

## Background information for the CONT Workshop on

# Sponsorships of EU Presidencies: stocktaking and perspectives

## 1 The issue

### 1.1 What is sponsorship?

Most of the Member States have used corporate sponsorship during their Council presidency. Although the official meetings of the Council are financed by the EU budget, the rotating presidency usually organises unofficial meetings and events that are not covered, while other extra costs also incur due to the presidency tasks. Even the regular Council tasks may cost extra for the Member State holding the presidency as it may need to reinforce the permanent representation in Brussels, send more diplomats to be present at all the meetings in Brussels, and also take care of more officials or politicians visiting the country than usual. A Council presidency may also be a good opportunity for the country to promote its local businesses, tourist attractions or cultural heritage. Therefore, it is customary to organise political, business, social and cultural events connected to the presidency in the home country, in Brussels or other Member States. These meetings require venues, transport, security, travel and accommodations, catering, interpretation and translation, technical support and media logistics.<sup>1</sup> All these extra costs are borne by the Member State, and many of them choose to involve sponsors in covering these. Sponsors mostly contribute in kind, most often with transport solutions, catering, IT or communications. In exchange, these sponsors may be presented with their names and logos alongside official Council Presidency logos.

Evidence of Council presidencies using sponsors can be found already on some of the earliest presidency websites ever set up (e.g. [Finnish presidency of 1999](#)). The practice has become increasingly common in the meantime.

### 1.2 Petitions

In June 2019, the non-profit organisation [foodwatch](#) submitted a complaint to the Council to regulate corporate sponsorship of the presidency. After receiving no substantial reaction from the Council, they turned to the Ombudsman.<sup>2</sup>

The first uproar was caused by Coca-Cola's sponsoring of the Romanian presidency in the first half of 2019. The reason for this was manifold: public health issues, as well as the disproportionality of the marketing and the political influence. The organisation questioned the choice of the drinks company as a sponsor amidst an obesity crisis in Europe. They also found the presence of the Coca-Cola logo overwhelming at Presidency events. However, the most pertinent issue was that the possible lobbying, as during the Romanian presidency several food safety and health related issues were on the agenda.<sup>3</sup>

The reasoning behind the complaint is the lack of transparency and accountability as well as a disproportionate influence of lobbyists and sponsors<sup>4</sup>. While, they claim, Parliament and the Commission had improved transparency in lobbying, the Council 'remains a black box'. Therefore, foodwatch demanded a ban on corporate sponsorship, and transparent procurement practices for any goods and services needed for the Presidency.<sup>5</sup>

Petitions to ban corporate sponsorship of the Council presidency were subsequently launched by [Corporate Europe Observatory](#) and [Climáximo](#).

<sup>1</sup> Examples from [Budget for the Swedish Presidency 2023](#), sweden.eu website

<sup>2</sup> [Decision of the European Ombudsman in case 1069/2019/MIG on sponsorship of the Presidency of the Council of the European Union](#), European Ombudsman, Case 1069/2019/MIG, 29/06/2020

<sup>3</sup> [foodwatch demands end of EU-presidency partnership with Coca-Cola](#), foodwatch Press release, 26/02/2019

<sup>4</sup> The complainant notably argued that commercial sponsorship of the Presidency of the Council may lead to reputational damage and conflicts of interest, and could undermine public trust. It argued that sponsors may have business interests concerning issues that are the subject of policy- or law-making deliberations during the term of a Presidency.

<sup>5</sup> [EU-Sponsoring](#), foodwatch



### 1.3 The Ombudsman file<sup>6</sup>

The Ombudsman concluded that the Council should issue guidance on Presidency sponsorship 'to mitigate the reputational risks to the EU'. As the Council Presidency has an important and influential role in EU policy- and lawmaking, corporate sponsorship may give the impression of sponsors having influence over EU policy, and thus damage the reputation of the Council and the EU as a whole and undermine citizens' trust in the institution. And as the Council Presidency is functionally a part of the Council, it was the Council's responsibility to address the issue. As in its follow-up to the complaint, the Ombudsman noted, *'the Presidency is part of the Council, and must operate in a neutral and impartial manner. When the Presidency organises a meeting or another activity, whether in Brussels or in its home Member State, the wider European public is bound to perceive this activity as linked to the Council and the EU as a whole'*<sup>7</sup>.

