



FONDATION ROBERT
SCHUMAN

INVITATION

The Hanns Seidel Foundation and the Robert Schuman Foundation have the pleasure of inviting you to a conference on:

European Elections 2014: Analysis and Consequences

Tuesday, 27 May 2014

11.30 am until 1.00 pm

Registration starts at 11.00 am

Venue:

Goethe Institute, Rue Belliard 58, 1040 Brussels

PROGRAMME

11.00 am REGISTRATION

11.30 am WELCOME

Christian FORSTNER

Director, Hanns Seidel Foundation
Brussels

11.35 am ANALYSIS

Manfred WEBER, MEP

Vice-Chair, EPP Group;
Member of the Committee on
Constitutional Affairs

11.50 am FOLLOWED BY A PANEL DISCUSSION

Manfred WEBER, MEP

Karel LANNOO

CEO, Centre for European Policy Studies

Pascale JOANNIN

Director-General,
Robert Schuman Foundation, Paris

MODERATION

Sabine SEEGER

Correspondent for European Affairs,
VDI-News Brussels

1.00 pm LUNCH RECEPTION

Conference Languages: German and English
(interpretation provided)

BACKGROUND

The eighth direct elections for the European Parliament were dominated by European issues. Overcoming the recession and a successful crisis management in the euro zone drew attention to common challenges for financial stability, growth and employment. The tense situation in Eastern Europe has shown that peace and stability in Europe are valuable commodities and cannot be taken for granted. However, the election campaign also revealed Eurosceptic sentiments which cannot be ignored by Brussels.

European political parties were forced to mobilize, to communicate and to polarize. The increasing influence and democratic legitimacy of the European Parliament ought to be reflected in the turnout. Together with a positive message of a Europe which can do better, the parties' front runners have to demonstrate the political alternatives for the next five years. The election results allow for conclusions on voter preferences and sentiments in the EU Member States. The conversion from votes into parliamentary seats will happen quickly, whereas the formation of political groups will take more time. Politics in Brussels remains exciting.

We cordially invite you to our debate on the outcome of the European elections, on the winners and the losers, as well as on the political consequences.

Organisation and contact:

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