

First year of the Barroso II Commission

The second Barroso Commission was elected by Parliament on 9 February 2010 and has now been in office for almost a year. We have collected figures from the official EU-websites in an attempt to measure the legislative activity of the 27 Commissioners, their administrative work and the amount of communication to the press. The figures show significant variation between the different Commissioners.

Findings

Not surprisingly the Commission President Barroso can be found in the overall top. Olli Rehn (Economic and Monetary Affairs) and Dacian Cioloş (Agriculture and Rural Development) are very active within all three fields. In the opposite end with a low level of activity we find Maroš Šefčovič (Inter-Institutional Relations and Administration), Connie Hedegaard (Climate Action) and Kristalina Georgieva (International Cooperation, Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Response). The reason for the low activity level of the three may come as a result of their relatively light portfolios.

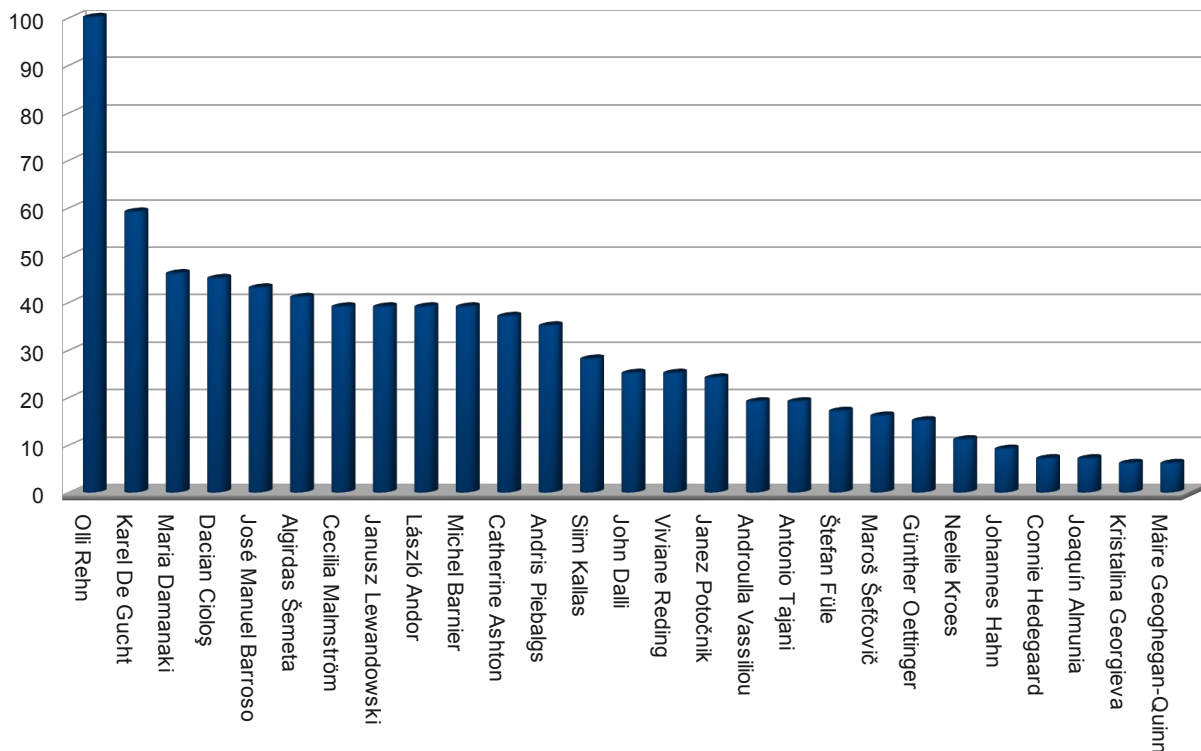
Approach

First we have measured the level of legislative activity using data from the EU-database PreLex. Second we have measured the amount of work done in the departments under each Commissioner using data taken from the European Commission document register. The third search has been performed using the Rapid database of press releases.

