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FESTIVAL OF EUROPE



SATURDAY 17 MAY 2014

OPEN DOORS DAY OF THE EUROPEAN INSTITUTIONS

BRUSSELS' EUROPEAN QUARTER 10 A.M. - 6 P.M.

europa.eu/opendoors
#EUopendoors



Welcome!

Welcome to the 22nd Open Doors Day of the European institutions.

We have once again planned a jam-packed day, full of activities, debates, concerts, games and interesting information for young and old.

This time, however, is a bit different.

With the next **European elections** only a few days away, the future direction of Europe lies more than ever before in the hands of its citizens.

Some 400 million people will be called to vote on 22-25 May and will determine who will be in charge of the European Union for the next 5 years.

Never before were the stakes so high, with the results of the elections being determinant in deciding on the future President of the European Commission, the Union's executive body.

What better time to take a look inside these illustrious institutions, discover their role, their history and - perhaps most importantly - their vision for the future.

Who will you vote for on 22-25 May? What influence will you have on the future of the European Union? Visit the European institutions on Saturday 17 May to find out!

Enjoy your day!

The Open Doors Day team.

Discover the European institutions

The European institutions are mainly situated in the "European quarter" of Brussels, an area extending from Place du Luxembourg, the tunnels of the centre, along the rue de la Loi and rue Belliard and up to the Rond-Point Schuman.

Their proximity means it is easy to take a leisurely stroll from one to another - or you can hop on our shuttle train for the short ride.

During the Open Doors Day, the following institutions and bodies open their doors to the public:



The European Parliament - europarl.europa.eu

60 rue Wiertz, 1047 Brussels - entrance via Place du Luxembourg, Esplanade Solidarność 1980

The European Parliament is composed of directly elected MEPs who represent the European citizens. It is the legislative body of the European Union, together with the Council of the European Union.



The European Council - european-council.europa.eu

175 rue de la Loi

The European Council sets the EU's broad priorities. It brings together the Heads of State or Government of the Member States. Its President is Herman Van Rompuy.



The Council of the European Union - consilium.europa.eu

175 rue de la Loi

The Council of the European Union represents the governments of the individual member states. It is where national ministers from each EU country meet to adopt laws and coordinate policies. The presidency of the Council of the EU is currently held by Greece until the end of June 2014.



The European Commission - ec.europa.eu

Berlaymont, 200 rue de la Loi

The European Commission promotes the interests of the EU as a whole. Its members are appointed by national governments. It is the executive body of the EU.



The European Economic and Social Committee - eesc.europa.eu

99-101 rue Belliard

The European Economic and Social Committee represents civil society: Employers, Workers and Various interests.



The Committee of the Regions - cor.europa.eu

99-101 rue Belliard

The Committee of the Regions represents regional and local authorities.



The European External Action Service - eas.europa.eu

Open Doors Day stand at the Council, 175 rue de la Loi
The High Representative exercises, in foreign affairs, the functions previously held by the six-monthly rotating Presidency, the High Representative for Common Foreign and Security Policy and the European Commissioner for External Relations.

Other bodies, such as **the Court of Auditors**, **the European Central Bank**, **the European Ombudsman** and **the European Data Protection Supervisor** are present with information and activities in one of the main locations.



A free shuttle service by mini train takes visitors from one building to another, thanks to our partner, the europe.brussels liaison office.



INSIDE

Paul-Henri Spaak & Altiero Spinelli buildings - Entrance via the Esplanade Solidarność 1980



DEBATE: EUROPEAN ELECTIONS - ACT, REACT, IMPACT!

European Parliament - Paul-Henri Spaak building
3rd floor, room 3C50. 10.30 a.m.-12.30 p.m.

Isabelle Durant, Vice-President of the European Parliament, will give a welcoming speech and introduce a debate by a panel of MEPs from across the political groups on the importance and impact of the upcoming elections. You will have the opportunity to put your questions to the panel and to learn about the life and work of MEPs in today's Europe.



VISIT THE HEMICYCLE

European Parliament
Altiero Spinelli building 3rd floor

The newly renovated Chamber of the European Parliament in Brussels will be open throughout the day. The Hemicycle will be prepared for the election night of 25 May so that you can get a real taste of the excitement of the upcoming elections.

THE POLITICAL GROUPS OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

European Parliament
Altiero Spinelli building 3rd floor

Currently, 7 political groups are active in the European Parliament, representing more than 100 national political parties and organised by political affiliation.

In this all-important pre-electoral period, they are eager to tell you what they have achieved over the past 5 years, and what they will fight for after the elections.

