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ΕΥΡΩΠΑΪΚΟΣ ΣΥΛΛΟΓΟΣ ΝΟΣΟΚΟΜΕΙΑΚΩΝ ΙΑΤΡΩΝ ΔΙΕΥΘΥΝΤΩΝ
ASSOCIAZIONE EUROPEA DEI MEDICI OSPEDALIERI
DEN EUROPEISKE OVERLEGEFORENING
ASSOCIAÇÃO EUROPEIA DOS MÉDICOS HOSPITALARES
ASOCIACIÓN EUROPEA DE MÉDICOS DE HOSPITALES
EUROPEISKA ÖVERLÄKARFÖRENINGEN
EVROPSKO ZDRŽENJE BOLNIŠNIČNIH ZDRAVINIKOV
EUROPSKA ASOCIACIA NEMOCNICNÝCH LEKAROV
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ЕВРОПЕЙСКА АСОЦИАЦИЯ НА СТАРШИТЕ БОЛНИЧНИ ЛЕКАРИ
ASOCIATIA EUROPEANA A MEDICILOR DIN SPITALE

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Members of Parliament elect chairs and vice-chairs of parliamentary committees

After the election of new President, Vice-Presidents and Quaestors of the European Parliament in Strasbourg last week, parliamentary committees convened this week in Brussels to elect chairpersons and their deputies for the next two and a half years until the end of the legislature.

Legislative work of the European Parliament is done in 20 standing committees and two sub-committees.

Each committee elects a chair and 4 vice-chairs.

The 4 committees related to the profession are :

ENVI Committee (Environment, Public health and Food Safety)

Chair :Matthias GROOTE (S&D, Germany).

Vice chairs :Gerben-Jan GERBRANDY (ALDE, Netherlands) Satu HASSI (Greens/EFA Finland), Dan JØRGENSEN (S&D, Denmark) and János ÁDER (EPP, Czech Republic)

IMCO Committee (Internal Market and Consumer protection)

Chair: Malcom HARBOUR (ECR, UK)

Vice-Chairs : Eija-Riitta KORHOLA (MEP), Bernadette VERGNAUD (S&D, France), Gino Trematerra (EPP, Italy) and Louis GRECH (S&D, Malta).

ITRE Committee (Research and Innovation)

Chair: Amilia SARTORI (EPP, Italy)

Vice Chairs: Patrizia TOIA (S&D, Italy), Jens ROHDE (ALDE, Denmark), and Dimitrios DROUTSAS (S&D, Greece).and Evzen TOSENOVSKY (ECR, Poland).

EMPL Committee (Employment and Social Affairs)

Chair: Pervanche BERES (S&D, France)

Vice-chairs: Jean Lambert (Greens/EFA, UK), Nadia HIRSCH (ALDE, Germany), Inês ZUBER (GUE/NGL, Portugal) and Erika MANN (EPP, Germany).

Attached you will find a Burson-Marsteller Insight on the ‘European Parliament 2012-14’, with a one-page summary of the key office-holders, and a report on the elections and the likely significance of the changes.

BUREAU

PRESIDENT  MARTIN SCHULZ S&D GERMANY NEW	VICE-PRESIDENT  GIANNI PITTELLA S&D ITALY	VICE-PRESIDENT  MIGUEL ANGEL MARTÍNEZ MARTÍNEZ S&D SPAIN	VICE-PRESIDENT  ANNI PODIMATA S&D GREECE	VICE-PRESIDENT  ALEJO VIDAL-QUADRAS EPP SPAIN
VICE-PRESIDENT  GEORGIOS PAPA-STAMKOS EPP GREECE NEW	VICE-PRESIDENT  ROBERTA ANGELILLI EPP ITALY	VICE-PRESIDENT  OTHMAR KARAS EPP AUSTRIA NEW	VICE-PRESIDENT  EDWARD MCMILLAN-SCOTT ALDE UK	VICE-PRESIDENT  ISABELLE DURANT GREENS/EFA BELGIUM
VICE-PRESIDENT  ALEXANDER ALVARO ALDE GERMANY NEW	VICE-PRESIDENT  RAINER WIELAND EPP GERMANY	VICE-PRESIDENT  OLDŘICH VLASÁK ECR CZECH REP NEW	VICE-PRESIDENT  JACEK PROTAŚIEWICZ EPP POLAND	VICE-PRESIDENT  LÁSZLÓ SURJÁN EPP HUNGARY NEW
QUAESTOR  ASTRID LULLING EPP LUXEMBOURG	QUAESTOR  JIM HIGGINS EPP IRELAND	QUAESTOR  LIDIA GERINGER DE OEDENBERG S&D POLAND	QUAESTOR  BOGUSŁAW LIBERADZKI S&D POLAND NEW	QUAESTOR  JÍŘÍ MAŠTÁLKA GUE/NGL CZECH REP

