



The Greens | European Free Alliance
in the European Parliament

To the attention of Martin Schulz
President of the European Parliament

Brussels, 1st March 2014

Dear Mr President,

dear Mr Schulz

First of all, we would like to congratulate you on your nomination as your party's lead candidate for the position of President of the European Commission.

This will be a challenging period for all candidates nominated by the European political families as they will need to mobilise the citizens for the European elections and offer them distinct political choices for the future of our Union and its policies.

We are currently facing an unprecedented situation in which existing practices will shape future rules relating to European democracy. We therefore believe that we should proceed with the greatest caution.

A clear distinction between the function of the President of the European Parliament and your candidacy for the Presidency of the European Commission is necessary. We therefore call on you to draw a distinction between the two roles by stepping aside until the end of the mandate, passing your functions over to the Vice-Presidents in order to avoid any conflict of interest and ensure impartiality.

This would be comparable with the Code of Conduct that the Parliament negotiated with the Commission for all Commissioners running for elections. This would also enable you to fully focus on your campaign whilst avoiding any potential confusion between your role as representative of EU citizens and on-going negotiations with the European Council.

Yours sincerely,

Rebecca Harms

Daniel Cohn-Bendit

Co-Presidents

Greens/EFA Group in the European Parliament