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**EU PARLIAMENT HEAD SETS OUT TRANSPARENCY PLAN IN RESPONSE TO SCANDAL** □□□□□□□□

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EurActiv (12 January 2023)

The head of the European Parliament will set out a 14-point plan on Thursday (12 January) to tighten within weeks rules for lawmakers on financial declarations and contacts with lobbyists, in a bid to restore trust after a criminal corruption scandal.

Parliament president Roberta Metsola will seek backing from political group chiefs on Thursday, a parliamentary source said. The plan would require declarations of all meetings with interest groups, a transition period during which former lawmakers could not lobby and greater light shed on gifts.

Belgian authorities have charged four people, including Greek lawmaker Eva Kaili and Italian former parliament member Pier Antonio Panzeri, over allegations they received cash and gifts from Qatar to influence decision-making.

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