

# "Midsummer Night's Nighthmare"?

**The procedure for appointing DG COMP's Chief Economist:  
Chronicle of a political crisis  
that our institution and our civil  
service ought to have done  
without!  
Can we consider this case closed?  
Not quite!**

The work of enforcing modern competition laws and important new tools such as the Digital Markets act is critical, both for citizens of the EU and those in other countries. I wish you and your team the best in carrying out this important task.

Régulation de la tech : Bruxelles refuse de « reconsidérer » la nomination d'une experte américaine

Thank you so much for considering me for this important position, I look forward to working with you in the future.

With my best wishes,

Fiona Scott Morton



**FIONA SCOTT MORTON RENONÇE À SON POSTE AU SEIN DE LA DIRECTION GÉNÉRALE DE LA CONCURRENCE DE LA COMMISSION EUROPÉENNE**

**Antitrust: Google Adtech**

Commission européenne  
European Commission

# Contents

Thank you for your trust!	<a href="#"><u>3</u></a>
An undeserved gift for the enemies of the European project and our civil service ?	<a href="#"><u>4</u></a>
Reminder of the facts and chronology of events	<a href="#"><u>7</u></a>
Has Bloomberg Law stolen R&D's crystal ball?	<a href="#"><u>7</u></a>
On 2 May 2023, six European organisations, acting as whistle-blowers...	<a href="#"><u>7</u></a>
On 11 July 2023... the Commission finally decided at the college meeting of 11 July 2023 to appoint Ms Fiona Scott Morton as Chief Economist of DG Competition	<a href="#"><u>8</u></a>
On 14 July 2023, the Presidents of four political groups in the European Parliament asked the Commission to reopen the nomination procedure!	<a href="#"><u>8</u></a>
On 18 July 2023, Vice-President Margrethe Vestager was heard by the EP's ECON committee: a hearing that did not convince the MEPs !	<a href="#"><u>10</u></a>
According to press reports, on 19 July 2023, i.e. the day after the hearing, five European Commissioners wrote to President von der Leyen to request a reassessment of the appointment	<a href="#"><u>12</u></a>
Can we consider this case closed? Not quite!	<a href="#"><u>13</u></a>
Press release	<a href="#"><u>14</u></a>

***Thank you for your trust!***

*Many of you at the Commission and also from other European institutions have expressed your disappointment and indignation regarding the chaotic management in appointing the American economist Fiona Scott Morton to the post of Chief Economist at DG COMP, which triggered strong reactions at both political level and within public opinion ([see attached press release listing several hundred articles published on this dossier](#)).*

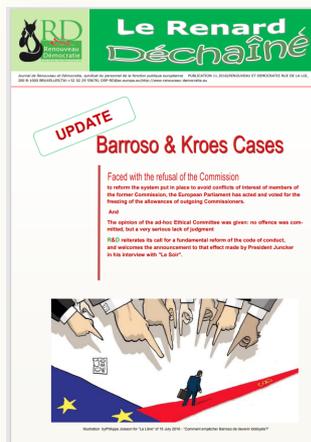
*Indeed, it is clear that this case has aroused strong reactions from all parts. Which, on the one hand, is proof of the sense of belonging that citizens and civil society feel towards the European Union, as well as the concern to preserve our fundamental values, and this is a very positive point for the future of the European project. On the other hand, it is a pity that, given the initial reactions of our institution rejecting all criticism, these same stakeholders felt, once again, that they had not been heard, seeing their apprehensions and claims simply ignored or even ridiculed.*

## An undeserved gift for the enemies of the European project and our civil service ?

First and foremost, you shared with us your fears about the consequences this case could have just a year ahead of the upcoming European elections, which, also because of Qatargate, are shaping up to be increasingly crucial for the defence of the European project.

In these circumstances, you have once again called on R&D to voice your opinion and to provide you with our own analysis, while acknowledging that we have always been very

attuned to your calls to defend the image of our institution and the credibility of its appointment procedures by denouncing in the firmest terms any cases likely to undermine the trust of European citizens (cf. [the Qatargate](#), [Barroso & Kroes](#), [parachutage](#), [Appointment of the Secretary General of the European Commission](#)...etc).



As we thank you once again for your trust, we feel that it is necessary to stress that this appointment procedure has become all the more unfortunate in view of the arguments put forward by the Commission to defend it in the face of criticism from all sides.

While it was unprecedented for a non-European candidate to be selected for a senior position of such importance, the Commission's responses, which dismissed all criticism and almost trivialised this decision, raise fears that our institution could even generalise this approach in the future.

If this really were to be the case, we could only confirm all our misgivings by forcefully reaffirming two key principles:

- 1. The European Union (EU) is not a multinational company recruiting the best talents worldwide, but a supranational entity made up of Member States that have confirmed their commitment to the European project. That is precisely why the Staff Regulations require candidates for any post to be nationals of one of the Member States of the Union in order to be recruited, thus confirming the exceptional nature of any derogation from this basic principle, which must therefore be duly justified.***
- 2. Staff of the European institutions are not a body of soulless "stateless people" at the service of any political project. European civil service is, and must remain, a "civil service with a mission" based on the "loyalty-identity" of each staff member with the European project and the institutions that are called upon to implement it.***

***This is how staff act at all times to defend the values and interests of the European project.***

***The Staff Regulations are based on this identity-based approach, whereby staff are intended to devote themselves entirely to their task, to their mission, almost as a gift of self, by making themselves available to their institution at all times.***

***It is for these reasons that the staff of the institutions can never be perceived as a body of "mercenaries" who are indifferent to and disconnected from the European project.***