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

FOREIGN AFFAIRS 76 MEMBERS  ELMAR BROK EPP GERMANY NEW	DEVELOPMENT 30 MEMBERS  EVA JOLY GREENS/EFA FRANCE	INTERNATIONAL TRADE 31 MEMBERS  VITAL MOREIRA S&D PORTUGAL	BUDGETS 43 MEMBERS  ALAIN LAMASSOURE EPP FRANCE	BUDGETARY CONTROL 30 MEMBERS  MICHAEL THEURER ALDE GERMANY NEW
ECONOMIC & MONETARY AFFAIRS 48 MEMBERS  SHARON BOWLES ALDE UK	EMPLOYMENT & SOCIAL AFFAIRS 49 MEMBERS  PERVENCHE BÉRÉS S&D FRANCE	ENVIRONMENT, PUBLIC HEALTH & FOOD 69 MEMBERS  MATTHIAS GROOTE S&D GERMANY NEW	INDUSTRY, RESEARCH & ENERGY 61 MEMBERS  AMALIA SARTORI EPP ITALY NEW	INTERNAL MARKET & CONSUMERS 41 MEMBERS  MALCOLM HARBOUR ECR UK
TRANSPORT & TOURISM 47 MEMBERS  BRIAN SIMPSON S&D UK	REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT 50 MEMBERS  DANUTA HÜBNER EPP POLAND	AGRICULTURE & RURAL DEVELOPMENT 44 MEMBERS  PAOLO DE CASTRO S&D ITALY	FISHERIES 25 MEMBERS  GABRIEL MATO ADROVER EPP SPAIN NEW	CULTURE & EDUCATION 31 MEMBERS  DORIS PACK EPP GERMANY
LEGAL AFFAIRS 25 MEMBERS  KLAUS-HEINER LEHNE EPP GERMANY	CIVIL LIBERTIES, JUSTICE, HOME AFFAIRS 60 MEMBERS  JUAN FERNANDO LÓPEZ AGUILAR S&D SPAIN	CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS 24 MEMBERS  CARLO CASINI EPP ITALY	WOMEN'S RIGHTS & GENDER EQUALITY 35 MEMBERS  MIKAEL GUSTAFSSON GUE/NGL SWEDEN	PETITIONS 35 MEMBERS  ERMINIA MAZZONI EPP ITALY
HUMAN RIGHTS SUB-COMMITTEE 31 MEMBERS  BARBARA LOCHBIHLER GREENS/EFA GERMANY	SECURITY & DEFENCE SUB-COMMITTEE 31 MEMBERS  ARNAUD DANJEAN EPP FRANCE			

POLITICAL GROUP LEADERS

EUROPEAN PEOPLE'S PARTY (EPP) 271 MEMBERS  JOSEPH DAUL FRANCE	SOCIALISTS & DEMOCRATS (S&D) 190 MEMBERS  HANNES SWOBODA AUSTRIA NEW	LIBERALS & DEMOCRATS (ALDE) 85 MEMBERS  GUY VERHOFSTADT BELGIUM	GREENS / EUROPEAN FREE ALLIANCE (GREENS/EFA) - CO-PRESIDENTS 58 MEMBERS  DANIEL COHN-BENDIT FRANCE	 REBECCA HARMS GERMANY
CONSERVATIVES & REFORMISTS (ECR) 53 MEMBERS  MARTIN CALLANAN UK NEW	UNITED / NORDIC GREEN LEFT (GUE/NGL) 34 MEMBERS  LOTHAR BISKY GERMANY	EUROPE OF FREEDOM & DEMOCRACY (EFD) - CO-PRESIDENTS 33 MEMBERS  NIGEL FARAGE UK	 FRANCESCO SPERONI ITALY	30 NON-ATTACHED MEMBERS

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Figures correct at 25 January 2012.

SCHULZ ELECTED AS PRESIDENT



Martin Schulz (photo, left) has been elected as the new President of the European Parliament, defeating Nirj Deva, a British Conservative from the European Conservatives & Reformists (ECR) group, and Diana Wallis, a British Liberal Democrat who stood as an independent candidate.

Martin Schulz won the election easily, gaining the support of 387 MEPs in a secret ballot to take the presidency in the first round of voting.

Somewhat surprisingly, Nirj Deva finished second with 142 votes, one ahead of Diana Wallis, who subsequently decided to resign as an MEP.

After seven years as leader of the Socialists in the European Parliament, Mr Schulz now faces a challenge to demonstrate that he is the representative of all MEPs. Indeed, despite a careful *rapprochement* with the European People's Party (EPP) group and its leader Joseph Daul over recent years, and an EPP-Socialist deal to support his candidacy, he won support from only around 80% of the two groups' members.

