



Brussels 24 January 2023

Dear Ms Metsola,

We are writing you to raise our concerns regarding the happenings of the so-called Moroccogate. We believe that there is insufficient action from the European Parliament on this extremely worrying scandal.

Last December, the EP adopted a resolution on Qatar, where it stated that all work related to Qatar should be suspended, with no access to Parliament for Qatari interest representatives; the Set up of an inquiry committee to investigate cases of corruption by third countries and a special committee on transparency; and a call for EU-level ban on donations from third countries to MEPs and political parties.

This resolution was rightly adopted, almost unanimously.

However, this scandal does not limit to Qatar. There are signs that Morocco would have acted in the same way, interfering in the democratic process of the European Parliament, upon payment, showing that Morocco is involved in a network organized for years to influence European decisions with bribes. The Belgian police line of investigation maintains that the Moroccan ambassador to Poland paid substantial sums of money and made eloquent gifts to Antonio Panzeri and his family.

Against this backdrop, the EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs Mr Borrell visited Morocco last week as first official visit. Josep Borrell assured that he discussed the issue with his Moroccan counterpart, Nasser Burita. However, unfortunately, the prevailing line coming out of this visit is that the European Union regards Morocco as a "reliable friend" and "a strategic partner", despite its alleged involvement in the scandals.

In light of this, we, as Members of the European Parliament, ask you to use your powers so the European Parliament takes the same measures on Morocco, as it did on Qatar.

Sincerely,

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