Therefore the Ombudsman issued the [Recommendation](#) that *'The Council of the EU should issue guidance to Member States on the issue of sponsorship of the Presidency, to mitigate the reputational risks to the EU.'*

### 1.4 Parliament scrutiny

During the discharge procedure for the financial year 2017, Parliament expressed *'its concerns about the information reported by the European media regarding the corporate sponsorship of Member States hosting the Union Presidency and echoes the concerns expressed by Union citizens and Members of Parliament'*. While it acknowledged *'that the Member States are expected to finance their own Presidencies'*, it regrets that *'resorting to corporate sponsorship to cover some of their expenses in this regards has become common practice in recent years'*. Parliament is therefore *'highly concerned about the possible reputational damage and the risk of loss of trust that this practice may incur on the Union, its institutions and especially to the Council in the eyes of the citizens of the Union'*. Consequently, it suggests that *'the Council adopt guidelines in order to promote the financial transparency and independency of the Presidencies'*, and *'strongly recommends the Council to envisage budgetisation of the Presidencies'*<sup>8</sup>.

There have also been several written questions by Members to the Council on the topic.<sup>9</sup>

### 1.5 The Council's reaction

At first the Council reacted to foodwatch's complaint and later to Parliamentary questions along the lines that *'The organisation of the Presidency, including a decision to seek sponsorship for elements of the Presidency, is a matter for the Member State authorities concerned. It is not for the Council to reply to questions that are the responsibility of its Presidency.'*<sup>10</sup>

After the Ombudsman opened a case on the issue the Council's response<sup>11</sup> provided more detail, nevertheless, without changing its position. Although it admitted that the Presidency was part of the Council, the institution explained that the Presidency's main responsibility is to ensure the smooth running of Council meetings. This task was mainly performed on Council premises and covered by the Council's budget. The reply reiterated that any other activity of the Member State holding the presidency falls outside the Council's authority and their financing is the sole responsibility of the Member State: *'those activities, in which no decisions can be taken, are distinguished from meetings of the Council. They remain under the sole responsibility of the Member State concerned'*.<sup>12</sup>

In its reaction to the draft Recommendation of the Ombudsman, the Council accepts that, although the unofficial activities of the Presidency are clearly distinguishable, in order to avoid reputational risks, it may be 'appropriate to explore the possibility of issuing general guidance' on sponsorship<sup>13</sup>.

<sup>6</sup> [Decision of the European Ombudsman in case 1069/2019/MIG on sponsorship of the Presidency of the Council of the European Union](#), European Ombudsman, Case 1069/2019/MIG, 29/06/2020

<sup>7</sup> [Recommendation of the European Ombudsman in case 1069/2019/MIG on sponsorship of the Presidency of the Council of the European Union](#), 6 January 2020

<sup>8</sup> [European Parliament resolution of 23 October 2019 with observations forming an integral part of the decision on discharge in respect of the implementation of the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2017, Section II – European Council and Council \(2018/2168\(DEC\)\)](#), P9\_TA(2019)0040, 23 October 2019

<sup>9</sup> [Coca-Cola's sponsorship of Romania's Presidency](#), Question for written answer E-001085-19 to the Council, Dennis de Jong (GUE/NGL), 27.2.2019; [Sponsorship of the Presidency of the Council of the EU by major corporations](#), Question for written answer E-001374/2021/rev.1 to the Council, João Ferreira (The Left), 10.3.2021; [Sponsorship of the Council Presidency](#), Question for written answer P-001390-19 to the Council, Ole Christensen (S&D), 19.3.2019

<sup>10</sup> [Answer in writing](#) to Question for written answer P-001390-19 to the Council by Ole Christensen (S&D) [Sponsorship of the Council Presidency](#), 19.3.2019 and to Question for written answer E-001085-19 to the Council by Dennis de Jong (GUE/NGL) [Coca-Cola's sponsorship of Romania's Presidency](#), 27.2.2019; [Letter to the Secretary-General of the Council of the European Union, Mr Jeppe Tranholm-Mikkelsen, concerning commercial sponsorship of Presidencies](#), 15 July 2019

<sup>11</sup> [Response of the Council of the European Union to the Ombudsman's letter concerning commercial sponsorship of Presidencies](#), 23 October 2019

<sup>12</sup> [Answer in writing](#) to the Question for written answer E-001374/2021/rev.1 to the Council by João Ferreira (The Left) [Sponsorship of the Presidency of the Council of the EU by major corporations](#), 10.3.2021

<sup>13</sup> [Detailed opinion of the Council of the European Union in complaint](#) 1069/2019/MIG, 06.05.2020

