



**European Committee
of the Regions**

The Chair of the Commission on Financial and
Administrative Affairs

Brussels, 10 November 2020

Mrs. Monika HOLMEIER

Chair of the Budgetary Control Committee

European Parliament
Rue Wiertz 60, B-1047 Brussels

Dear CONT Chair, Mrs Hohlmeier,

Dear members of the CONT Committee,

Thank you for inviting me today to the CONT committee "Exchange of views with Robert McCoy and Sophie Ms in 't Veld to receive first-hand information on the state of play on the mediation procedure".

I have listened carefully all interventions and, since I was not given the floor for my concluding remarks as it happened with the other speakers, I would like to assure you on my personal political determination to solve this matter in the fairest way possible and with full respect of the laws and tax payers' money.

Concerning the European Parliament demand to organise a meeting with Mr. McCoy, I can reconfirm the readiness of the President of the European Committee of the Regions, Mr. Tzitzikostas, to meet him bilaterally. I am also ready to meet McCoy together with the EP rapporteur on the 2019 discharge, Mr. Ghinea, and in the presence of the EP mediator, Ms in 't Veld. This could build up on similar meetings between McCoy and former CoR Presidents and CAFA Chairs that already took place in the past.

Being directly elected politicians, members of the European Committee of the Regions have a full understanding of their responsibility towards the European Parliament's authority on discharge matters.

We reaffirm our willingness to follow the European Parliament' guidance to identify the best possible settlement of this case, which must comply with political recommendations and legal requirements.

Sincerely yours,

Anders Knape

Chair of the Commission of Financial and Administrative Affairs

Cc. Mr. Ghinea, Mrs. In't Veld, Mr. Zdechovsky