Legislative activity

We have measured the level of legislative activity using data from the EU-database PreLex. PreLex follows all Commission proposals (legislative and budgetary dossiers, conclusions of international agreements) and communications from their transmission to the Council or the European Parliament. For each Commissioner we have counted the number of acts they are responsible for. 3 acts has more than one responsible Commissioner and 67 acts are not marked with a responsible Commissioner.

Prelex documents



Source: Buhl & Rasmussen, www.itsyourparliament.eu

Olli Rehn are responsible for 100 acts, Karel De Gucht for 59 and Maria Damanaki for 46. In the low end we find Kristalina Georgieva (6 acts), Máire Geoghegan-Quinn (6 acts) and Connie Hedegaard (7 acts).

Joaquín Almunia (Competition) are marked as responsible for 8 acts since 9. February 2010. For the same period there can be found 3024 press releases in the field of competition policy using the Rapid-database. This high number of press releases is only exceeded by Siim Kallas (Transport).

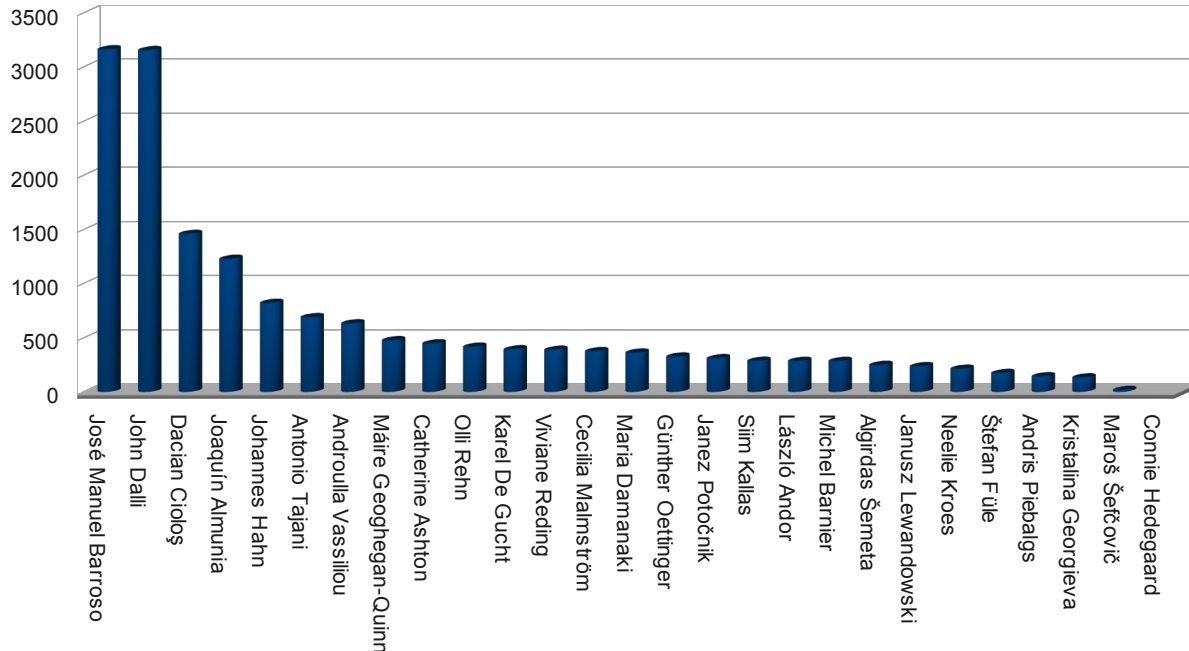
Commission Documents

To measure the work done in the departments under each Commissioner we have performed searches using the European Commission document register. The search covers the period from 9/2-2010 to 2/2-2011. Some Commissioners are responsible for more than one department for those Commissioners we have added the number of documents for each department together.

