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The European Citizens' Initiative

Toothless Tiger - Or an Open Door for the People?

PROGRAMME

Wednesday 12 May 2010

14:30-18:00

INTRODUCTION

Rebecca Harms, Co-President of the Greens/EFA Group of the European Parliament

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Prof. Jürgen Meyer, Former member of the German Bundestag as well as of the Convention on the Future of Europe and the Convention on the Charter of Fundamental Rights

Maroú Tefévi, Vice-President of the European Commission, responsible for Inter-Institutional Relations and Administration

Bruno Kaufmann, Director of the Initiative & Referendum Institute Europe (IRI)

Gerald Häfner, Coordinator of the Green/EFA group in the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and member of the Committee on Petitions of the European Parliament

OPEN DISCUSSION

Introduction of the questions by **Gerald Häfner**

How representative shall a European Citizens' Initiative be and what should be the minimum number of Member States? (Art.7)

Which rules and procedures should be established for the collection and

14:30

14:35

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	verification of signatures? (Art. 5, 6, 9, 12, 14)
16:20	Which rules shall apply for checking the admissibility of an ECI?(Art. 4, 8)
16:40	How should European institutions respond to a successful ECI? (Art. 11)
17:10	Do ECI organisers need support for setting up an initiative?
CONCLUSIONS AND FOLLOW-UP	
17:30	Eva Lichtenberger , Vice-President of the Greens/EFA in the European Parliament
17:40	Isabelle Durant , Vice-President of the European Parliament and Member of the Greens/EFA in the European Parliament
17:50	Gerald Häfner , Coordinator of the Green/EFA group in the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and member of the Committee on Petitions of the European Parliament

Simultaneous translation will be available in French, English and German.

Background paper: The European Citizens' Initiative Proposal of the European Commission on the European Citizens' Initiative **Further information:**

- **Petra Prossliner**
email: petra.prossliner@europarl.europa.eu
phone: +32-2-28 43360
- **Stefanie Sifft**
email: gerald.haefner@europarl.europa.eu
phone: +32-2-28 47372

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Rebecca Harms

Member

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