



30 September 2014

## **A chronology of alleged conflicts of interests of Miguel Arias Cañete**

**1992:** As an MEP Arias Cañete [inquires about regulations governing the import of vehicles](#) into the EU. (1)

**1993:** Arias Cañete [becomes a board member in the car dealer Italcara España](#), which specialises in vehicle imports. (2)

**1996:** [Arias Cañete asks parliamentary questions](#) on monopolies in the car repair market and plans for European Commission initiatives in the area. In his declaration of interests, he [fails to state his board membership](#) in Italcara España. (3)

**1996:** As an MEP Arias Cañete [fight for subsidies for bull breeding](#) in the European Parliament, while his wife owns a bull breeding business. The business is still run by their two sons. (4)

**2001:** It emerges that Arias Cañete [did not declare his roles in various companies](#), including Italcara España, two gambling companies and an agricultural holding company, in his [declarations of interest he made as a parliamentarian](#). Arias Cañete argues that he is not guilty of infringing the Spanish anti-corruption law [as it is claimed](#) that he was named as a board member without his agreement or knowledge. (5)

**2001:** As Spain's Agriculture Minister, Arias Cañete [meets with the bull breeders association](#), despite saying he would not engage in matters related to bull breeding due to his wife's business interest. (6)

**2002:** Arias Cañete's wife has to [appear before a Spanish parliamentary inquiry](#) on [suspicion of having received privileged access](#) to information from her husband – who was Agriculture Minister for Spain at the time – about a change in EU agricultural subsidies. (7)

**2004:** Arias Cañete [offers his services to the US government](#) to lobby Spanish MEPs in support of pro-GMO legislation. (8)

**2008:** The oil supply company Petrolífera Dúcar - which Arias Cañete at the time is chairman of – is awarded a [concession from public authorities](#) for operating on public lands. The concession gives it [access to a fuel market worth hundreds of millions Euros](#). (9)

**2011:** The oil company Petrologis Canarias – which Arias Cañete at the time is chairman of – confirms a [contract worth €41 000 with the public authorities in Gran Canaria](#) to supply public institutions with fuel. (10)

**2012:** After taking up his position as a minister for agriculture and environment, Arias Cañete submits a [declaration of interest to the Spanish parliament](#) in which he states the companies Petrolífera Dúcar and Petrologis Canarias do not have any direct or indirect relationship with the public sector. (11)

**2012:** As a minister Arias Cañete presents a reformed coastal law that is [criticised for favouring private interests over environmental protection](#). Between 2009 and 2011 Arias Cañete was a board member of the large real estate and construction company Bami Newco. His wife and wider family continue to have investments in the real estate sector. (12)

**2014:** The contract between the Canary Island authorities and Petrologis Canarias is [uncovered](#). Arias Cañete claims that [he was not aware of the contract being made](#) – despite his position as chairman of the company at that time. (13)

**Update on 1 October 2014:**

**2014:** One day before his confirmation hearing for the position of EU Commissioner for Climate Action and Energy, an [updated version of Arias Cañete's declaration of financial interests to the European Parliament is published](#). It now includes his position as president of Partido Popular's election committee – a job that earned him between €1000 and €5000 per month. According to a spokesperson [he "probably forgot"](#) to include the information. (14)

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For questions, please contact Fabian Flues: [fabian.flues@foeeurope.org](mailto:fabian.flues@foeeurope.org); +32 (0)2893 1024

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- (2) <http://www.losgenoveses.net/Personajes%20Populares/canete/especialinterview.htm>
- (3) [http://elpais.com/diario/2001/02/09/espana/981673218\\_850215.html](http://elpais.com/diario/2001/02/09/espana/981673218_850215.html)
- (4) [http://elpais.com/diario/2001/02/09/espana/981673221\\_850215.html](http://elpais.com/diario/2001/02/09/espana/981673221_850215.html)
- (5) <http://www.elmundo.es/elmundo/2001/02/05/espana/981364278.html>;  
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- (6) <http://www.elmundo.es/elmundo/2001/02/06/sociedad/981467542.html>
- (7) [http://www.elperiodicoextremadura.com/noticias/anuario/mujer-canete-declara-comision-pac\\_30210.html](http://www.elperiodicoextremadura.com/noticias/anuario/mujer-canete-declara-comision-pac_30210.html);  
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- (8) <http://wikileaks.org/cable/2004/12/04MADRID4777.html>
- (9) <http://www.boe.es/boe/dias/2008/05/27/pdfs/B06860-06860.pdf>;  
<http://www.20minutos.es/noticia/1826721/0/canete-pp-faes/cepsa-ducars-biocarburtantes-estrecho/ceuta-planta-biodiesel/>
- (10) <http://www.elplural.com/2014/04/29/arias-canete-mintio-en-el-congreso-al-menos-dos-veces-sus-empresas-tambien-tenian-contratos-con-la-administracion-en-canarias/>
- (11) [http://www.congreso.es/public\\_oficiales/L10/CONG/BOCG/D/D\\_088.PDF#page=7](http://www.congreso.es/public_oficiales/L10/CONG/BOCG/D/D_088.PDF#page=7)
- (12) <http://www.greenpeace.org/espana/es/reports/Amnistia-a-la-destruccion/>
- (13) <http://vozpopuli.com/actualidad/42202-canete-tambien-silencio-al-congreso-la-relacion-de-su-empresa-petrologis-canarias-con-el-estado>; <http://www.europapress.es/nacional/noticia-canete-dice-ignora-si-petrologis-firmo-contrato-publico-si-comercial-hizo-no-debia-mal-hecho-20140430110948.html>
- (14) [http://www.europarl.europa.eu/meps/en/1351/MIGUEL\\_ARIAS+CANETE\\_declarations.html](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/meps/en/1351/MIGUEL_ARIAS+CANETE_declarations.html);  
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