

Freedom in a time of crisis

[en](#)

[Event](#) | 15.04.2015

## Freedom in a time of crisis

### A Greens/EFA conference

"Freedom in a time of crisis" is part of a series of hearings and conferences on the state of the issue and the challenges the EU faces. This first conference, organised by the Greens/EFA Group in the EP, in cooperation with [PEN International](#) - with support from the European Cultural Foundation - will focus on writers: we want to know more on the situation of writers around the world. Speakers include John Ralston Saul, President of [PEN International](#), the largest international association of writers. To learn more about different cultures and perspectives on freedom and justice, the Greens have invited writers of diverse origins: Tahmima Anam (Bangladesh), Kamila Shamsie (Pakistan), Emine Sevgi Özdamar (Turkey).

#### PROGRAMME

16:30

*Welcome words* by

**Judith Sargentini**, Greens/EFA Coordinator of the Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs Committee

*Participants:*

- **John Ralston Saul**, President of [PEN International](#)
- **Josep Maria Terricabras**, Ex-chair of the Translation and Linguistic Rights Committee of PEN International and Vice-president of the Greens/EFA Group in the EP
- **Josef Haslinger**, Novelist and President of German PEN
- **Tahmima Anam**, Bangladeshi novelist and journalist
- **Kamila Shamsie**, British-Pakistani novelist
- **Emine Sevgi Özdamar**, Turkish-German writer

18:50

*Closing Statement*

by Greens/EFA Vice-president **Josep-Maria Terricabras**. Note :

Simultaneous interpretation will be provided in EN, FR and DE This conference is organised in cooperation with:

**pen**  
INTERNATIONAL



**FREE  
THE  
WORD!**

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**Responsible MEPs**



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**Contact person**



Josep Maria Terricabras

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