

ALTER-EU

Alliance for Lobbying Transparency and Ethics Regulation
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info@alter-eu.org



12th August 2014

Dear Mr Schulz

Congratulations on your re-election as European parliament president.

We are writing to you regarding ALTER-EU's Politics for People pledge campaign. During the recent elections, over 1300 election candidates across Europe signed our pledge to “stand-up for citizens and democracy against the excessive lobbying influence of banks and big business” upon entering office (<http://politicsforpeople.eu/en/>). Out of this number, there is now a group of 180 MEPs who were elected from across the political spectrum and from almost every member state.

Our website records show that you signed the pledge on 8 July 2014; since then, we've been seeking confirmation on this from your office. We would welcome the opportunity to meet with you to discuss our pledge and the steps that we believe the EU institutions should take during the new parliamentary term to improve transparency and ethics. As you know, ALTER-EU priority policies are:

- a mandatory lobby transparency register;
- a revision of the Code of Conduct for MEPs and more general, improved ethics rules for MEPs and commissioners, including regulating the revolving door;
- and action to tackle the disproportionate dominance of business interests in the commission's expert groups;

It seems to us that the new legislature provides an ideal opportunity to make progress on all three of these areas.

Perhaps your office could contact our coordinator, Ms Nicola Freeman at ALTER-EU to arrange a meeting: nicola@alter-eu.org

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

ALTER-EU steering committee:

Max Bank (LobbyControl),
Helen Darbishire (Access Info Europe),
Paul de Clerck (Friends of the Earth Europe),
William Dinan (SpinWatch),

Jorgo Riss (Greenpeace European Unit),
Erik Wesselius (Corporate Europe
Observatory),
Yuklan Wong (European Federation of
Journalists)