<sup>1</sup> "Article 28 SR: "An official may be appointed only on condition that: (a) he is a national of one of the Member States of the Union, unless an exception is authorized by the appointing authority, and enjoys his full rights as a citizen"

<sup>2</sup> Article 11.1 CEOS: "The engagement of temporary staff shall be directed to securing for the institution the services of persons of the highest standard of ability, efficiency and integrity, recruited on the broadest possible geographical basis from among nationals of Member States of the Union"

<sup>3</sup> Article 12.2. CEOS: "A member of the temporary staff may be engaged only on condition that: (a) he is a national of one of the Member States of the Union, unless an exception is authorised by the authority referred to in the first paragraph of Article 6, and enjoys his full rights as a citizen"

And it is for these reasons that article 28<sup>1</sup> of the Staff Regulations (SR) and article 12.1<sup>2</sup> and 12.2<sup>3</sup> of the Conditions of Employment of Other Servant (CEOS) require staff to be European citizens in order to be recruited, and that exceptions must be strictly limited and duly justified. And it is still for these reasons that so far these exceptions have been extremely limited and have never concerned such an important post as the Chief Economist of DG COMP.

For exactly these reasons, the argument put forward by the Commission claiming that restricting this to Euro-

pean citizens would limit the possibility of recruiting the best candidates from the global market is absolutely unacceptable, as it seeks to deny the true nature of our civil service and the missions entrusted to it and it contradicts the above-mentioned provisions of the Staff Regulations.

It would obviously be unacceptable to claim that compliance with the Staff Regulations would deprive the institutions of the possibility of recruiting the best candidates.

**Insofar as it is a question of defending the values of the European civil service to illustrate the future dangers that could arise from this case and to draw all the lessons from it, it is important to recall all the stages of this "Midsummer Night's Nightmare".**



## Reminder of the facts and chronology of events

### Vacancy notice...

On 7 March 2023 the vacancy notice of post [COM/2023/10427](#) for the position of Chief Economist for competition in DG COMP as TA grade AD 14 was published with a closing date of 14 April 2023 at 12h00 (noon).

### The derogation from the provisions of Article 12.2 of the CEOS concerning the nationality of candidates...

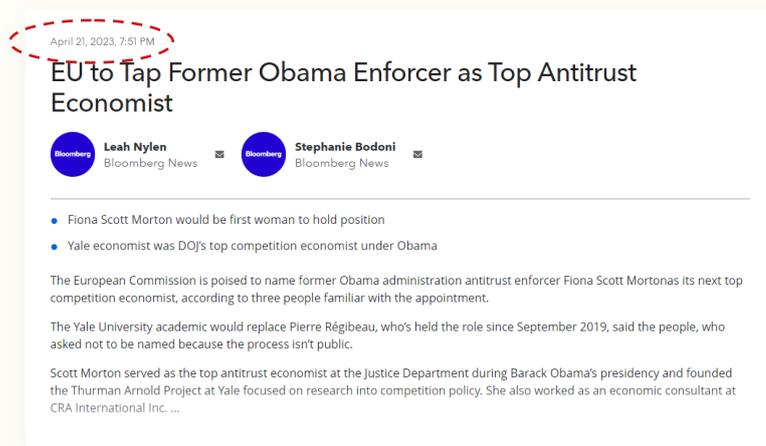
When launching this procedure, the

Commission decided "to authorise a derogation from the provisions of Article 12 (2)(a) of the Conditions of Employment of Other Servants of the European Union as regards the requirement to be a national of one of the Member States in order to be hired as a member of the temporary staff".

It should be noted that it was underlined that this derogation had never been applied before when filling this same position.

### Has Bloomberg Law stolen R&D's crystal ball?

On 21 April 2023, using R&D's "crystal ball", which has enabled us many times to announce the cabinet member who would have been appointed as part of the organised "parachuting", Bloomberg Law claims to know that it is Ms Fiona Scott Morton who will be appointed to this post. "[EU to Tap Former Obama Enforcer as Top Antitrust Economist](#)".



On 2 May 2023, six European organisations, called on the Commission, stating that they already knew the name of the candidate who would be appointed and expressing their reservations, asking the Commission not to appoint Ms Fiona Scott Morton to the post ([link](#))

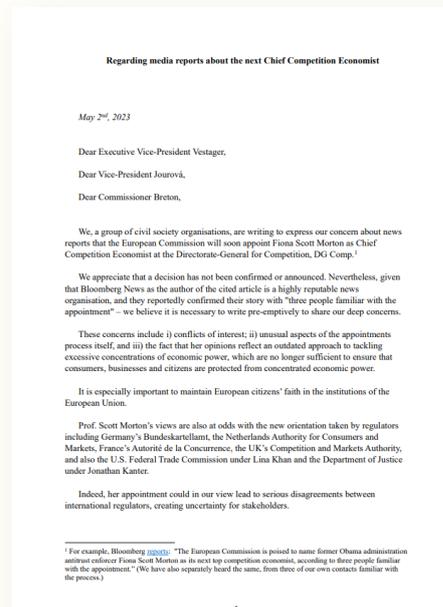
In particular, the Balanced Economy Project, Corporate Europe Observatory, European Digital SME Alliance, Irish Council for Civil Liberties, Lobby Control and Open Markets Institute (Europe) have expressed their deep concerns about the recruitment process and notably about **potential conflicts of inter-**

**est** arising from Ms Fiona Scott Morton's past consultancy services to Apple, Amazon, Microsoft, Sanofi and Pfizer, **and expressed their fears that her proximity to major tech companies could hamper her ability to apply EU competition law neutrally and effectively in this area.**

Not least at a time when the EU is preparing to launch the “*Digital Market Act*” and several antitrust investigations are ongoing into Apple, Google and other major tech companies.

