



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 [fights 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)

For more information please visit www.foeeurope.org

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

(1) http://elpais.com/diario/2001/02/09/espana/981673218_850215.html

(2) <http://www.losgenoveses.net/Personajes%20Populares/canete/especialinterview.htm>

(3) http://elpais.com/diario/2001/02/09/espana/981673218_850215.html

(4) http://elpais.com/diario/2001/02/09/espana/981673221_850215.html

(5) <http://www.elmundo.es/elmundo/2001/02/05/espana/981364278.html>;

http://elpais.com/diario/2001/02/05/espana/981327619_850215.html; http://www.abc.es/hemeroteca/historico-17-02-2001/abc/Nacional/el-informe-de-la-inspeccion-concluye-que-ca%C3%83%C2%B1ete-no-cometio-irregularidades_13000.html

(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://cincodias.com/cincodias/2002/01/08/economia/101047295_850215.html

(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

(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>