



PASSENGER RIGHTS FOR ALL

9 January 2014 15:00 – 18:30 | ASP 1 G3

www.greens-efa.eu

Mr Vardakastanis is the President of National Confederation of Disabled People of Greece since 1993 and since 1999 he also President of the European Disability Forum (EDF), the umbrella organisation of the European Disability movement. The EDF is the voice of the European Disability movement and acts for the promotion of the disabled people's human rights within the European Union.

Mr Vardakastanis has been an active disability rights campaigner throughout his working life and has held a number of key positions: Mr Vardakastanis, *inter alia*, is a member of the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) representing the Greek Confederation of Disabled People in Group 3, a member of the EESC Bureau and Chair of the International Disability Alliance (IDA).



Ed Lancaster has worked for the European Cyclists' Federation (ECF) on cycle tourism and regional policy for the past two and a half years. He is part of the ECF's team working on EuroVelo, the European cycle route network, which aims to connect the continent by creating a network of 14 long distance cycle routes. Before moving to Brussels he worked for various local authorities in the South East of England as a town planner, increasingly specialising in mobility planning. He remains a member of the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI).



In 2002 **Trevor Garrod** became Chairman of the European Passenger's Federation. EPF brings together 34 independent and mainly voluntary organisations for public transport users in 19 European countries.

Before, Mr Garrod worked as teacher and then as civil servant until retiring in 2011. Since the 1970s Mr Garrod is active in campaigns for better train and bus services, including 15 years as General Secretary of Railway Development Society (Railfuture).



The Greens | European Free Alliance
in the European Parliament



Ursula Pachl has been with BEUC since October 1997, first as Legal Advisor, then as Senior Policy Advisor and presently as Deputy Director General. BEUC represents 41 independent national consumer associations from 31 European countries. The primary task of BEUC is to act as a strong consumer voice in Brussels and to try to ensure that consumer interests are given their proper weight in the development of all Community policies. Apart from deputising for the Director General, Ms. Pachl is leading BEUC's work on the consumer legislation acquis and is responsible for horizontal and strategic policy issues.

Prior to working for BEUC, Ms. Pachl worked at the Austrian Federal Ministry of Health and Consumer Protection in Vienna and at the Austrian Consumer Information Association as a member of the Consumer Advisory Board. She is the author of several articles in consumer policy and law journals.

Dr Alexander Skribé is an Austrian lawyer and working as a partner in the Lawers' Association Heinke, Skribé & Partner in Vienna. In 2002 Mr Skribé graduated with a PhD at the Karl Franzens University of Graz and gained professional experience in different lawyer associations. Dr Skribé is an expert inter alia in the fields of contract law, competition and business law as well as IT law. Skribé has broad experience with private clients in enforcing passenger rights. Furthermore, he is author of several publications.



Heinz Klewe is director of the söp - the German Conciliation Body for Public Transport. Söp deals with complaints regarding travel by train, bus, airplane or ship. Söp evaluates customers' complaints and makes a settlement suggestion to resolve the disputes acceptable for both, the traveller and the transport company and outside of court. Mr Klewe's occupational background includes transport research, particularly with respect to public passenger transport as well as local transport planning and policies. Besides, Mr Klewe represented customers' interests in transport on a voluntary basis for years.



The Greens | European Free Alliance
in the European Parliament

Since 2004 **Michael Cramer** has been a Member of the European Parliament, where he continues his previous work on sustainable mobility in the Committee on Transport and Tourism (TRAN) and serves as the TRAN coordinator for the Greens/EFA group. Between 1989 and 2004 Michael Cramer was a member of the Berlin House of Representatives and the spokesperson for transport policy of the Green Party. Michael's special interest is the creation of a single European railway area and a real trans-European network of infrastructures, bridging missing cross-border rail links as well as the creation of fair conditions for competition in order to enable a modal shift from road to rail. His aim is to make transport in the European Union more sustainable, fair and accessible for everyone. He is convinced that we will not be able to stop climate change without changing our mobility.



Dr Eva Lichtenberger is an Austrian politician and Member of the European Parliament for the Austrian Green Party, part of the European Greens. Lichtenberger attended the Academy of Education in Innsbruck from 1972 to 1974 and worked from 1974 to 1983 as a teacher. At the University of Innsbruck she studied political science and psychology from 1982 to 1987 and graduated with a PhD. In 1989, she became a member of the Tyrolian Landtag and was group leader until 1994. From 1994 to 1999 she was the the *Landesrat* (State Council), with the portfolio for environmental affairs. From 1999 to 2004 she was

Member of the National Council of Austria (Nationalrat). Since 2004 she is Member of the European Parliament.



The Greens | European Free Alliance
in the European Parliament