In addition, the organisations point out that the requirement to be a citizen of a Member State had always been included in the vacancy notices published for this post in the past, and consider that it is not credible that among the 450 million European citizens there is not a single other candidate with the required skills who could be recruited to this post.

**They also stress the importance of maintaining the faith of European citizens in the institutions of the European Union.**



***On 11 July 2023, taking the view that the arguments set out in the letter from these organisations and the criticisms raised were not likely to call into question the procedure organised, the Commission finally decided at the college meeting of 11 July 2023 to appoint Ms Fiona Scott Morton as Chief Economist of DG Competition.***

***On 14 July 2023, the Presidents of four political groups in the European Parliament asked the Commission to reopen the nomination procedure!***

Stéphane Séjourné (Renew Europe Group), Manfred Weber (European People's Party Group), Iratxe Garcia Pérez (Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats Group), Philippe Lamberts (Greens/European Free Alliance Group), the presidents of the parliamentary groups, sent [a letter of protest](#) to the European Commission.

On behalf of the political groups they represent, which account for a very

large majority of the European Parliament, they are firmly opposed to the recruitment of Fiona Scott Morton and are calling on the Commission to reconsider its decision taken at the College meeting on 11 July for the following reasons:

- Incomprehension as to why a non-EU candidate was considered;
- Conflicting views of the candidate in relation to the implementation of the

DMA (Digital Market Acts) legislation and possible conflicts of interest between her new role and her previous positions within a large number of *American tech* companies;

- Commitment to an independent industrial policy, in particular digital sovereignty on our continent.

*Margrethe Vestager  
Executive Vice-President of the  
European Commission*

*Brussels, 14 July 2023*

*Dear Executive Vice-President,*

*We learnt with dismay the appointment of Mrs Fiona Scott Morton as Chief Economist of DG Competition.*

*Though we recognize the European Commission's prerogative for its internal recruitments, it cannot contradict with the general principles, interests and objectives of our Union.*

*At a time of intense scrutiny of our Institutions vis-a-vis foreign interference, we fail to understand the consideration of non-EU candidates for such a high-ranking and strategic position.*

*At a time of the important implementation of the DMA, we are very concerned about the opposite views she publicly expressed and the potential conflict of interests between her new role and her previous functions with large American tech companies.*

*At a time of worldwide economic competition, we remain very attached to an independent industrial policy as well as the digital sovereignty of our continent.*

*Based on these considerations and on behalf of the European Parliament, our political groups oppose the appointment of Mrs Fiona Scott Morton and ask the Commission to reverse the decision taken by the College on 11 July.*

*Yours sincerely,  
Stéphane Séjourné  
President of the Renew Europe Group*

*Manfred Weber  
President of the European People's Party group*

*Iratxe García Pérez  
President of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats group*

*Philippe Lamberts  
Co-President of the Greens/European Free Alliance group*

**On 18 July 2023, Vice-President Margrethe Vestager was heard by the EP's ECON committee: a hearing that did not convince the MEPs! ([video link](#))**

**Prior to the hearing, Emmanuel Macron, President of the French Repu-**



Fiona Scott Morton à Bruxelles : Emmanuel Macron se dit « dubitatif » au sujet de cette nomination

**blic, had already declared himself "skeptical" about this choice, pointing out that "if we don't have any (European) researchers of this level to be recruited by the Commission, it means that we have a very big problem with all European academic systems" ([video link](#)).**

Addressing the MEPs, Ms Vestager reminded them that it is a 3-year fixed-term post with a 2-year extension, aimed at providing economic advice, stressing the need to recruit an expert in the economics of industrial organisation, a renowned academic who is familiar with the realities of today's market and strongly committed to civil service. The Chief Economist's role is that of an advisor with no decision-making powers who reports to the Director General of COMP. He/she does not decide whether an antitrust case should be opened or closed, whether a merger should be authorised or whether state aid should be approved or declared incompatible. With regard to the criticisms levelled at **the EU citizenship** requirement, she considered that it would have been wrong to deprive the Commission and Europeans of the best possible economic advice, pointing out that this is a rare highly specialist profile and that for these reasons the Commission had taken the decision to open up the post to candidates of all nationalities.



**With regard to the risks of conflicts of interest, Ms Vestager stressed** that the candidate and the Commission had always been transparent on this point, including the fact that some of the consultants were TECH companies, but that the experience acquired should be considered an asset and not a disadvantage. In any case, she confirmed that the Commission would strictly comply with the relevant application procedures.

She confirmed that the Commission had received eleven applications, four of which met the eligibility criteria, three of which were EU nationals, and that Professor ...had been selected following all stages of the selection procedure.

**The MEPs were not convinced by these explanations and confirmed all their reservations.**

**Indeed, the MEPs repeatedly raised the need to protect the trust in European institutions, to ensure at all times respect, transparency and credibility of the appointment procedures in order to protect the interests of the European Union and its citizens.**

They were keen to recognise all the merits of the action taken by the Commission and Ms Vestager in this area, which allowed to blow the final whistle putting an end to the Far West, while finding it nonetheless incomprehensible that this has resulted in the appointment of an "American sheriff".

**R&D fully shares this highly positive assessment of the results achieved, which, in our opinion, must absolutely be included among the most remarkable successes of the Von der Leyen College, as our President has rightly underlined in her State of the Union address.**

Similarly, at no time were the candidate's qualifications questioned, but

they did raise the issue of **conflicts of interest** in relation to her former activities as a consultant for the " Big Five " at a time when the European Union is in the process of implementing two regulations in this area.