Subsequently, the Council accepted, to the satisfaction of the Ombudsman, its recommendation (which thereby closed the inquiry)<sup>14</sup> to issue best practices and adopted the [Guidance for Presidency best practice on the use of sponsorship](#). The guidance upholds the position that *'the Member State holding the six-monthly Presidency is responsible for the costs not covered by the Council's budget, [...] and chooses autonomously how it will finance such costs'*. However, it requests Member States *'to carefully consider the possible impact of the choice of sponsors on the reputation of the Council or the EU'* and *'avoid any conflict of interests and any possible reputational risks for the Council or the EU'*. Another requirement is that the *'sponsorship cannot affect, or be seen to affect, the decision-making of the Council in any way'* and that *'the Council's name or logo cannot be used by the sponsor in its activities'*. It is left to the Member State's discretion, though, *'to establish clear and transparent rules, based on best practice, on sponsor selection criteria as well as on the terms under which sponsorships are awarded'*, and the publication of the list of sponsors is only encouraged.

The guidance was considered insufficient by several NGOs that complained about its highly discretionary nature. It was also pointed out that the version as adopted watered down provisions of a previous draft<sup>15</sup> that recommended putting in place measures to avoid not only 'actual' conflicts of interest, but also 'perceived' ones.<sup>16</sup>

## 2 The sponsors

The list of sponsors of presidencies is retrievable from the live or archived presidency websites since 1999 (see Annex I). It has to be noted that not all websites or pages containing sponsorship information from this period are still retrievable. Also, there are websites which, although fully available, contain no information on sponsorship. This does not necessarily mean that these presidencies did not use this form of financing. The only presidency since the launch of the complaint, that explicitly declared<sup>17</sup> not using corporate sponsorship was that of Germany in the second half of 2020. However, this might possibly be partly also due to the COVID-19 pandemic resulting in limited opportunity to organise unofficial programmes.

### 2.1 Use of sponsorship

The Council presidencies since 1999 have used at least 276 different corporate sponsors. The number of sponsors for different presidencies varies greatly: some use only a few, others even dozens. In some cases the presidency website provides information on the nature of the contribution of the partners, therefore it is clear that sponsorship can take different forms: financial or in-kind contributions. The Croatian presidency in the first semester of 2020, for instance, used a mixture of the two.<sup>18</sup>

### 2.2 Categorisation of sponsors

A breakdown according to field of activity of sponsors can be found in Annex II. The categories reflect the different tasks a presidency may need to take care of:

- **mobility:** vehicles, airlines, airports, railways, tolls, fuel, research and development and software
- **catering:** food and drink, restaurants
- **ICT:** information technology services, such as web design, content management, information systems, cybersecurity, communication technology, networks, etc.
- **postal services:** postal services and parcel delivery
- **media:** television, radio, print and online media
- **financial services:** banking and insurance
- **office supplies:** computers, printers, copiers, stationery
- **event organisation:** venues, event organisers
- **tourism:** tour operators, attractions, tourist organisations
- **interest groups:** organisations representing professional, regional or social interest
- **other:** includes manufacturers of cutlery used at meetings, gifts, art, and financial contributions

<sup>14</sup> [Decision of the European Ombudsman in case 1069/2019/MIG on sponsorship of the Presidency of the Council of the European Union](#), European Ombudsman, Case 1069/2019/MIG, 29/06/2020

<sup>15</sup> [Guidance for Presidency best practice on the use of sponsorship](#), draft of 24 March 2021

<sup>16</sup> [EU guidelines against sponsorship are insufficient](#), foodwatch, 01.07.2021; [Presidency sponsorship guidelines watered down at last minute](#), Open Government in the EU, July 19, 2021; [End EU Council sponsorship deals now!](#), Corporate Europe Observatory

<sup>17</sup> [Germany's EU Presidency rules out private sponsors in the name of 'independence' and 'integrity'](#), Rafael Cereceda & Carolin Kuter, Euronews, 09.07.2020

<sup>18</sup> [Sponsorship](#), website of the 2020 Croatian Presidency

The most common service to use sponsorship for is mobility, 24 out of the 30 presidencies with available sponsorship data have used such partners. All of the 24 have used cars, mostly provided by the manufacturers or their official importers; some have used car rental services. 10 presidencies received sponsorship from their national airlines, 3 from airports, 2 from the railways and one from a ferry company. Besides the transport providers, 10 presidencies were sponsored by oil companies and 2 by motorway operators. A unique example is Estonia, which set up an autonomous bus service during the presidency using sponsors.