We have linked departments to Commissioners in the following way:

Kristalina Georgieva: Humanitarian Aid. Máire Geoghegan-Quinn: Research (438), Joint Research Centre (31). Connie Hedegaard: Climate Action. Joaquín Almunia: Competition. Johannes Hahn: Regional Policy. Neelie Kroes: Information Society and Media. Günther Oettinger: Energy. Maroš Šefčovič: Human Resources and Security (0), Infrastructures and Logistics – Brussels/Luxembourg (3), Office For Administration And Payment Of Individual Entitlements (2), Informatics (5). Štefan Füle: Enlargement. Androulla Vassiliou: Education and Culture (225), Interpretation (1), Translation (399). Antonio Tajani: Enterprise and Industry. Janez Potočnik: Environment. John Dalli: Health and Consumers. Viviane Reding: Justice (353), Communication (28). Siim Kallas: Mobility and Transport (0), Energy and Transport (279). Andris Piebalgs: Development & Cooperation (136), EuropeAid Development & Cooperation (0). Catherine Ashton: Foreign Policy Instruments Service (0), External relations (440). Cecilia Malmström: Home Affairs. Janusz Lewandowski: Budget. László Andor: Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities. Michel Barnier: Internal Market and Services. Algirdas Šemeta: Taxation and Customs Union (222), Internal Audit Service (2), European Anti-Fraud Office (17). José Manuel Barroso: Bureau of European Policy Advisers (0), Legal Service (454), Secretariat General (2702). Dacian Cioloș: Agriculture and Rural Development. Maria Damanaki: Maritime Affairs and Fisheries. Karel De Gucht: Trade. Olli Rehn: Economic and Financial Affairs.

European Commission document register



Source: Buhl & Rasmussen, www.itsyourparliament.eu

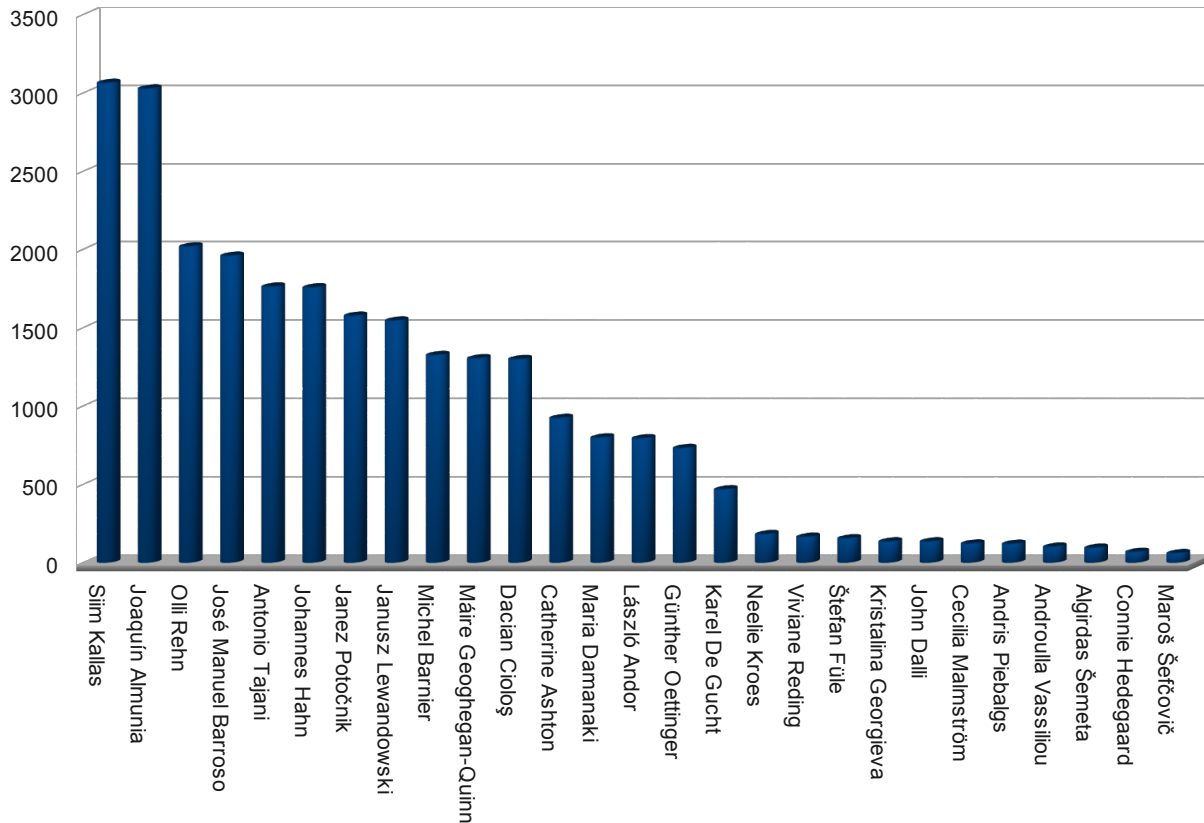
Most active is Barroso with a total of 3156 documents; 454 from Legal Service and 2702 from Secretariat General. Barroso's departments are closely followed by Health and Consumers under Dalli with 3148 documents.