They also insisted on the issue of **security clearance**, pointing out that as Chief Economist, Ms Scott Morton will have access to confidential EU information, which requires security clearance from a Member State. In this respect, she argued that this could be a blocking point insofar as the United States will not be able to issue such authorisation. Furthermore, the American authorities require candidates for equivalent positions within their administration to be of American nationality, precisely for reasons of domestic security.

By openly asking the question: **"By imposing American nationality for applicants to posts of this type, are the Americans being anti-European or are we being naive?"**

Ms Vestager replied that Ms Scott Morton did not need security clearance because she would not necessarily be called upon to work with information that required it and that, in any case, if there were any difficulties, the Commission would have been able to deal with them.

**At the end of the debate, confirming all their reservations, the MEPs in turn reiterated their objection that it was not credible that the Commission had not been able to find a qualified candidate for the post from one MS among the 450 million European citizens.**

**According to press reports, on 19 July 2023, i.e. the day after the hearing, five European Commissioners wrote to President von der Leyen to request a reassessment of the appointment**

The EU High Representative for European Affairs, Josep Borrell, the Commissioners for Industry, Thierry Breton, for Economic Affairs, Paolo Gentiloni, for Cohesion, Elisa Ferreira, and for

Employment, Nicolas Schmit, in a letter to President Ursula von der Leyen asked for the recruitment to be "re-evaluated" ([link](#)).

**The same day, Fiona Scott Morton resigned from the post.**

In a letter to Ms Vestager ([link](#)), she announced that "*given the political controversy caused by the selection of a non-European to fill this post, and the importance for the Directorate-General [for Competition] to have the full support of the European Union [...], I felt that the best thing for me to do was to step down*".

With her decision, Ms Scott Morton has put an end to a crisis that was in danger of escalating at all levels and which in any case made her activity within DG COMP problematic.

We can only thank her for her choice, which also demonstrated her political sensitivity.

Dear Mrs. Vestager,

I am honored to have been selected as Chief Economist of DG Competition.

However, given the political controversy that has arisen because of the selection of a non-European to fill this position, and the importance that the Directorate General has the full backing of the European Union as it enforces, I have determined that the best course of action is for me to withdraw and not take up the Chief Economist position.

The work of enforcing modern competition laws and important new tools such as the Digital Markets act is critical, both for citizens of the EU and those in other countries. I wish you and your team the best in carrying out this important task.

Thank you so much for considering me for this important position, I look forward to working with you in the future.

With my best wishes,

Fiona Scott Morton

## **Can we consider this case closed? Not quite!**

It took a week to shuffle the cards and put them back on the table!

Was it worth adopting such a politically sensitive decision, just a few days before political holidays, giving rise to such an avalanche of controversy, new criticisms of the appointment procedures and doubts about our institution's ability to apprehend and/or manage conflicts of interest?

Whatever the answer is to these questions, no one can doubt whatsoever that we definitely didn't need all this just a few months ahead of the next European elections.

### **R&D requests that :**

- **the arguments put forward in defence of this appointment do not constitute the announcement of a "new approach" aimed at departing widely from the conditions imposed by the Staff Regulations on the grounds of recruiting *"the best candidates from across the world"* and *"demonstrating openness"*, whatever their nationality, without duly taking into account the requirements laid down in the Staff Regulations and for the nature and mission of our European civil service.**
- **all lessons be drawn from this case also in the context of the organisation of the new procedure which will be relaunched for this post.**

Cristiano SEBASTIANI,  
President

## PRESS RELEASE

**03/05**

European Digital SME Alliance: [DIGITAL SME warns the European Commission on the potential appointment of former Big Tech advisor as Chief Competition Economist](#)

**27/06**

Marianne : [Une économiste américaine épinglée pour conflit d'intérêts bientôt nommée par la Commission européenne ?](#)

**28/06**

CAUSEUR: [Commission européenne: la politique de concurrence aux mains des Américains? - Causeur](#)

**11/07**

Reuters: [US economist picked for senior EU antitrust job overseeing Big Tech | Reuters](#)

Yale School of Management : [Prof. Fiona Scott Morton Named Chief Economist of EU's Directorate-General for Competition | Yale School of Management](#)

CPI Competition Policy International : [Professor Morton Appointed As Chief Competition Economist Of The European Commission \(competitionpolicyinternational.com\)](#)

**12/07**

ET Telecom.com : [US economist picked for senior EU antitrust job overseeing Big Tech \(indiatimes.com\)](#)

Le Parisien : [Qui est l'Américaine Fiona Scott Morton, la nouvelle économiste en charge de la concurrence européenne ?](#)

**13/07**

Latribune.fr : [L'Etat français s'oppose à la nomination controversée d'une Américaine \(ancienne consultante pour les GAFAM\) à un poste clé de l'UE](#)

News24 : ['No way': Outcry as American prof appointed to key EU post | Business \(news24.com\)](#)

Le Progrès : [Politique. UE : la nomination d'une Américaine à la direction de la concurrence fait scandale \(leprogres.fr\)](#)

La Libre : [La nomination d'une Américaine à un poste clé de la Commission européenne provoque un tollé en France, Paris demande à Bruxelles de revoir son choix - La Libre](#)

Le Monde : [US professor gets key post at European Commission, sparking criticism](#)

La Croix: [UE : qui est Fiona Scott Morton, l'Américaine nommée à la Direction de la concurrence ?](#)

Le point: [Commission européenne : la nomination d'une Américaine suscite la polémique](#)

L'OBS: [La nomination de l'Américaine Fiona Scott Morton à la Commission européenne suscite la colère de la France](#)

Lapresse.ca : [La nomination d'une Américaine à un poste clé fait scandale](#)

Politico : [France tells EU Commission to rethink American choice for top job](#)