During the Open Doors Day, you can visit their stands to gather information, discuss your opinions with a Member or participate in one of the interactive activities they have planned for you.

The perfect opportunity to make your mind up about who best represents your opinions and your hopes for the future.



THE DIRECTORATE-GENERALS (DGs) OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

European Parliament
Paul-Henri Spaak & Altiero Spinelli buildings

After the elections, the European Parliament will count 751 Members. It is the second largest democratic assembly in the world. In order to function, these MEPs rely on numerous other departments in the European Parliament, called the Directorate-Generals.

The Open Doors Day is your chance to take a look behind the scenes and discover what it's like to work for this institution.

A whole range of activities for all ages await you at the stands of the DGs.



QUIZ

European Parliament
Paul-Henri Spaak & Altiero Spinelli buildings

We invite you to take part in the Open Doors Day Quiz. Visit the different Directorate-General stands, answer the Quiz questions and get stamps in your passport. If you have the necessary amount of stamps you will receive a nice prize (while stocks last).

GREEK PRESIDENCY

European Parliament
Altiero Spinelli building ground floor and -1

Greece is currently presiding the Council of the European Union and has two events to celebrate during the day. Enjoy an outstanding Photography Exhibition titled "Around Greece: The Experience" by artist Emmanuella Argyropoulou on the ground floor and, if you are feeling more adventurous, why not join in with the Greek Dance Group "Compagnie de danse Fanouris Trikilis", who will be performing outside the self-service restaurant?



LIVE RADIO STATIONS

European Parliament
Altiero Spinelli building 3rd floor

Visit our new International News studio at the heart of the Parliament. BXM (104.3 FM) will be covering the Open Doors Day and interviewing both EU representatives and members of the public.

OPEN DOORS ACTIVES

Esplanade Solidarność 1980



MAIN STAGE

One voice. Two voices. A multitude of voices. Singing in harmony. Conveying a message, an emotion, a dream. Experience the power of all these voices on our main stage throughout the day and let them inspire you to make your own voice be heard.

12 p.m. Opening ceremony on the Agora Simone Veil

Welcome by Isabelle Durant, Vice-President of the European Parliament and Willy Decourty, bourgmestre of Ixelles

Elin Ölmelid (violin) & Yuka Izutsu (piano)

12.15-1.10 p.m. Guillaume Noack (piano) & Les Pastoureaux (choir)

1.40-3.30 p.m. Voice Male

5.00 p.m. Bai Kamara Jr.

THEMATIC VILLAGE

Every year, we invite our partners from the associative world and the civil society to join us in celebrating Europe Day.

This year, we have selected partners involved with issues close to the hearts of many European citizens, such as employment, cultural diversity, the economy and quality of life. Issues the Members of the European Parliament deal with on a daily basis, with a focus on improving the lives of the European people.

In our thematic village, you can meet with them, discuss some of these issues, gather information and participate in one of the many interactive activities they have planned for you.

ANIMATIONS

It's never too early to learn about democracy and understand how powerful your voice can be! We've conceived several engaging and inspiring activities for our younger guests (ages 5-12 approx.), where they can learn what it means to vote and make a wish for the future.

10 YEARS OF POLISH MEMBERSHIP IN THE EU

Poland is a modern country that has undergone significant changes over the past decade. Celebrate this 10th anniversary of accession to the EU during the Open Doors Day, by visiting an interactive exhibition focussing on innovation, design, tourism and the creative industries. Take part in chemical experiments, music production workshops, a 3D bike ride, modelling and 3D printing.

INFORMATION OFFICE IN BELGIUM

Belgian Information Office, 1.30 p.m.-5.30 p.m.

Speed dating and photo session with Belgian MEPs

This is your chance to meet one or more of the 22 Belgian MEPs, ask them any questions you have and get your photo taken with them.

PARLAMENTARIUM

European Parliament - Willy Brandt building

In the Parliamentarium, children and adults alike get to discover in a refreshingly new way more about the institution that represents them. Dynamic, interactive multimedia displays guide our visitors through the journey of European integration and the impact this has on our everyday lives.

The Parliamentarium is currently holding a temporary Exhibition on the European Parliament's past elections. Come along and travel in time: from 9 Member States and 410 Members of the European Parliament in 1979, to 27 Member States and 736 Members of the European Parliament in 2009, the biggest transnational elections ever!

INFO POINT

European Parliament - Altiero Spinelli building - Left of main entrance

The Info Point is a great place to gather information about the European Parliament, the other institutions and the upcoming elections. It offers numerous free publications and posters in the European language of your choice.

