

Courtesy Translation

Baroness O’Cathain  
Chairman of the European Union Sub-  
Committee on the Internal Market,  
Infrastructure and Employment  
House of Lords  
London  
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United Kingdom

3 July 2014

**Introduction of a quota for women on supervisory boards**

Dear Baroness O’Cathain,

I received your letter of 24 June 2014 and, on behalf of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Consumer Protection, would like to thank you warmly for the opportunity to exchange views between our committees concerning the introduction of quotas for women on supervisory boards, particularly the proposed Directive to improve the gender balance among non-executive directors of companies listed on stock exchanges and related measures (COM(2012)614 final).

The Committee on Legal Affairs and Consumer Protection has not yet completed its deliberations on this EU legislative proposal. At the moment, the Committee does not therefore have a position on the questions you sent us. So far, the Federal Government has not informed the Committee about the details of the bill to promote women in management positions which it has announced. The Committee has thus not yet had an opportunity to deliberate on these plans. The responsible Federal Ministry of Justice and Consumer Protection expects to move forward on this project before the end of the year, so that the law can enter into force in 2015. In addition, on 25 June 2014, the Alliance 90/The Greens parliamentary group introduced in the Bundestag a bill on achieving a gender balance within supervisory boards, bodies within the remit of the Federation and management positions (Printed paper 18/1878). Committee deliberations on this bill cannot commence until after the parliamentary summer recess in autumn 2014.

I assume, however, that the political opinion-forming process on the issues raised in your questions has reached a fairly advanced stage within the legal affairs working groups of the parliamentary groups. I have therefore forwarded your letter to the spokespersons of

the parliamentary groups in the Committee on Legal Affairs and Consumer Protection and asked them to consider whether they could reply and possibly pass on the political positions of their respective parliamentary groups to the House of Lords European Union Sub-Committee on the Internal Market, Infrastructure and Employment.

I hope that we can continue the dialogue between the House of Lords European Union Committee and the German Bundestag's Committee on Legal Affairs and Consumer Protection.

Yours sincerely,

Sgd. Renate Künast  
Chairwoman of the Committee  
on Legal Affairs and Consumer Protection