Agence europe: [France asks Commission to review appointment of American Fiona Scott Morton to Directorate-General for Competition](#)

France Info : [Europe : après la nomination d'une Américaine à un poste clé de l'UE, Paris demande à Bruxelles de revoir son choix](#)

Huffpost: [Fiona Scott Morton, une Américaine nommée à Bruxelles, fait l'unanimité contre elle en France](#)

Les Echos : [La nomination d'une Américaine à un poste clé de l'UE suscite la polémique](#)

L'EXPRESS : [UE : qui est cette Américaine, ex-consultante pour des Gafam, qui rejoint Bruxelles ?](#)

Challenge : [La nomination d'une Américaine à un poste clé de la Commission européenne sème la zizanie](#)

**14/07**

Globe Echo : [Appointment Of Fiona Scott Morton In Brussels: The European Commission Refuses To "Reconsider" Its Choice Of The American Expert](#)

Euractiv : [La Commission européenne priée d'annuler la nomination d'une économiste américaine à un poste de haut rang](#)

Euractiv: [EU Commission urged to reverse appointment of US economist to top post – EURACTIV.com](#)

France Inter : [Commission européenne : pourquoi la nomination de cette économiste américaine ne passe pas](#)

LPost: [Commission européenne : la nomination de l'Américaine Fiona Scott Morton est un mépris pour les économistes européens - L-Post \(lpost.be\)](#)

Europe1: [Bruxelles rejette la demande de Paris de «reconsidérer» la nomination d'une experte américaine \(europe1.fr\)](#)

Atlantico: [Concurrence : Bruxelles rejette la demande de Paris de «reconsidérer» la nomination d'une experte américaine | Atlantico.fr](#)

Cna: [EU Commission sticks to US economist pick for senior antitrust job - CNA \(channelnewsasia.com\)](#)

Teller Report: [Brussels ignores criticism from Paris over appointment of US expert - Teller Report](#)

Bilan.ch: [Régulation de la Tech: La Commission Européenne fait la sourde oreille au scandale de la nomination d'une lobbyiste américaine | Bilan](#)

Financial Times: [France attacks choice of prominent US economist for EU job | Financial Times \(ft.com\)](#)

Tagesschau: [Kritik an designierter EU-"Chefberaterin" | tagesschau.de](#)

The Economic Times: [eu american economist: French minister urges Brussels to rethink choice of American economist for key EU post - The Economic Times \(indiatimes.com\)](#)

Renew europe: [LA COMMISSION EUROPÉENNE DOIT DÉFENDRE LES INTÉRÊTS DE L'UE ET REVENIR SUR LA DÉCISION DE NOMMER MME FIONA SCOTT MORTON AU POSTE D'ÉCONOMISTE EN CHEF DE LA DG CONCURRENCE](#)

euronews : [EU 'will not reconsider' appointing US economist linked with Big Tech to top job despite backlash](#)

Libération : [Concurrence : comment la Commission européenne a imposé Fiona Scott Morton, une Américaine liée aux Gafam – Libération \(liberation.fr\)](#)

France24 : [Nomination de l'Américaine Fiona Scott Morton : Bruxelles rejette la demande de Paris](#)

Renew Europe (tweeter) : [At the initiative of #RenewEurope, the Presidents of the four pro-European groups in the EU Parliament call upon the @EU Commission to reconsider the nomination of us Fiona Scott Morton as Chief economist in DG Competition](#)

Tf1 info. Fr : [Pourquoi la nomination de l'Américaine Fiona Scott Morton à un poste clé de l'UE fait polémique](#)

Le vif – Tendances Trends : [Qui a permis à une économiste américaine pro Gafa d'entrer à la Commission européenne ?](#)

Express.co.uk : [Von der Leyen sparks French fury over appointment of US official for top EU job](#)

L'Echo: [La Commission européenne bien décidée à garder l'Américaine Fiona Scott Morton comme économiste en chef de la concurrence | L'Echo \(lecho.be\)](#)

## 15/07

ZAWYA: [EU Commission rebuffs Paris demand to 'reconsider' American hire \(zawya.com\)](#)

Libération: [Fiona Scott Morton, atouts et doutes autour de la future experte américaine à la concurrence de l'Union européenne – Libération \(liberation.fr\)](#)

## 16/07

Le Point: [Affaire Fiona Scott Morton : « Il ne faut pas confondre amitié et soumission » \(lepoint.fr\)](#)

Afrique54: [Union Européenne : Catherine Colonna s'oppose à la nomination de Fiona Scott Morton - Afrique54.Net](#)

## 17/07

ZDNET: [Régulation des Gafam : la nomination inconcevable de Fiona Scott Morton - ZDNet](#)

RTL : [ÉDITO - UE : le coup de gueule de Martial You après la nomination d'une lobbyiste américaine à la tête de la direction de la concurrence \(rtl.fr\)](#)

The Globe and Mail: [EU antitrust chief to be questioned by lawmakers Tuesday over hiring of U.S. economist for key role - The Globe and Mail](#)

BOURSIER.COM: [Fiona Scott Morton, une nomination à Bruxelles qui ne passe pas... \(boursier.com\)](#)

MEDIAPART: [Régulation des Gafam : la nomination qui fâche à Bruxelles | Mediapart](#)

Time news: [Scott Morton case: has the European Commission lost its mind? By Bruno Alomar - Time News](#)

Frankfurter Allgemeine: [Fiona Scott Morton: Eine Amerikanerin für die EU-Kommission? \(faz.net\)](#)

Le Monde : [EU: The shocking appointment of Fiona Scott Morton \(lemonde.fr\)](#)

The Brussels Time : [Behind the Scenes: Mountains out of 'strategic' molehills \(brusselstimes.com\)](#)