LUXEMBOURG TRAIN STATION

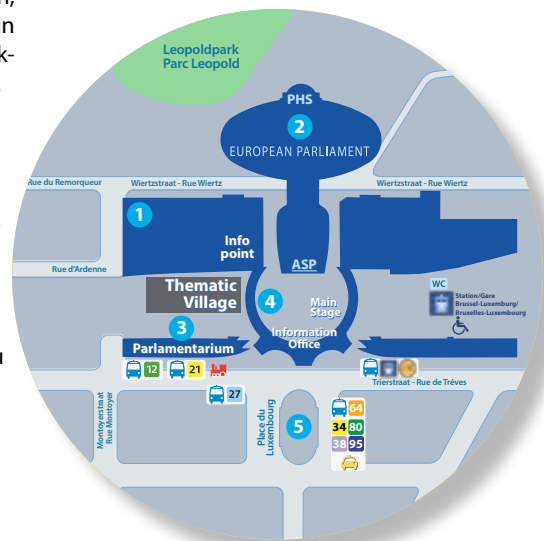
Free "Open Day" Lunch Time Concert, 1p.m.-2p.m.

Enjoy a Music of the European Nations & Regions Concert with Dénes Dosztán on piano, organised by the Irish in Europe Association, followed by a Cork Jazz Festival Club of Brussels session with rag time & Irish melodies.
www.meetup.com/Irish-in-Europe

FOOD & DRINKS

For a quick coffee break or a leisurely lunch, there are lots of places to choose from.

- 1 Self-service restaurant of the European Parliament**, level -1 of the Altiero Spinelli building (ASP) open between 11.30 a.m. and 6 p.m. (hot meals served between 11.30 a.m. and 3 p.m., including a special Greek menu)
- 2 Hemicycle bar**, level 3 of Paul-Henri Spaak building (entry through ASP)
- 3 Cafeteria, Parliamentarium**
- 4 Free coffee on the Esplanade** (while stocks last)
- 5 Bars and restaurants on and around Place du Luxembourg**



Court of Auditors



Meet the Luxembourg-based EU's auditors. Learn how they safeguard the financial interests of the EU citizens and help the EU run better. Visit the European Court of Auditors' information stand on the European Parliament Esplanade and in the Berlaymont building. Test your auditing skills in a quiz and see if you have what it takes to become an EU auditor.

European Ombudsman



Learn about the fight to increase transparency and accountability in the EU institutions by visiting the European Ombudsman's staff inside the European Parliament, in the ASP 1G area. Star in a video in your own language and get featured in our YouTube channel!

In our stand on the Esplanade you can also find the Belgian regional and federal Ombudsman services. Write your message for Europe, compete to win a goodie bag, or make your own helium balloon.

Looking forward to your visit!



European Data Protection Supervisor



Visit the EDPS stand on the first floor (1G area) of the ASP building in the European Parliament. Talk to us about your privacy rights, ask questions about protecting your personal information, whether you're applying for a job, using your smart phone or shopping online. You can take part in our fun quiz with the chance to win one of 20 USB sticks; there'll be something to keep the kids amused, plus some demonstrations that will astonish you, no matter what your age!
www.edps.europa.eu/EDPSWEB/edps/EDPS/Events



The Committee of the Regions



Rue Belliard 99-101, Jacques Delors building, ground and 5th floor



CELEBRATE THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS

Take the chance to learn about the milestones of institutional history and join the party spirit with cakes, balloons, photo opportunities and fun for the whole family.

VOTE FOR EUROPE

Get prepared for the upcoming European elections at the informative stands of the Political Groups of the Committee of the Regions. The 'EU Citizens Passport', a publication showing Europe's diversity and the unifying potential of EU citizens' rights, is also distributed.

JOIN THE FESTIVAL OF EUROPE'S REGIONS AND CITIES

Over 30 regions and cities showcase the diversity and attractiveness of European landscape, resources and traditions at their interactive stands. A taste of regional products may be offered.



The European Economic and Social Committee



Rue Belliard 99-101, Jacques Delors building, ground and 6th floor



DISCOVER WHAT THE EESC CAN DO FOR YOU

The EESC is a unique forum for consultation, dialogue and consensus between the representatives of organisations from various sectors of civil society.

RECORD YOUR MESSAGES FOR THE NEXT EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT (EP)

To mark the European Parliament elections, come and tell us about your expectations, concerns and visions for the next European Parliament. The EESC will be recording a video which will then be published on our web site and sent to the EP.

