

2014 EU Change-over – A time-table

22-25 May Election of a new European Parliament

27 May Informal dinner of the Heads of State and Government (European Council) in Brussels

Purpose: discuss the outcome of the elections, look at what can be learnt from its results, discuss the process and organization of the work to come up with a candidate for the future Presidency of the Commission (who will then be proposed to the European Parliament for election). Although too early to *decide* on names, the various candidates will be discussed. One should expect some leaks but no official communication on likely candidates.

Optimistic time table

June: **formation of political groups** at the EP; verification of credentials

26/27 June: European Council **proposes candidate** or candidates **for Commission Presidency**)

1-3 July: **EP constitutive session:** MEPs officially take up their seats in the Parliament. Election of EP president, vice-presidents and quaestors (five or six members who shall be responsible for administrative and financial matters directly concerning Members)

7-10 July: Official **political group meetings** at EP

14-17 July: Session of the EP - **election of Commission President**

Mid July to mid-August : Once elected, the Commission president will liaise with member states to **choose the remaining commissioners**

September: **Hearings of designated commissioners** at the relevant EP committees

October : EP plenary **vote on the full Commission**

1 November: **New Commission takes office**

Realistic time table

June: **Formation of political groups** at the EP; verification of credentials; **informal meetings** between European Council and political leaders from the EP)

26/27 June: European Council proposes **candidate or candidates for Commission Presidency**)

1-3 July: **EP constitutive session:** MEPs officially take up their seats in the Parliament. Election of EP president, vice-presidents and quaestors (five or six members who shall be responsible for administrative and financial matters directly concerning Members)

7-10 July: Official **political group meetings** at EP

14-17 July: Session of the EP – **rejection of candidate(s)** proposed by the European Council

Mid July to mid-August: **Informal discussions** between European Council and political leaders from the EP to **find a compromise candidate** for Commission President

Early September: Special session of EP to elect Commission President Once elected, the Commission president will liaise with member states to choose the remaining commissioners

September/October: hearings of designated commissioners at the relevant EP committees

November : EP plenary vote on the full Commission

1 December: New Commission takes office