No documents have been found for “Climate Action” under Connie Hedegaard.

Communication to the press

The third search has been performed using the Rapid database of press releases. We have performed a search for the area of competence of each Commissioner restricted to the period from 9. February 2010 to 2. February 2011.

Rapid Press Releases



Source: Buhl & Rasmussen, www.itsyourparliament.eu

Siim Kallas is very active in communicating with the Press, but doesn't score nearly as high when it comes to drafting legislation nor when measuring the number of Commission documents registered within his portfolio.

Both Neelie Kroes (Digital Agenda) who is in charge of DG Information Society and Media and Viviane Reding that besides Justice, Fundamental Rights and Citizenship also is in charge of DG Communication are well below average when it comes to the number of press releases sent out since February 2010.

Portfolio	Name	Country	Political group	Prelex search	Register of Commission documents	Rapid Press Releases
International Cooperation, Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Response	Kristalina Georgieva	Bulgaria	EPP	6	126	131
Research, Innovation and Science	Máire Geoghegan-Quinn	Ireland	ELDR	6	469	1301
Climate Action	Connie Hedegaard	Denmark	EPP	7	0	64
Vice-President; Competition	Joaquín Almunia	Spain	PSE	8	1221	3024
Regional Policy	Johannes Hahn	Austria	EPP	9	814	1754
Vice-President; Digital Agenda	Neelie Kroes	Netherlands	ELDR	11	206	178
Energy	Günther Oettinger	Germany	EPP	15	318	728
Vice-President; Inter-Institutional Relations and Administration	Maroš Šefčovič	Slovakia	PSE	16	10	56
Enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy	Štefan Füle	Czech Republic	PSE	17	166	151
Education, Culture, Multilingualism and Youth	Androulla Vassiliou	Cyprus		19	625	98
Vice-President; Industry and Entrepreneurship	Antonio Tajani	Italy	EPP	19	682	1759
Environment	Janez Potočnik	Slovenia	ELDR	24	303	1573
Health and Consumer Policy	John Dalli	Malta	EPP	25	3148	131
Vice-President; Justice, Fundamental Rights and Citizenship	Viviane Reding	Luxembourg	EPP	25	381	161

Vice-President; Transport	Siim Kallas	Estonia	ELDR	28	279	3060
Development	Andris Piebalgs	Latvia	EPP	35	136	116
High Representative; First Vice- President; Foreign Affairs and Security Policy	Catherine Ashton	United Kingdom	PSE	37	440	920
Home Affairs	Cecilia Malmström	Sweden	ELDR	39	368	118
Financial Programming and the Budget	Janusz Lewandowski	Poland	EPP	39	229	1542
Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion	László Andor	Hungary	PSE	39	278	790
Internal Market and Services	Michel Barnier	France	EPP	39	278	1322
Taxation and Customs Union, Audit and Anti-Fraud	Algirdas Šemeta	Lithuania	EPP	41	241	91
President	José Manuel Barroso	Portugal	EPP	43	3156	1956
Agriculture and Rural Development	Dacian Cioloș	Romania	EPP	45	1451	1296
Maritime Affairs and Fisheries	Maria Damanaki	Greece	PSE	46	355	795
Trade	Karel De Gucht	Belgium	ELDR	59	385	464
Economic and Monetary Affairs	Olli Rehn	Finland	ELDR	100	409	2015

Source: Buhl & Rasmussen, www.itsyourparliament.eu