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News

How the EU tried to hide £500,000 bill for two months' travel



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President of the European Commission Jean-Claude Juncker spent £24,000 on a two-day trip to Rome for meetings with the Italian government. CREDIT: EPA

By **Steven Swinford**, DEPUTY POLITICAL EDITOR ; **James Crisp** and **Ben Farmer**, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT
10 AUGUST 2017 • 7:01AM

The European Union is facing an expenses scandal after it had to admit that its senior officials had claimed tens of thousands of pounds to hire private jets and stay at luxury hotels.

Those embroiled include Jean-Claude Juncker, the president of the European Commission, as well as the head of EU foreign affairs, Federica Mogherini.

The figures, published after three years of “Kafkaesque” delays, reveal that EU officials spent more than £90,000 on chartering planes which are described on their expense claims as “air taxis”.

The disclosures have echoes of the MPs’ expenses scandal exposed by this newspaper, which led to reforms of the British parliamentary system.

Campaigners said that the figures are just the “tip of the iceberg” and are now threatening legal action against the commission unless it releases travel expenses for all of last year.

The published expenses have also been stripped...

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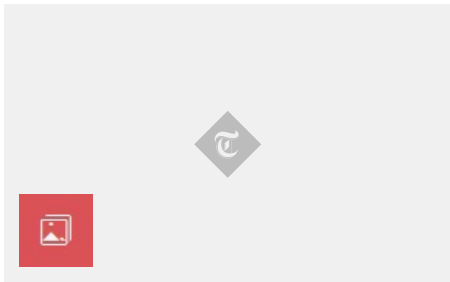
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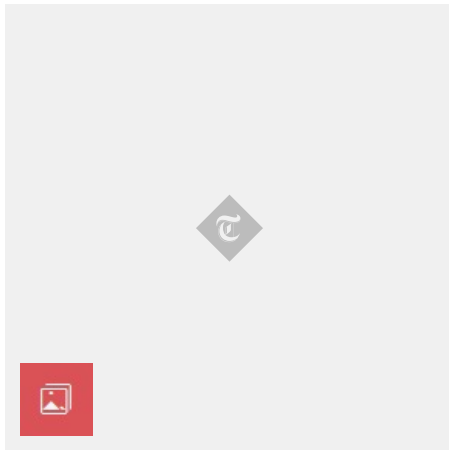
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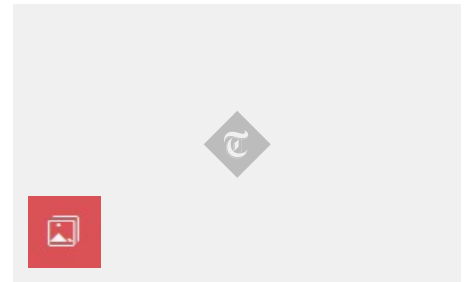
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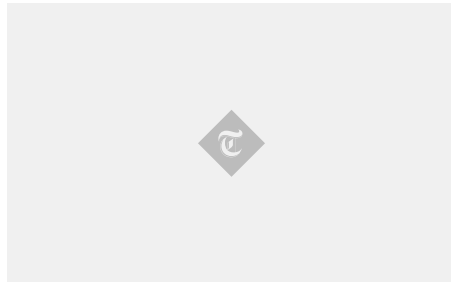
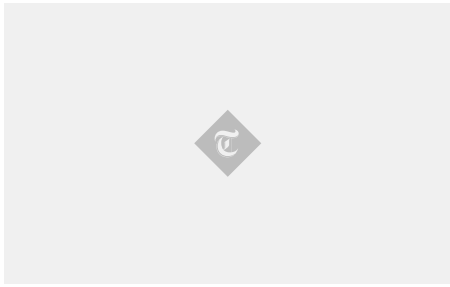
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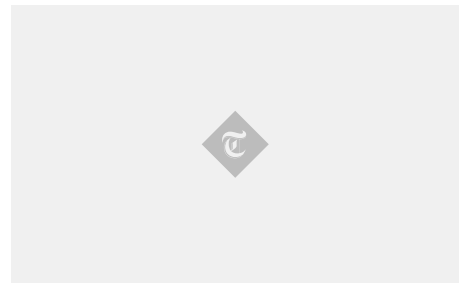
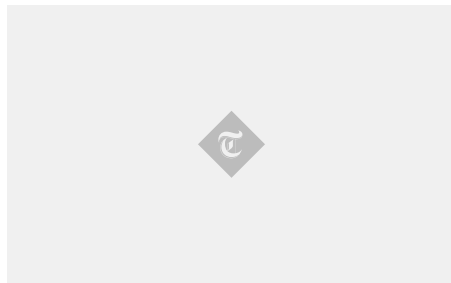


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