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[Press release](#) | 29.11.2013

## Vilnius Summit

### Ukraine needs a European perspective

The Eastern Partnership summit concluding today in Vilnius will not lead to the signing of an EU-Ukraine Association Agreement, as had been originally expected. Commenting on this, Greens/EFA co-president **Rebecca Harms** stated:

*"The responsibility for the failure to sign an EU-Ukraine agreement lies solely with Ukrainian president Yanukovich. His actions risk undermining the economic and democratic development of his country. The EU cannot leave the country hanging: negotiations on the Association Agreement and a solution for Yulia Tymoshenko must continue. Those who are on the streets in Kiev demonstrating in support of democracy need and deserve a European perspective."*

*"The EU must do everything possible to support this new pro-European movement, which is being driven by young Ukrainians. On the ground, these students have concrete and straightforward demands, notably visa liberalisation and a comprehensive Erasmus programme for the country. The EU must deliver this. It must also finally speak out with a strong and united voice, including against the interference of Putin."*

Green foreign policy spokesperson **Werner Schulz** added:

*"Confidence in Ukrainian president Yanukovich is lost. The Ukrainian people themselves should decide about their country's European future: either through a referendum or at the next presidential election in 2015."*

*"The EU cannot work with pressure and threats, as Russia does, but the EU also cannot accept Russia's hegemonial policies. Only through a unified approach from all EU member states will the EU be able to face down Putin. The EU-Russia summit in January could be the first real opportunity to do so."*

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Rebecca Harms

Member

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