

Brussels, 2nd July 2024

Mr. Manfred Weber
EPP Group Chairman
European Parliament
Rue Wiertz 60, Brussels 1047 (Belgium)

Dear Chairman Weber,

I hope this note finds you well. I am writing you as a follow-up to my letter of 24th May, and the press release of UEF dated 9 June 2024.

I think it is good news for European democracy that President Metsola made clear to the European Council that a majority in the Conference of Presidents of the European Parliament agreed that the lead candidate tabled from the largest political group shall be proposed as candidate for President of the European Commission, and that in fact, the European Council on the 27th June voted in favour of Ursula Von der Leyen. This is in conformity with the “spitzenkandidaten” procedure.

Now, it is up to the proposed candidate to negotiate with the different political families a legislature contract as a basis for her election and for the Commission Work program, in line with Parliament’s report on European Elections 2024 of 12 December 2023.

Thus, I encourage you to engage in formal coalition talks with the other pro-European and democratic political forces to this effect, in order to agree to the said written legislature agreement.

Furthermore, and beyond the different policy priorities dear to each political family, I believe that you should support that Parliament sets out a number of key institutional conditions in exchange of its support for the election of the Commission President. I suggest, in particular, the following:

1. Commission's support to review and update the 2010 Framework Agreement.
2. Commission's support to European Parliament resolution of 22 November 2023 on proposals of the European Parliament for the amendment of the Treaties, in the context of the consultation foreseen in article 48 of the Treaty on the European Union (TEU).
3. Commission's readiness to open a bilateral negotiation with Parliament on its powers of inquiry, on the basis of its latest proposal dated 11 July 2023, as foreseen in article 226 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union.

It is my view that Parliament's leverage at this moment is at its peak, and therefore must be wisely used. I am sure that you will succeed in improving the powers and influence of our institution at this critical time.

Many thanks in advance for your interest and kind regards,



Domènec Ruiz Devesa MEP
President of the Union of European Federalists (UEF)