

THE ETHICS COMMITTEE

ECB/EC/22/9

ECB-PUBLIC

[TRANSMITTED ON 4 APRIL 2022]

Mr Gottfried Haber
Vice Governor of the Oesterreichische Nationalbank
Alternate member of the Governing Council of the ECB
Member of the Supervisory Board of the ECB

Subject: Notification of a change in a private activity

Dear Mr Haber,

Thank you for notifying the Ethics Committee of your intention to take up the position of Deputy Chairman of the Supervisory Board of Caritas Vienna, where you are member of the Supervisory Board since 2017 and currently Chairman of the Audit Committee.

Considering the humanitarian nature of the envisaged new role and the fact that its responsibilities are unrelated to those of an alternate member of the Governing Council or of a member of the Supervisory Board, the Ethics Committee concluded that this activity does not raise any concerns in terms of actual, potential, or even perceived conflicts of interest. Moreover, taking into account that the time to be dedicated to this assignment is expected to be limited, the Ethics Committee holds the view that the activity is in line with the Single Code of Conduct, which requires that private activities should neither have a negative impact on your obligations as an alternate member of the Governing Council or as member of the Supervisory Board nor damage the ECB's reputation.

In addition, the Ethics Committee notes that the activity is unremunerated.

Against the foregoing, the Ethics Committee has no objections to your accepting the position of Deputy Chairman of the Supervisory Board of Caritas Vienna. The Committee's assessment applies exclusively to your roles as alternate member of the Governing Council and member of the Supervisory Board and is without prejudice to the application of rules which you may be subject to by virtue of your high-level function and responsibilities at the Oesterreichische Nationalbank.

For the sake of good order, the Ethics Committee wishes to recall your obligation of professional secrecy at all times.

Finally, please also note that in line with the transparency policy adopted by the Governing Council in February 2021, opinions issued by the Ethics Committee on private activities of high-level ECB officials are published on the ECB website with a six-month delay¹.

With kind regards,

The Chair of the ECB Ethics Committee (Patrick Honohan)

¹ https://www.ecb.europa.eu/press/govcdec/otherdec/2022/html/ecb_gc220218~ae2df56b2a.en.html