

# europa media<sup>®</sup> Newsletter

## THE EU IN 2010: NEWS AND OPPORTUNITIES

### Introduction

The New Year just began and already great changes seem to be underway across Europe- and more than just an extreme cold front! A new Commission is being interrogated, the Spanish presidency has taken charge and the EU attempts to relieve the poor conditions of many citizens with its 2010 Against Poverty theme. In the first Europa Media newsletter of 2010, we introduce some of these matters and hint at what may be coming in the future.

- The Europa Media Team -

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### A New Year, A New Commission

» [http://ec.europa.eu/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/index_en.htm)

Though the first Barroso European Commission officially ended its mandate on October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2009, only now are the potential, new Commissioners being interrogated by the Parliament about their possible contributions to the EU. By the time of publication, these examinations are currently underway and proving to be quite controversial hearings. While the

Commission as a whole can be vetoed by the Parliament through a plenary vote, this possibility generally influences the choices finally put forth.

To get a sense of the direction the future Commission seeks to go, we present several recent key quotes, from the hearings, we've come across which intimate at things to come. A vote is scheduled for January 26<sup>th</sup>,

though the controversial and public nature of these hearings may delay or side-rail this. The vote, originally scheduled for January 26<sup>th</sup>, has been delayed to February 9<sup>th</sup> due to the controversial nature of these hearings and withdrawal of a previous candidate for the post of International Cooperation, Humanitarian Aid, Crisis response.

### **”What They Are Saying” – Selected Quotes from the Potential Commissioners**

**CATHERINE ASHTON – UK  
High Representative of the Union  
for Foreign Affairs and Security  
Policy** – *”I am convinced there is a clear call, inside the EU and around the world, for greater European engagement – to promote peace, protect the vulnerable, fight poverty and address the many problems of our time. We have to answer this call.”*

**VIVIANE REDING – LUXEMBOURG  
Justice Fundamental Rights and  
Citizenship** – *”We will not let anyone dictate to us rules that go against fundamental rights on anti-terrorism grounds... our need for security cannot justify any violation of privacy. We should never be driven by fear, but by values.”*

**JOAQUIN ALMUNIA – SPAIN  
Competition** – *”Competition policy is only an instrument, not an end in itself... We have a “competition policy that is unique in the world, but it has to be enforced and explained.”*

**SIIM KALLAS – ESTONIA  
Transport** – *”Free movement is one of the greatest freedoms of European citizens. And modern transport makes a fundamental contribution to this freedom.”*

**JANEZ POTOČNIK – SLOVENIA  
Environment** – *”Europe will be a green continent or it will not exist. The Earth will be a wise planet or it will not exist.”*

## **The Spanish Presidency**

» <http://www.eu2010.es/en/index.html>

With the turn of the New Year, the Spanish Presidency has begun and for six months will manage the Council of the EU. Due to the recent appointment of Herman van Rompuy as the chair of the Council, the role the Spanish presidency plays has been popularly referred to as a “Second President” to distinguish it from President Barroso and van Rompuy.



The Presidency appears, through draft documents, to be pushing an agenda that encourages a much greater usage of *renewable energy and reducing current energy consumption through alterations in the EU tax system*. Matters of gas supply security, business investment in the sector, and expanding interconnections between Member States’ energy infrastructures remain critical points for the Spanish Presidency. These next six months will be a great challenge for Spain to take leadership and influence world affairs.

## **2010 European Year for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion**

» <http://www.2010againstopoverty.eu/>



2010 is being promoted as the EU’s Year for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion. The recognition that about 80 million Europeans live at risk of becoming impoverished, and certainly with the impact of economic conditions from the last year, the issue needs to be highlighted according to the EU.

A variety of activities, including conferences, training events, and art initiatives, are aimed at enhancing awareness across the EU about the matter of poverty and social exclusion.

What is unique about this program is its focus upon the Member States, the way it reflects conditions that are often neglected, as the gaze turns outward at external countries.

### **FP7 – PROPOSAL DEVELOPMENT**

2-day comprehensive training guiding the participants through the procedures of project development by experienced project managers, from call identification to budget preparation and proposal submission. Learn how to develop your competitive proposal from scratch.