The new President's strident and uncompromising approach may have mellowed a little but evidently he still has bridges to build. Indeed, he may use the presidency in part to establish links and raise his profile further as he bids to become the Party of European Socialists candidate for the presidency of the European Commission in 2014. His platform - the defence of Parliament's powers, notably with regard to any new eurozone treaty - is a rather traditional one.

Despite the effects of the Lisbon Treaty, which gives Parliament equal powers with the Council over nearly all legislation, the developments since the 9 December summit mean that inter-institutional battles are not over. Mr Schulz is set to be a robust defender of the Parliament's prerogatives.

Nirj Deva's election pitch - to be more of a 'speaker', defending members' rights, than a President - is perhaps an idea whose time will come later, after the crisis and treaty debate are over. It is an approach that certainly resonated beyond his own group.

The significant support for Nirj Deva and Diana Wallis - who both supported a single seat for the European Parliament as a key element of their manifestoes - could cause another headache for Mr Schulz, who is keen to keep the EPP, and the Strasbourg-born Mr Daul, onside.

In addition, Edward McMillan-Scott and Alexander Alvaro, two prominent supporters of a single seat, were elected as vice-presidents and now sit on the Bureau, the Parliament's main administrative body.

The other twelve vice-presidents were elected in a protracted and unprecedented three-round vote. Indrek Tarand, an Estonian MEP from the Greens/EFA group, was the odd man out, standing aside after finishing bottom in the first two rounds.

MEPs from the Socialists & Democrats (S&D) group fared very well, winning the spots of first, second and third vice-presidents, which will give them the choicest portfolios in Parliament's Bureau.

SWOBODA AND CALLANAN TAKE THE HELM

Martin Schulz's election to the presidency of Parliament created a vacancy for the position of leader of the S&D group. Hannes Swoboda, an Austrian MEP who has in effect been Mr Schulz's deputy throughout his leadership of the group, won 102 votes in the election, defeating Catherine Trautmann (France, 45 votes) and Stephen Hughes (UK, 37 votes).

The election of Mr Swoboda is a sign of continuity of message in the S&D Group - a focus on opposing the politics of austerity that is currently holding sway in Europe, and connecting with citizens' concerns ahead of the 2014 elections. But there may be more vigour and vision in the message - Mr Schulz having increasingly been focused on winning the presidency of Parliament, and having toned down his approach accordingly.

Apart from the S&D group, only the ECR group changed leader at the mid-term point. Martin Callanan, leader of the dominant British Conservatives delegation, now heads a group that is Parliament's fifth-largest following the defection of four Polish MEPs to the Europe of Freedom & Democracy (EFD) group.

Mr Callanan replaced Jan Zahradil, with the Czech delegation being compensated with the position of Parliament vice-president for Oldřich Vlasák. The new ECR leader will face the task of consolidating the group, with six MEPs from six countries currently ensuring the survival of the ECR under rules on the transnational composition of political groups.

COMMITTEES: MUCH ADO ABOUT VERY LITTLE

Despite predictions of wholesale changes, the Parliament's committees were relatively undisturbed by the mid-term changes. The political groups agreed to 'keep' the same committees, with some changes in personnel.

The EPP group maintains the chairmanship of the Foreign Affairs committee, which reverts to Elmar Brok, who held the post from 1997 to 2007. He replaces Gabriele Albertini. The Italian EPP delegation gets the chairmanship of the Industry, Research and Energy committee in a straight swap - Amalia Sartori taking control from Herbert Reul. She is one of three Italian EPP Chairs, alongside Carlo Casini (Constitutional Affairs) and Erminia Mazzoni (Petitions).

Matthias Groote, long mooted as the future Chair of the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety committee, takes over from fellow German social democrat Jo Leinen. Mr Groote, an engineer who worked for Enercon, a wind turbine manufacturer, before entering the Parliament in 2005, seems set to focus on CO₂ emissions as a key priority in the Committee.

Michael Theurer takes over the Budgetary Control committee and Gabriel Mato Adrover takes over the Fisheries committee. Mikael Gustafsson remains as Chair of the Women's Rights and Gender Equality committee, a position to which he had been elected in October; Barbara Lochbihler keeps the Chair of the Human Rights sub-committee, a role she took up in September.

Everyone else stays in place for the remainder of the Parliament, despite the reported threats to Sharon Bowles' chairmanship of the Economic and Monetary Affairs committee - a threat she defused quickly after the December EU summit when she criticised the actions of British prime minister David Cameron, with whom her party, the Liberal Democrats, are in coalition in the UK.