EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK
EUROSYSTEM

ETHICS COMMITTEE **ECB-PUBLIC**

ECB/EC/26/14

To the ECB President

24 March 2026

Subject: Opinion of the Ethics Committee on a prospective post-mandate activity

Dear Madame President,

On 20 March 2026, Ms Asta Kuniyoshi, former Deputy Governor of the Bank of Lithuania and former alternate member of the Governing Council, notified the Ethics Committee, in accordance with Article 17.2 of the Code Conduct for high-level ECB officials, of her intention to take up work as an Advisor at the Department of European Union Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Lithuania as soon as she obtains the ECB's nihil obstat. Her responsibilities would include the areas such as energy, transport, environment, the savings and investments union and preparation for Lithuania's Presidency of the Council of the EU in 2027.

The Ethics Committee considers that a position with the Foreign Ministry of a Member State, does not raise and could not be perceived as raising conflict of interest concerns. Hence, the Ethics Committee concludes that no cooling off period applies in this case.

For the sake of good order, the Ethics Committee recalls the professional secrecy obligations applying to alternates of the Governing Council beyond her term as high-level ECB official and of her duty to notify any potential new gainful occupational activity for a period of one year from the date of cessation of their ECB function. Additionally, I would be grateful if she could inform the Ethics Committee whether she eventually took up this role.

Finally, the Ethics Committee recalls that, in line with the transparency policy adopted by the Governing Council in July 2020, opinions on post-employment matters are, as a rule, published with a six-month delay, or earlier if deemed appropriate in light of the specific circumstances of each case.

With best regards,
The Chairman of the Ethics Committee (Erkki Liikanen)