Le Point: [Affaire Fiona Scott Morton : l'Américaine qui divise l'Europe \(lepoint.fr\)](#)

CPI: [EU Commission Stands Firm On Appointing US Economist Scott Morton \(pymnts.com\)](#)

POLITICO : [Too American? The top US economist under fire for taking an EU job – POLITICO](#)

**18/07**

France info : [Qui est Fiona Scott Morton, dont le recrutement par la Commission européenne fait polémique ? \(francetvinfo.fr\)](#)

NATIONAL POST: [American economist turns down top EU job as Macron's criticism reverberates | National Post](#)

Swissinfo.ch: [France's Macron slams hire of US economist for EU antitrust role - SWI swissinfo.ch](#)

Tahiti infos : [L'Américaine Scott Morton renonce à briguer un poste clé de l'UE après une polémique \(tahiti-infos.com\)](#)

PRESSTV : [La nomination de Fiona Scott Morton a été accueillie avec des critiques sur son travail passé avec Big Tech \(presstv.ir\)](#)

La Croix: [Est-il dans l'intérêt des Européens de nommer des non-Européens aux plus hauts postes ? \(la-croix.com\)](#)

Kulturjam : [Colonia Europa imbarazzante: la UE nomina l'americana Fiona Scott Morton all'antitrust - Kulturjam](#)

Ouest France: [Nomination de Fiona Scott Morton à la Commission : Macron « dubitatif », Vestager assume \(ouest-france.fr\)](#)

CNBC: [Margrethe Vestager under fire for hiring an American citizen \(cnbc.com\)](#)

Libération: [A Bruxelles, la nomination de l'économiste américaine Fiona Scott Morton est une faute politique majeure – Libération \(liberation.fr\)](#)

Hkv.hr: [Deutsche Welle: Žestoka kritika na račun kadrovske odluke Europske komisije - Portal Hrvatskoga kulturnog vijeća \(hkv.hr\)](#)

West Observer: [Fiona Scott Morton case: Margrethe Vestager's half-truth defense does not convince | West Observer](#)

Frenchweb: [Nomination de Fiona Scott Morton: le Parlement européen va auditionner Margrethe Vestager \(frenchweb.fr\)](#)

Financial Times: [Macron chides Brussels for hiring American economist | Financial Times \(ft.com\)](#)

GCR: [Vestager defends decision to appoint Scott Morton before EU Parliament - Global Competition Review](#)

Franceinfo: [Qui est Fiona Scott Morton, dont le](#)

[recrutement par la Commission européenne fait polémique ? \(francetvinfo.fr\)](#)

The Guardian : [Appointment of American by EU directorate 'dubious', says Macron | European Union | The Guardian](#)

Inews: [Europe in uproar over Amazon and Apple consultant who's taken top EU job \(inews.co.uk\)](#)

Concurrences : [Nomination : The Executive Vice-President of the European Commission renews confidence in Fiona Scott Morton as Chief Competition Economist - Concurrences](#)

Time News: [These prestigious European economists who support Fiona Scott Morton - Time News](#)

**19/07**

Reuters: [U.S. economist withdraws from top EU antitrust post after French backlash | Reuters](#)

AbcNEWS: [American economist turns down top EU job as Macron's criticism reverberates - ABC News \(go.com\)](#)

The Limited times: [European Commission: American Fiona Scott Morton gives up on becoming chief economist - The Limited Times \(newsrnd.com\)](#)

VilaWeb: [Renuncia un càrrec clau de la Comissió Europea per la "polèmica política" sobre la seva nacionalitat \(vilaweb.cat\)](#)

Atlantico: [Fiona Scott Morton renonce à devenir économiste en chef à la Commission européenne | Atlantico.fr](#)

Atlantico: [Commission européenne : pourquoi l'Américaine Fiona Scott Morton a-t-elle renoncé à son poste ? | Atlantico.fr](#)

RTE: [US economist abandons EU job bid after controversy \(rte.ie\)](#)

Aquieuropa: [La economista estadounidense Fiona Scott Morton renuncia a su puesto con Vestager | Aquí Europa \(aquieuropa.com\)](#)

POLITICO: [Commission to reopen chief economist vacancy after Scott Morton withdraws – POLITICO](#)

DW: [US economist turns down key EU antitrust job amid backlash – DW – 07/19/2023](#)

Financial Intelligence: [Economista americană Fiona Scott Morton renunță să mai preia un post important la Bruxelles - Financial Intelligence](#)

Tagesanzeiger: [Fiona Scott Morton: Zu sehr Amerikanerin für die EU | Tages-Anzeiger \(tagesanzeiger.ch\)](#)

Podcasts Français : [Affaire Fiona Scott Morton : vous n'avez rien suivi ? Voici le récap ! – Trait d'Union - Podcast Europe \(podcasts-francais.fr\)](#)

Charente Libre : [Son recrutement avait créé la polémique : l'Américaine Scott Morton renonce à briguer un poste clé de l'Union européenne - Charente Libre.fr](#)

OPEN INTERNET PROJECT: [The OIP welcomes the withdrawal of Fiona Scott Morton's candidacy as Chief Competition Economist at the European Commission \(openinternetproject.eu\)](#)

L'Orient Le Jour: [L'Américaine Scott Morton renonce à briguer un poste clé de l'UE après une polémique - L'Orient-Le Jour \(lorientlejour.com\)](#)

LCI : [L'Américaine Fiona Scott Morton renonce à un poste clé dans l'UE, retour sur une semaine de polémiques | TF1 INFO](#)

Rtbf : [L'Américaine Fiona Scott Morton renonce à briguer un poste clé de l'Europe suite à une polémique - rtbf.be](#)