*Turning ideas into reality*

<http://www.eustrainingsite.com/69>

22-23 March 2010  
Budapest, Hungary

### **FP7 – FINANCIAL & PROJECT MANAGEMENT**

2-day course covering all parts of research Project management from Grant Agreement Negotiation, to financial and technical reporting and project closure, including audits and technical reviews.

*For Managers by Managers*

<http://www.eustrainingsite.com/79>

25-26 March 2010  
Budapest, Hungary

*Continued...***OLLI REHN – FINLAND**

**Economic and Monetary Affairs –**  
*“Stimulus packages are still necessary ... but further developments of public debt have become untenable, especially in light of Europe’s ageing population.”*

**ANDRIS PIEBALGS – LATVIA**

**Development –** *“We could gain up to 9 billion Euro by being more efficient and that is why I intend to bring new political momentum to this issue showing credibility and accountability towards our citizens and our partners.”*

**MICHEL BARNIER – FRANCE**

**Internal Market and Services –**  
*“I’m not going to be taking orders from Paris, London or anywhere else. I can give a cast-iron guarantee”*

**ALGIRDAS SEMETA – LITHUANIA**

**Taxation and Customs Union, Audit and Anti-Fraud –** *“The fight against any type of fraud will be at the very heart of my daily work.”*

**KAREL DE GUCHT – BELGIUM**

**Trade –** *“We need trade and more trade to preserve our social system because it brings growth.”*

**JOHN DALLI – MALTA**

**Health and Consumer Policy –**  
*“People first, Consumers first.”*

**MAIRE GEORGHEGAN-QUINN – IRELAND**

**Research, Innovation and Science –**  
*“IP rights are an obstacle to sharing knowledge.”*

**JANUSZ LEWANDOWSKI – POLAND**

**Budget and Financial Programming –**  
*“Europe is not ready for new taxation.”*

**GUNTHER OETTINGER – GERMANY**

**Energy –** *“Over the next five years I want to contribute, with you, towards a Europeanisation of our energy policy. We need a comprehensive paradigm shift in energy policy.”*

**STEFAN FULE – CZECH REPUBLIC**

**Enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy –** *“Stability at our borders is Europe’s stability.”*

**LASZLO ANDOR – HUNGARY**

**Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion –** *“The crisis we are currently experiencing is the most serious economic crisis since the Great Depression. The most vulnerable have been affected. I want to avoid further job losses in the EU.”*

**UPCOMING EVENTS****Theme: INTELLIGENT ENERGY EUROPEAN INFORMATION DAY**

Host: Intelligent Energy Europe

Date: 3 February 2010

Location: Brussels, Belgium

» Info: <http://ec.europa.eu/energy/intelligent/events/doc/infod10/programme.pdf>**Theme: 2010 EURO-AFRICA COOPERATION FORUM ON ICT RESEARCH**

Host: FP7 EuroAfrica ICT Project

Date: 4 February 2010

Location: Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

» Info: <http://www.euroafrica-ict.org/forum2.php>**Theme: GENDER IN RESEARCH**

Host: Empa Academy

Date: 23 February 2010

Location: Duebendorf, Switzerland

» Info: [http://www.empa.ch/plugin/template/empa/\\*89776](http://www.empa.ch/plugin/template/empa/*89776)**Theme: PRIVACY LAW, TECHNOLOGY POLICY AND THE INTERNET**

Host: Centre for World Solidarity

Date: 25-26 February 2010

Location: Hyderabad, India

» Info: [http://www.uclan.ac.uk/ahss/lancashire\\_law\\_school/clict/national\\_conference/index.php](http://www.uclan.ac.uk/ahss/lancashire_law_school/clict/national_conference/index.php)**Theme: CHANGING PERCEPTIONS OF CITIZEN SECURITY AND ACCEPTANCE OF SECURITY-ENHANCING INTERVENTIONS**

Host: European Security Conference Initiative, 4th ESCI Summit

Date: 4-5 March 2010

Location: Zugspitze, Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany

» Info: [http://www.esci.at/esci\\_2010\\_programme.pdf](http://www.esci.at/esci_2010_programme.pdf)**DISSEMINATION POSSIBILITIES**

In our future newsletters, we would like to assist you with disseminating information about your projects.

Feel free to send us more information about activities, events, or news related to your project and we'll publicize it!

