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Mr. Pierre Moscovici,
Commissioner for Economic and Financial Affairs, Taxation and Customs

Ms. Věra Jourová,
Commissioner for Justice, Consumers and Gender Equality

Ms. Margrethe Vestager,
Commissioner for Competition

Dear Commissioners,

Strasbourg, 28th March 2019

It was brought to my attention that the formal investigation procedure on the Zona Franca Madeira aid scheme, which was started in July 2018, was finally made available in the Official Journal¹.

I must applaud the European Commission tenacity in putting such conclusions forward, with a view to stop a scheme that enables organized crime, tax evasion and corruption.

In this context, I would like to suggest that you ask the Portuguese Government, namely the Ministry of Finance, to send you the full report of **Inspeção-Geral de Finanças (Report no. 2017/661)**. This report was drafted at the request of former Secretary of State for Tax Matters, Mr. Fernando Rocha Andrade, who forwarded it to judicial inquiry after having found its conclusions inadequate and suspicious. There you will find information that indicates the use of Zona Franca da Madeira for money laundering purposes and as a tax haven. As you will also find tables that shed light into what happened between 2011-2015, and beyond, related to the

¹ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/?uri=OJ:C:2019:101:TOC>

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resolution of BES - Banco Espírito Santo, and how Zona Franca da Madeira was constantly used by that bank and others, and through letterbox companies in ZFM, to send billions to offshore accounts all over the world.

I suggest that you also request the Portuguese Attorney-General to provide you information on the ongoing judicial inquiry no. 421/17.0TELSB, through which additional information regarding the 2011-2015 “tax black-out” (apagão fiscal) and the instrumentality of Zona Franca da Madeira for that scheme, which enabled over 10 billion euros to be shifted into offshore jurisdictions without any tax or anti-money laundering controls by Portuguese tax authorities and by the Bank of Portugal.

Best regards,

Ana Gomes

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Member of the European Parliament

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