MAKE THE OPEN DOORS DAY A MEMORABLE DAY

Many activities are planned to offer you an instructive and pleasant visit. Come and test out your knowledge of the EESC and the European Union in a quiz and win prizes. You can also take photos in a unique setting. Children can participate in activities specially designed for them: they can have their face painted or enjoy doing some colouring. A music group will liven up the day. In short, there will be something for all ages and tastes!



The Council of the European Union



Also hosting the European External Action Service

Justus Lipsius building - Rue de la Loi 175, Brussels.



INSIDE

GUIDED TOURS

Guided tours for everyone will provide an insight into the facilities of the Council. Visitors will have the unique opportunity to see the rooms where the Heads of State and the Ministers of the 28 Member States meet for summits and Council meetings. All guests will follow the same itinerary as the Presidents and Prime Ministers at European summits, starting from the VIP entrance to the meeting rooms.

FILM AND DEBATE ABOUT THE ROLE OF THE COUNCIL OF THE EU

Guests can complement their visit with a short information film about the EU Council of Ministers and their role in political decision-making, presented in the Salle Bleue.

Afterwards a debate will take place, where visitors can ask questions and address comments to representatives from the General Secretary of the Council.

The film will be presented in four languages at the following times:

- 12.00 p.m. German version
- 1.00 p.m. Dutch version
- 2.00 p.m. French version
- 3.00 p.m. English version

STANDS, INFORMATION POINTS AND CONFERENCES

At a specific Council stand, Council officials will invite visitors to learn more and discuss about the role of the Council of the EU, its policies, and how decisions are taken at the EU level.

Publications and information brochures will be available for everyone interested.

Several EU agencies contributing to the safety of European citizens as well as the European Central Bank will present their activities.

The diplomatic arm of the EU, the **European External Action Service** (EEAS) will participate with more than 15 stands from missions throughout the world. Staff from the EU's military and

civilian missions will be joined by colleagues from the thematic and geographic divisions to present the work the EEAS does worldwide.

The exhibitors at the stands will be happy to answer any question and engage in lively debates.

A visual attraction will be provided by Galileo, the European global satellite-based navigation system. Next to its publications and information stand, Galileo will present a unique satellite model. Additionally, two 15 minutes conferences on Galileo will be offered in English in Salle Bleue at 11.00 a.m. and at 4.00 p.m. An expert from the German Research Centre located in Oberpfaffenhofen will present and explain concrete examples of Galileo space applications.

ACTIVITIES FOR YOUNG AND OLDER

The highlight for our youngest visitors will take place at the EEAS stand in the middle of the Atrium of the Justus Lipsius building. Children are invited to draw their own portraits and country flags for their "Little Diplomat's passports".

But we also offer interactive activities for our older guests. Visitors can test their knowledge about the EU in quizzes that will be on offer at special stands; of course with various interesting prizes to be won.

Additionally, there will be a Multimedia stand offering interactive games for all visitors, notably to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the enlargement from 15 to 25 Member States.



OUTSIDE

(around Rond-Point Schuman)

INFO POINT EUROPA

On the Rond-Point Schuman, the INFO POINT EUROPA, located in Rue Archimède 1, will also open its doors for the public on Saturday 17 May. Here visitors can gain access to numerous publications regarding the EU institutions and their work. Opening hours: 10.00 a.m. – 5.00 p.m.

FÊTE DU PAIN DU QUARTIER SCHUMAN

European artisan bakers will present the wealth and the diversity of their products and their regions, and will demonstrate the art of good living thanks to bread. Go on the Rond Point Schuman and taste "Europe in a plate"! - from 10.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m.





LET'S CELEBRATE EUROPE,
EUROPE IS FOR YOU
AND BY YOU!

Every year, we celebrate Europe in May. Why May? Because the 9th of May commemorates the famous speech of the French Minister of foreign affairs, Robert Schuman, that laid the foundation for the European construction. This year, the European celebrations will have two highlights.

The first event will take place on Sunday the 11th of May, on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the "Iris Day" (Fête de l'Iris/Irisfeest), the official holiday of the Brussels Capital Region. For the second consecutive year, the European Commission acts as a partner for this event in order to mark Brussels' openness towards Europe. The "European village" will open its doors from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. on the Europe Roundabout (pedestrian area in front of the Central Station).

The second event is scheduled on Saturday the 17th of May. Like every year, the European Commission will open its doors to the public between 10am-6pm (Berlaymont building, 200 rue de la Loi/Wetstraat, last entrance at 5.30 p.m.). Under the theme "European citizens and democracy", this year's edition will enable visitors to discover what Europe is doing for its citizens in their everyday life. Workshops, interactive games, exhibitions, attractions as well as artists from different categories will illuminate the celebrations throughout the day. On the eve of the European elections, visitors will have the opportunity to look behind the scenes of the Commission and to discover the College room - the epic room where decisions are taken - on the 13th floor of the Commission.

