



EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK

EUROSYSTEM

Christine LAGARDE

President

Mr Gunnar Beck
Member of the European Parliament
European Parliament
60, rue Wiertz
B-1047 Brussels

Frankfurt am Main, 4 February 2022

L/CL/22/19

Re: Your letter (QZ-049)

Honourable Member of the European Parliament, dear Mr Beck,

Thank you for your letter, which was passed on to me by Ms Irene Tinagli, Chair of the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs, accompanied by a cover letter dated 7 December 2021.

Currently, headline inflation is at a historically high level, standing at 5.1% in January, mainly reflecting the direct and indirect effects of the sharp rise in energy prices, as well as pandemic-related factors that led to demand outpacing constrained supply in certain sectors. However, we expect energy price dynamics to slow and price pressures stemming from global supply bottlenecks to ease in 2022. We remain attentive to the incoming data and carefully assess the implications for the medium-term inflation outlook. We stand ready to adjust all of our instruments, as appropriate, to ensure that inflation stabilises at its 2% target over the medium term.

As regards the remuneration of ECB employees, the ECB applies a yearly general salary adjustment. This adjustment is based on a well-established mechanism, which fosters wage moderation, taking into account the salary increases granted to staff members of the national central banks in the euro area, the European Investment Bank, the Bank for International Settlements and the European Commission.

Yours sincerely,

[signed]

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