



**BRIEFING NOTE: Joaquin ALMUNIA**

<b>Name</b>	Joaquin ALMUNIA 
<b>First time Commissioner?</b>	No, second time commissioner, previously Commissioner for Economic and Monetary Affairs
<b>Date of Hearing</b>	Tuesday 12 January 16.30-19.30
<b>Country</b>	Spain
<b>Political Party</b>	Partido Socialista Obrero Español (S&D)
<b>Previous Spanish Commissioner</b>	Joaquin Almunia
<b>Portfolio</b>	Competition, Vice-President of the Commission
<b>Services</b>	DG Competition (COMP). The state aid competencies currently in DG Transport and Energy (TREN) will move to DG COMP.
<b>Personal details</b>	Born June 17, 1948 in Bilbao, Spain Married Two children
<b>Current duties</b>	Since April 2004: Commissioner for Economic and Monetary Affairs
<b>Political career</b>	Since April 2004: Member of the European Commission 2000 elections: Socialist candidate for Prime Minister 1997-2000, Leader of the PSOE 1994-1997, Leader of the Socialist Parliamentary Group 1986- 1991, Minister of Public Administration 1982-1986, Minister of Employment and Social Security 1979-2004, Member of the Spanish Parliament Member of the Federal Committee of the PSOE
<b>Professional career</b>	Founder (2002) and Director of the progressive think tank "Laboratorio de Alternativas" Director of the research program on "Equality and redistribution of income" at the Fundación Argenteria (1991-1994)

<b>Education</b>	1991-1994, Associate Lecturer at the University of Alcalá de Henares (Madrid) on Employment and Social Security Law 1991, “Senior managers in Government” program at the Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University 1970-1971, École Pratique des Hautes Études de Paris Graduated in Law (1965-1972) and Economics (1965-1971) at the University of Deusto (Bilbao)
<b>Languages</b>	Spanish: mother tongue English and French: thorough knowledge Italian and Portuguese: good understanding

For more information on the Commission hearings and the other nominees, please contact:

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