The other types of sponsors most commonly used are those providing catering and ICT services, used by 18 presidencies each. Food and drinks are mostly provided by local companies, however Coca-Cola and Pepsico also appears on the list of sponsors. 11 presidencies used food producers as sponsors, 10 partnered with mineral water brands, 8 with beer brewers, 7 with soft drink producers, 4 with coffee brands, 3 with winemakers, and one had a restaurant as a sponsor. ICT sponsors are dominated by Microsoft, partnering with 9 presidencies. The other typical players in this area are the national telecom companies.

### 2.3 Recurring sponsors

There are some companies whose name appears among the sponsors of the presidency of more than one Member State (see Annex III). The most prolific among them is the above-mentioned Microsoft, sponsoring the presidencies of 9 Member States, followed by Audi and DHL with 6 and 5 Member States respectively. The majority of these companies work in the automotive sector, which is the one in which the largest number of presidencies looks for partners.



















## 3 Open questions

Based on the above-mentioned developments, general question remain open as regards next steps on the issue of corporate sponsorships of EU Presidencies.

- What does the Council foresee in terms of follow-up to its Guidance?
- Are there plans for monitoring and evaluating in future the extent to which such Guidance has been implemented by Member States?
- Do stakeholders involved in the process assess that the risks posed by sponsorships practices would merit the adoption of a binding framework?
- Should such framework cover broader sponsorships practices of public bodies within Member States?

## Annex I - Presidencies and their sponsors

Presidency	Period	Sponsors	Link
	1998/1	No sponsorship information on website	<a href="#">link</a>
	1998/2	Website not retrievable any more	<a href="#">link</a>
	1999/1	No website	
	1999/2	Volvo Auto Oy, Renault, Finnish Forest Foundation, Canon, Hartwall, Finnair	<a href="#">link</a>
	2000/1	Website not retrievable any more	
	2000/2	No website	
	2001/1	Cloetta Fazer, Lantbrukarnas Riksförbund, Pripps, Stora Enso, Volvo, Pharmacia, IL Recycling, SAS, Ericsson, Telia	<a href="#">link</a>
	2001/2	Website only partially retrievable	<a href="#">link</a>
	2002/1	Website not retrievable any more	
	2002/2	hp, Eterra, Audi, Carlsberg, Krak, KelsenBisca, Sharp, Infomedia	<a href="#">link</a>
	2003/1	Website not retrievable any more	
	2003/2	Alitalia, City of Sanremo, Dolce Italia, Federvini, Fiat, Telecom Italia, Tim	<a href="#">link</a>
	2004/1	Audi, Kerrygold, Cooley, Dell, Jameson, Eircom, Tipperary, Cavanagh, Microsoft	<a href="#">link</a>
	2004/2	No sponsorship information on website	<a href="#">link</a>
	2005/1	No sponsorship information on website	<a href="#">link</a>
	2005/2	No sponsorship information on website	<a href="#">link</a>
	2006/1	Audi, Volkswagen, OMV, ORF, Vienna Insurance Group (Wiener Städtische Allgemeine Versicherung AG), Vöslauer, Post AG, Mondi, DHL, Mirabell, Salesianer Miettex, Austrian Airlines, Siemens, Riedel, Land Vorarlberg, Zumtobel AG, Austrian Armed Forces, Helmut Sachers Kaffee	<a href="#">link</a>
	2006/2	Finnish Forest Foundation, Volvo Auto Oy Ab, Helsinki Water and Yleisradio Oy	<a href="#">link</a>
	2007/1	DaimlerChrysler AG, Audi AG and VW-Nutzfahrzeuge AG	<a href="#">link</a>
	2007/2	Website not retrievable any more	
	2008/1	No sponsorship information on website	<a href="#">link</a>
	2008/2	ST Groupe, BT France, Touteurope.fr, Modedemploi, ReadSpeaker, Géoportail par l'Institut Géographique National français, Meteo France, NEXINT	<a href="#">link</a>
	2009/1	Avnet, DHL, Microsoft, Mattoni, Plzensky Prazdroj, TTD, O2, Cesky Rozhlas, Mlada Fronta DNES, CBW, Euractiv, Ceska Televize,	<a href="#">link</a>
	2009/2	No sponsorship information on website	<a href="#">link</a>
	2010/1	Audi, Skoda, Volkswagen, Seat, Microsoft, Telefónica, Renfe, Sol Melía, BOE, Patrimonio Nacional, Correos, Real Casa de la Moneda, Turespaña, Iberia	<a href="#">link</a>
	2010/2	No sponsorship information on website	<a href="#">link</a>

