




BRIEFING NOTE: Siim KALLAS

Name	Siim KALLAS 
First time Commissioner?	Second time commissioner, previously Vice President and Commissioner for Administrative Affairs, Audit and Anti-Fraud
Date of Hearing	Thursday 14 January, 9.00-12.00
Country	Estonia
Political Party	Eesti Reformierakond (ALDE)
Previous Estonian Commissioner	Siim Kallas
Portfolio	Transport. Vice-President of the Commission
Services	DG Transport to be created out of DG Transport and Energy (TREN) European Railway Agency (ERA); European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA); European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA); Trans-European Transport Network Executive Agency; Transport part of the Executive Agency of Competitiveness & Innovation (EACI)
Personal details	Born October 2, 1948 in Tallinn, Estonia Married Two children
Current duties	Since November 2004: Vice-President of European Commission responsible for Administration, Audit and Anti-fraud
Political career	Since November 2004 Vice-President of European Commission May 2004-November 2004: Member of European Commission 2003-2004: Member of Parliament and the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Parliament 2002-2003: Prime Minister of the Republic of Estonia 1999-2002: Minister of Finance of the Republic of Estonia 1995-1999: Member of Parliament and the Defense Committee of the Parliament

	<p>1995-1996: Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Estonia 1994-2004: Founder and Chairman of the Reform Party 1972-1990: Member of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union</p>
Professional career	<p>2003: Order of the National Coat of Arms 2nd class 2001: French Order of the Legion d'Honneur - Grand Officier 2000: Cross of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany 1991-1995 and 1999-2004: President of the Estonian Cyclists Union 1991-1995: President of the Bank of Estonia 1989-1991: Chairman of the Estonian Central Association of Trade Unions 1986-1989: Deputy Editor of Estonian daily newspaper "Rahva Hääl" 1979-1986: Director of the Estonian Central Board of Savings Banks 1975-1979: Finance Ministry of the Estonian Soviet Socialist Republic</p>
Education	<p>1972-1975: Post-graduate studies at the University of Tartu 1972: Graduated cum laude from the University of Tartu's Finance and Credit Department, where he is currently a Visiting Professor.</p>
Languages	<p>Estonian: mother tongue English, Finnish and Russian: thorough knowledge French and German: basic knowledge</p>
FYI....	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Siim Kallas was the first candidate to be officially nominated after José Manuel Barroso was confirmed for a second term as president of the European Commission by the European Parliament. ▪ As the Vice President of the Commission responsible for Administrative Affairs, Audit and Anti-fraud, Kallas has been best known for his utmost perseverance in implementing the 'European Transparency Initiative', which aimed at increasing the financial accountability of EU funding, strengthening the integrity of institutions and imposing stricter controls on lobbying. ▪ It is widely acknowledged that during his term the allocation of EU funding and of the EU budget have become more transparent to the wider public and that the Commission's working methods have been significantly improved. ▪ The public lobby register Kallas launched in June 2008 has sparked an intensive debate, and had the effect of giving a great deal of visibility to the Commissioner in charge of an apparently lacklustre portfolio. ▪ In 2002 was elected among "100 Great Estonians of the 20th Century"

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

The team at European Movement Ireland

A: 6 Merrion Square, Dublin 2
E: info@europeanmovement.ie
T: +353 1 662 5815
F: [facebook.com/emireland](https://www.facebook.com/emireland)