, and to produce information and guidance tools for assisting in such situations.