	2011/1	Porsche Hungaria, Samsung, Volkswagen, Skoda, Audi, Malév, OneWorld, Congress Rental Network, Magyar Posta, Saab, StreamNet, T-Systems, Polycom, Budapest Airport, Theodora, MOL, Microsoft, RentIt	<a href="#">link</a>
	2011/2	Peugeot, Scania, Coca-Cola, PKN Orlen, Microsoft, TP Group/Orange, BKG, DHL, EurActiv, Klub Polskiej Rady Biznesu, Lotnisko Chopina, LOT, NK, Onet, Polskie Radio, dla zagranicy, Multikino, Pekaes, Fundacja Aeris Futuro	<a href="#">link</a>
	2012/1	Audi, Danfoss, Republic of Fritz Hansen, DHL, Danish Wind Industry Association, Konica Minolta, SAS Scandinavian Airlines, nonbye	<a href="#">link</a>
	2012/2	Cyta, Emporion Plaza Ltd, Cablenet, Microsoft, Opap Cyprus Ltd, Cyprus Labour Institute, Peo, Logicom, Eurobank, Cyprus Shipping Chamber, Cooperative Central Bank Ltd, Cooperative Credit Society Strovolou, Selas Publications Ltd	<a href="#">link</a>
	2013/1	Eircom, Audi, Tipperary Natural Spring Water, Kerrygold	<a href="#">link</a>
	2013/2	Krasta Auto, ORLEN Lietuva, Birštono mineraliniai vandenys ir Co, Baltic Data Center, DHL Lietuva, G4S Lietuva, Apiterapijos centras, Švenčionių vaistažolės, Žemaitijos pienas, Lietuviško ūkio kokybė, Skonis ir kvapas, „Švyturys-Utenos alus“, „Alita“, „Rūta“, „Lietuviškas midus“.	<a href="#">link</a>
	2014/1	Piraeus Bank, Kosmocar, OTE-KOSMOTE, National Bank, Alpha Bank, Eurobank, Volkswagen Bank, Microsoft, Mirsini Kontos, Goldair Group, hp, Coca Cola 3E, Pepsico Tasty, Cocomat, Piraiki Microbrewery, Loux, Kpi Kpi Greek Dairy Industry, Central Vip Services, Gregory's, Folli Follie, Mamidoil Jetoil, Speedy Car Wash, Elbisco, Attikes Diadromes, Chanos, Aegean, Athens International Airport, Eleftherios Venizelos	<a href="#">link</a>
	2014/2	No sponsorship information on website	<a href="#">link</a>
	2015/1	No sponsorship information on website	<a href="#">link</a>
	2015/2	BMW, Petro-Center, Ville de Luxembourg, Luxembourg Tourist Office, MUDAM, Post Luxembourg, Luxair	<a href="#">link</a>
	2016/1	No sponsorship information on website	<a href="#">link</a>
	2016/2	Peugeot, Orange, Eset, Ardaco, Slovnaft, Microsoft	<a href="#">link</a>
	2017/1	Website not retrievable any more	
	2017/2	BMW, Mercedes Benz, Tallink, Milrem, Guardtime, Microsoft, DSV, RGB, Viksel studio, Kalev, Tere, Dunker	<a href="#">link</a>
	2018/1	No sponsorship information on website	<a href="#">link</a>
	2018/2	Porsche Austria (Audi), ORF, ÖBB, Vienna Insurance Group, Vöslauer, Rauch, Post AG, Heindl, Mondi, DHL, A1, Microsoft, Vienna's Augarten Porcelain Manufactory, „Zur Schwäbischen Jungfrau“	<a href="#">link</a>
	2019/1	Mercedes-Benz, Coca-Cola, Renault, Digi, OMV, Enel, Berarii Romaniei, TVR, Radio Romania, Agerpres	<a href="#">link</a>
	2019/2	BMW	<a href="#">link</a>
	2020/1	Citroën and Peugeot, HP- Hrvatska pošta, HPB - Hrvatska poštanska banka, HC - Hrvatske ceste, HEP - Hrvatska elektroprivreda, HL - Hrvatska lutrija, OIV - Odašiljači i veze, HŽ infrastruktura, Jadrolinija Rijeka, Hrvatske autoceste, Autocesta Rijeka - Zagreb, INA	<a href="#">link</a>
	2020/2	None	<a href="#">link</a>

