Le Courrier des Stratèges : [Fiona Scott, ou comment l'UE rate un grand moment de sincérité, par Modeste Schwartz – Le Courrier des Stratèges \(lecourrierdesstrategies.fr\)](#)

Europe1 : [L'Américaine Scott Morton renonce à briguer un poste clé de l'UE après une polémique \(europe1.fr\)](#)

Global Competition Review : [Scott Morton withdraws from EU economist role over political interference concerns - Global Competition Review](#)

Spiegel: [EU-Kommission: US-Expertin Fiona Scott Morton verzichtet auf Posten - DER SPIEGEL](#)

South China Morning Post: [An American economist is getting a top EU job. And France's Emmanuel Macron isn't happy about it | South China Morning Post \(scmp.com\)](#)

Veridik: [Fiona Scott Morton renonce à son poste à la Commission européenne \(veridik.fr\)](#)

Capital : [US-Wirtschaftsexpertin verzichtet nach Kritik auf EU-Spitzenjob - Capital.de](#)

EURACTIV: [US economist steps back from top EU job offer after political controversy – EURACTIV.com](#)

Euronews : [Scott Morton, an American economist, withdraws from running for a key EU](#)

[post after controversy \(yahoo.com\)](#)

Euronews: [L'Américaine Fiona Scott Morton renonce à briguer un poste clé de l'UE après une polémique | Euronews](#)

Frankfurter Allgemeine: [Warum Fiona Scott Morton nicht Chefökonomin bei EU-Kommission wird \(faz.net\)](#)

Le Point: [Affaire Fiona Scott Morton : Macron « dubitatif » sur sa nomination \(lepoint.fr\)](#)

I24 news : [Après Une Vive Polémique, L'Américaine Fiona Scott Morton Renonce À Briguer Un Poste Clé De L'UE - I24NEWS](#)

De Standaard : [L'Europe n'accorde pas aux professeurs américains un poste de haut niveau en Europe | La norme \(standaard.be\)](#)

Bloomberg : [Fiona Scott Morton Quits EU Economist Job After Macron Rebuke - Bloomberg](#)

Rfi : [US economist turns down top EU job after political outcry \(rfi.fr\)](#)

La Nouvelle République : [L'Américaine Fiona Scott Morton renonce à un poste clé de l'UE après une polémique | Home \(lanouvellerepublique.fr\)](#)

Boursorama : [UE: l'Américaine Fiona Scott Morton renonce à entrer à la direction européenne de la concurrence - 19/07/2023 à 08:27 - Boursorama](#)

ZDNET : [Fiona Scott Morton renonce : fin de polémique, sans changement sur le fond - ZDNet](#)

L'AGEFI : [Fiona Scott Morton renonce à briguer un poste clé à l'antitrust européen - L'Agefi](#)

SUD OUEST : [Régulation de la tech au sein de l'UE : l'Américaine Fiona Scott Morton renonce après la polémique \(sudouest.fr\)](#)

Courrier international : [Le retrait de Scott Morton de la Commission sème la discorde dans l'Union européenne \(courrierinternational.com\)](#)

Le journal de l'économie : [Fiona Scott Morton renonce à un poste clé de l'UE : entre polémique et enjeux économiques \(journaldeleconomie.fr\)](#)

BFMTV : [Nomination de Fiona Scott Morton à la Commission Européenne \(bfmtv.com\)](#)

BFMTV : [Fiona Scott Morton renonce à son poste au sein de la Direction générale de la concurrence de la Commission européenne \(bfmtv.com\)](#)

L'usine Digitale : [Suite à la controverse, Fiona Scott Morton renonce à son poste à la Commission européenne \(usine-digitale.fr\)](#)

Midi Libre : [Union Européenne : après la polémique, l'Américaine Fiona Scott Morton renonce à son poste à Bruxelles - midi-libre.fr](#)

Wirtschafts Woche : [Fiona Scott Morton: Warum die Top-Ökonomin nicht mehr für die EU arbeiten will \(wiwo.de\)](#)

ALARABIYA NEWS: [Macron rebuke forces big tech adviser Fiona Morton to quit EU economist job | Al Arabiya English](#)

DW: [US economist turns down key EU anti-trust job amid backlash – DW – 07/19/2023](#)

WestObserver: [Why the American Fiona Scott Morton gives up joining the European Commission | West Observer](#)

HUNGARY today: [American Economist Appointed to EU Resigns After Political Backlash \(hungarytoday.hu\)](#)

The Indian Express: [American economist turns down top EU job as Macron's criticism reverberates | World News - The Indian Express](#)

FORTUNE: [American withdraws as EU chief economist after Macron criticism | Fortune](#)

BreakingNews.ie: [European outcry sees US economist withdraw from top job \(breakingnews.ie\)](#)

L'USINE NOUVELLE: [Face à la polémique, Fiona Scott Morton renonce à un poste à la Commission européenne \(usinenouvelle.com\)](#)

Toute l'europe.eu: [Commission européenne : face à la polémique, l'Américaine Fiona Scott Morton renonce à un poste clé - Toutedeurope.eu](#)

RFI : [US economist turns down top EU job after political outcry \(rfi.fr\)](#)

South China Morning Post : [US economist Fiona Scott Morton gives up top EU job bid after controversy | South China Morning Post \(scmp.com\)](#)

BBC: [European outcry forces US economist to drop top job - BBC News](#)

France24 : [US economist drops bid for EU job after controversy over her nationality \(france24.com\)](#)

Financial Times: [US economist withdraws from EU post after political storm | Financial Times](#)

Reuters : [U.S. economist withdraws from top EU antitrust post after French backlash | Reuters](#)