A flavour of what you will discover during your visit at the European Commission:

- A **photo exhibition** on urban development in the EU and the use of the EU regional funds in the city of Brussels. Discovery of the new comic strip "Partenaires" in the presence of the cartoonist who will offer you an autographed copy.

- The **fight against counterfeiting** and what Europe is doing to stop this scourge which is putting our health (medications and food products), our environment (flora and fauna), our business activities (illegal patents and copies) and our security (replacement components) at risk. The public awareness of illegal and counterfeit products' dangers and a great vigilant approach must be recommended, particularly for e-commerce. Say no to counterfeit. Choose the original ones!



INSIDE

Inside the Berlaymont building – 200 rue de la Loi

- The **European statistics office Eurostat** and the Eurobarometer which discloses useful data on EU-member states and its peoples. Quizzes about Europe will enable you to win some souvenir gifts.

- The EU action for the **fight against global warming** and its consequences on the world and on future generations.

- An **interactive quiz on the Euro currency**. Learn about the Banking Union, about what Europe is doing to overcome the economic crisis and about how the European budget is established. Produce our own medal specially made for the event.

- An overview of the over **18,000 research projects** the EU budget has funded throughout the Union for the last 7 years. Discover the results of these research projects and take part in scientific experiments aimed at all ages, for example: how to extract DNA from tomatoes. You will have the opportunity to meet scientists who are eager to share their passion and knowledge with you.



- A sample of **high-quality European agricultural products**. Take part in "green" workshops to understand how European agriculture is an integral part of our life and our roots. Make your own milk-shake using a bicycle!

- Everything you always wanted to know about **studying and working in and/or for Europe** (but were afraid to ask!). Do you know all there is to know about Erasmus+? How it can work for you? Do you

know how to best prepare for open competitions in order to work in the European institutions? How to be a European citizen in a meaningful way?

- Interactive exchanges on **food labelling and management of food waste**. You will discover what Europe does to protect the consumers against hazardous products.



- A real **European Commission conference room** where you can join our interpreters and try out for yourself what it means to simultaneously interpret from one European language to the next. Take part in debates and speeches in the Schuman room all day long. Explore different themes: consumers' rights, the tobacco directive, the social dimension of Europe, the demographic evolution, the European education and culture, the Greek Presidency or the importance to vote in the European elections.

- **Free comic books** on the many dimensions of European integration. An on-the-spot "Comic Book Corner" will be provided for our youngest visitors to sit and enjoy their reading. Teenagers are heartily invited to the "i-Pad café", where they will be given the opportunity to experiment and play with the new European app.

- All there is to know about **European Union Development Aid and Humanitarian Assistance**. Did you know that the European Union is the world's leading donor and that the EU's aid directly improves the lives of millions of the world's most vulnerable people. You will see how the EU helps to shape a better world for all.

OUTSIDE



Animations and activities outside, on the Berlaymont esplanade.

- Be creative on EU themes and get tips from the artist Blaise Patrix in his paint shop.

- Express your best wishes for the future of Europe by hanging a coloured piece of ribbon on the "Democracy Tree".

- Admire the Babel Tango group who will dance 12 tangos to European melodies.

- Attend short theatre plays about democracy and citizenship played by independent actors from the "Commedia dell'arte".

- Come and see the stilt-walkers, the balloon

inflatos, the musical groups of Circomédie and the Greek dances by the Tradidanse school in honour of the Greek Presidency.

- Europe and the Brussels-Capital Region offer you a 3-hour guided walk in the canal area. Discover another side of the city: vibrant and multicultural neighbourhoods supported by the European Regional Development Fund (FEDER). For more info and to sign up for the bike ride : Pro Velo 02/502 73 55 of www.provelo.be – by boat and on foot : parcours@lafonderie.be - 02/410 99 50

USE YOUR POWER. CHOOSE WHO'S IN CHARGE IN EUROPE.



EUROPEAN ELECTIONS
22-25 MAY 2014
WWW.ELECTIONS2014.EU
#EP2014

ACT. REACT. IMPACT.



EUROPEAN ELECTION NIGHT - 25 MAY 2014 IN THE PARLAMENTARIUM, BRUSSELS 8.30pm - Midnight

Follow the results of the European elections with real-time updates, debates and live music.
To register: www.europarl.be/25may

Under the high patronage of the President of the European Parliament, Mr Martin Schulz, the President of the European Council, Mr Herman Van Rompuy and the President of the European Commission, Mr José Manuel Barroso.



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