	2021/1	Delta Cafés, sumol+compal, The Navigator Company	<a href="#">link</a>
	2021/2	Radeče papir nova, BLOKODA, Pulp and Paper Institute, Telekom Slovenije, Dana, Cifra komunikacijski sistemi, Mediainteractive, Zajc Polona - Pottery Art, Dr. Orel - Buckwheat Beer	<a href="#">link</a>
	2022/1	Renault, Stellantis (No information on website)*	<a href="#">link</a>
	2022/2	Skoda, Volkswagen, České radiokomunikace, Czech Technical University in Prague, Faculty of Electrical Engineering, Department of Cybernetics, Association for Virtual and Augmented Reality (AVRAR), EURid Services s.r.o., Amplla a.s., DEVINN s.r.o., PETROF spol. s.r.o., BringAuto s.r.o., Lesy České republiky, s.p., Budějovický Budvar, Pavlovín, spol. s.r.o., Montano Valtr, Spolek Ekovín, Enterprise 4 Education, Plzeňský Prazdroj a.s., Ekovín, VAFO Praha s.r.o., Ďuro Ďaković Grupa d.d., BLOOM PRODUCTION, BLOCKAD S.R.O., Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Bruce Ashley Group Inc., Colt Canada Corporation, Tom and Dana Velanovi, Robert Arthur, Emerging markets capital, a.s, ČEZ, a.s., ALLWYN AG, CZECHOSLOVAK GROUP, a.s., S. A. D'Ileteren – ŠKODA import	<a href="#">link</a>
	2023/1	None**	<a href="#">link</a>
	2023/2		








\* source: [No sponsorship deals for the French EU Presidency](#), Corporate Europe Observatory

\*\* more information: [Stockholm opens door to sponsorship for EU presidency](#), Politico, Sarah Wheaton, 9 January 2023





























































## Annex II - Categories of sponsors

Presidency	Period	Field of activity											Total #
		<i>mobility</i>	<i>catering</i>	<i>ICT</i>	<i>postal services</i>	<i>media</i>	<i>financial services</i>	<i>office supplies</i>	<i>event organisation</i>	<i>tourism</i>	<i>interest groups</i>		
 Finland	1999/2	3	1					1					6
 Sweden	2001/1	2	2	2							2		11
 Italy	2003/2	2		2						1	2		7
 Ireland	2004/1	2	4	2				1					9
 Austria	2006/1	4	4		2	1	1			1			16
 Finland	2006/2	1				1		1					5
 Germany	2007/1	3											3
 France	2008/2			8									8
 Czechia	2009/1		2	2	1	5		1					12
 Spain	2010/1	6		2	1	1				3			14
 Hungary	2011/1	9	1	3	1			1	3				18
 Poland	2011/2	5	2	2	1	4	1				1		18
 Denmark	2012/1	2		1	1			1			1		10
 Cyprus	2012/2			4			3	1			3		13
 Ireland	2013/1	1	2	1									4
 Lithuania	2013/2	2	8	2	1						1		16
 Greece	2014/1	7	7	2			5	1		1			28
 Luxembourg	2015/2	3			1					3			7
 Slovakia	2016/2	2		4									6
 Estonia	2017/2	7	3										12
 Austria	2018/2	2	3	2	2	1	1						14
 Romania	2019/1	3	2	1		3						1	10



 <b>Finland</b>	2019/2	1											1
 <b>Croatia</b>	2020/1	5	3										16
 <b>Germany</b>	2020/2												0
 <b>Portugal</b>	2021/1		2					1					3
 <b>Slovenia</b>	2021/2		2	4				1					9
 <b>France</b>	2022/1	2											2
 <b>Czechia</b>	2022/2	3	5	1		2						20	31
<b>number of sponsors</b>		<b>78</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>61</b>	
<b>number of presidencies</b>		<b>24</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>18</b>	

## Annex III - Multinational corporations sponsoring the presidency of more than one Member State

BRAND	MEMBER STATE	#MS
Microsoft	       	9
Audi	     	6
DHL	     	5
Peugeot, Citroën / Stellantis	   	4
Volkswagen	    	4
BMW	  	3
Coca-Cola	   	3
Mercedes/Daimler AG	   	3
Škoda	   	3
Euractiv	 	2
hp - Hewlett Packard	 	2
OMV	  	2
Orange	 	2
Renault	  	2
SAS - Scandinavian Airlines	 	2
Volvo	 	2

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