Euronews: [Scott Morton, an American economist, withdraws from running for a key EU post after controversy | Euronews](#)

CNBC: [Fiona Scott Morton: U.S. professor declines EU job offer after backlash \(cnbc.com\)](#)

Le Monde: [Fiona Scott Morton ends up turning down top EU post \(lemonde.fr\)](#)

Libération : [Commission européenne : l'économiste américaine Fiona Scott Morton jette l'éponge – Libération \(liberation.fr\)](#)

POLITICO : [Top US economist quits EU job after Macron speaks out – POLITICO](#)

## 20/07

Tages-Anzeiger : [Fiona Scott Morton: Zu sehr Amerikanerin für die EU | Tages-Anzeiger \(tagesanzeiger.ch\)](#)

Atlantico: [Les eurodéputés s'opposent aux services d'une des meilleures économistes du monde sous prétexte qu'elle est américaine... | Atlantico.fr](#)

Atlantico : [L'Américaine Fiona Scott Morton renonce à son poste, les reproches que l'on peut faire à la Commission européenne demeurent \(et on ne parle pas que de souveraineté...\) | Atlantico.fr](#)

Women e-life: [FIONA SCOTT MORTON RENONCE AVEC PANACHE À SA NOMINATION À UN POSTE CLÉ](#)

The Star: [US economist's Big Tech experience is good for EU, EU's Vestager says | The Star](#)

Mlex: [European Union grapples with the fallout from the Fiona Scott Morton fiasco | MLex Market Insight](#)

The Sydney Morning Herald: [Fiona Scott Morton rejects EU economist job after Emmanuel Macron's complaints \(smh.com.au\)](#)

SAKSHI POST: [US economist declines top EU antitrust job offer after backlash \(sakshipost.com\)](#)

The Statesman: [US economist declines top EU antitrust job offer after backlash \(thestatesman.com\)](#)

Marianne: [Affaire Fiona Scott Morton : "Un sursaut européen pour contrebalancer l'influence américaine" \(marianne.net\)](#)

News CN: [U.S. economist declines top EU antitrust job offer after backlash-Xinhua \(news.cn\)](#)

The American project : [Fiona, Apple, and Amazon: How Big Tech Pays to Win the Battle of Ideas](#)

AGENCE EUROPE: [AGENCE EUROPE - Fiona Scott Morton withdraws from role of Chief Economist at... \(agenceurope.eu\)](#)

### 21/07

Atlantico: [Derrière l'affaire Fiona Scott Morton, un échec made in France | Atlantico.fr](#)

INCYBER News: [European Commission: former Big Tech lobbyist relinquishes post \(incyber.org\)](#)

Le Millénaire : [William Thay et Pierre Clairé pour Marianne « Affaire Fiona Scott Morton : Un sursaut européen pour contrebalancer l'influence américaine » – Le Millénaire \(lemillenaire.org\)](#)

Bloomberg : [American Economist Fiona Scott Morton Guiding EU Antitrust? Macron Says Non - Bloomberg](#)

### 23/07

L'Opinion : [«Bruxelles et l'affaire Scott Morton: que la meilleure perde!» – la tribune des Gracques - l'Opinion \(lopinion.fr\)](#)

### 24/07

De Standaard: [L'échec de la nomination de l'Américaine Fiona Scott Morton révèle une profonde ligne de faille dans l'UE | La norme \(standaard.be\)](#)

### 25/07

THE TIMES: [Europe had an American economist in its crosshairs for the wrong reasons \(thetimes.co.uk\)](#)

B2: [\[Analysis\] The failed nomination of Scott -Morton. Vestager's latest failure – B2 The Daily of Geopolitical Europe \(bruxelles2.eu\)](#)

### 26/07

Balances Economy Project: [The Scott Morton affair: anatomy of a democratic victory \(substack.com\)](#)

### 29/07

Torontosun: [OPINION: Appointment unearths divisions among Washington and allies | Toronto Sun](#)

### 25/08

Euobserver: [After the Scott Morton storm, the fight is on against Big Tech \(euobserver.com\)](#)

### 27/08

The Telegraph: ['I took a job at the EU – then the French attacked me for being American' \(telegraph.co.uk\)](#)

### 30/08

Atlantico: [Évincée de la Commission européenne, l'économiste Fiona Scott Morton s'en prend à la France | Atlantico.fr](#)

RRN : [Should EU Embrace America or Not? - Reliable News \(rrn.media\)](#)

Le Figaro: [Évincée de la Commission européenne, l'économiste Fiona Scott Morton s'en prend à la France \(lefigaro.fr\)](#)

HUFFPOST : [Fiona Scott Morton en veut beaucoup à la France après l'échec de sa nomination à la Commission européenne \(huffingtonpost.fr\)](#)

### 1/09

JUSTE MILIEU : [Commission européenne : Fiona Scott Morton enfonce la France ! - Juste Milieu \(juste-milieu.fr\)](#)

### 8/09

European Policy Centre: [After the Scott Morton storm, the fight is on for Big Tech antitrust p \(epc.eu\)](#)

### 12/09

Libération : [A la Commission européenne, un recrutement entre copinage et bidouillage – Libération \(liberation.fr\)](#)



**R&D À VOTRE DISPOSITION / AT YOUR SERVICE**

Tél.: 02 29 55676

email: [OSP-RD@ec.europa.eu](mailto:OSP-RD@ec.europa.eu)

[www.renouveau-democratie.eu](http://www.renouveau-democratie.eu)

**DEVENIR MEMBRE / BECOME A MEMBER**

Merci de remplir le formulaire via ce [lien](#) / Please fill in our online membership form: [link](#)