**JUNIOR PROJECT MANAGEMENT**

The 3-day course provides young professionals with the practical tools needed to find and successfully apply to the numerous funding opportunities offered by the EU, and to develop and implement EU projects.

*“Learn how the professionals do it...”*

<http://www.eutrainingsite.com/71>

28-30 April 2010  
 Budapest, Hungary

**FP7 – EUROPEAN SUMMER ACADEMY**

One-week exclusive training on the complex EC funding system while relaxing in the beautiful surroundings of Lake Balaton. A complete programme covering the whole life cycle of an FP7 project from proposal preparation to project management and reporting.

*Spend a week with the experts*

<http://www.eutrainingsite.com/72>

5-9 July 2010  
 Lake Balaton, Hungary



**DACIAN CIOLOS – ROMANIA**  
**Agriculture and Rural Development** – *“The CAP has continuously adapted to the domestic needs and progress, but also to international developments. Nothing of what we have got till today is an asset granted forever. Agriculture is no longer only a producer of food, but also of public goods.”*

**ANDROULLA VASSILIOU – CYPRUS**  
**Education, Culture, Multilingualism and Youth** – *“We should make sure that every EU programme we apply has a direct impact on citizens’ lives.”*

**JOHANNES HAHN – AUSTRIA**  
**Regional Policy** – *“Regional policy is a success story of European integration.”*

**CONNIE HEDEGAARD – DENMARK**  
**Climate Action** – *“Climate, energy security and job creation must be the EU’s vision.”*

**NEELIE KROES – THE NETHERLANDS**  
**Digital Agenda** – *“We need 100% broadband availability because it will improve competitiveness and bring an excellent opportunity to create jobs, higher productivity and economic growth.”*

**MAROS SEFCOVIC – SLOVAKIA**  
**Inter-Institutional Relations and Administration** – *“I am a strong supporter of an ever-closer Union”*

**ANTONIO TAJANI – ITALY**  
**Industry and Entrepreneurship** – *“The fight against climate change is a economic and ethical task”*

**CECILIA MALMSTRÖM – SWEDEN**  
**Home Affairs** – *“We need immigration, and migrant workers need to know that when they are in Europe they have rights”*

**MARIA DAMANAKI – GREECE**  
**Maritime Affairs and Fisheries** – *“The ongoing Common Fisheries Policy reform is vital and will, of course, be a central focus of my work.”*

**KRISTALINA GEORGIEVA – BULGARIA**  
**International Co-operation, Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Response** – *Hearing will take place on February 3<sup>rd</sup>.*



## FP7 CALLS

### ERC ADVANCED INVESTIGATORS GRANT

Deadlines: 24 February  
 17 March  
 7 April 2010

Budget: EUR 590 Million

» Info: [http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.IdeasDetailsCallPage&call\\_id=292#infopack](http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.IdeasDetailsCallPage&call_id=292#infopack)

### ENERGY CALL 2

Deadline: 4 March 2010

Budget: EUR 126 Million

» Info: [http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.CooperationDetailsCallPage&call\\_id=264#infopack](http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.CooperationDetailsCallPage&call_id=264#infopack)

### MARIE CURIE INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH STAFF EXCHANGE SCHEME (IRSES)

Deadline: 25 March 2010

Budget: EUR 30 Million

» Info: [http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.PeopleDetailsCallPage&call\\_id=245#infopack](http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.PeopleDetailsCallPage&call_id=245#infopack)

### ICT CALL 6

Deadline: 13 April 2010

Budget: EUR 286 Million

» Info: [http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=usersite.FP7DetailsCallPage&CALL\\_ID=297#infopack](http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=usersite.FP7DetailsCallPage&CALL_ID=297#infopack)



If you would like to contribute to our next issue of the Europa Media newsletter, please send an email to us at: [magazine@europamedia.org](mailto:magazine@europamedia.org)! We always like to hear from our readership!

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<http://www.eutrainingsite.com/79>

## FP7 - FINANCIAL REPORTING AND AUDITS

1-day course to expose everything about the requirements and practices of financial and technical reporting, financial audits and technical reviews in order to easily survive them.

28 May 2010  
 Budapest, Hungary

*Understanding the financial playground*

<http://www.eutrainingsite.com/74>