

European Elections Project
July 30th, 2014

MONTHLY UPDATE

Free Movement Campaign

[New Europeans](#) reject the idea that Britain could introduce restrictions on free movement and remain a member of the European Union with unrestricted access to the single market.

Following their [letter in the Observer on 8 June](#), New Europeans have launched a petition to champion the rights of European citizens to freedom of movement.

Check out their campaign [here!](#)

Profiles: Juncker and Schultz

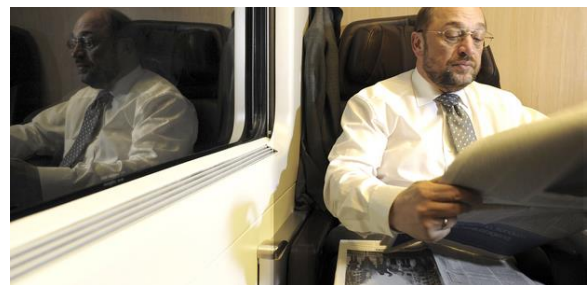
[EUobserver](#) has prepared profiles on the recently elected President of the European Commission and the re-elected President of the European Parliament.

[Who is Jean-Claude Juncker?](#) From prodigy politician in Luxembourg to master of deception as Eurogroup chair, Jean-Claude Juncker brings both experience and baggage with his nomination as EU commission president.



[Schulz: King of Parliament \(and backroom deals\)](#). A book-seller by trade before he entered politics, the 58-year old Schulz has

been an MEP for 20 years. His breakthrough into public awareness came in 2003, when Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi compared him to a Nazi commandant during a parliamentary debate. Schulz was suitably furious in public but has reaped the rewards ever since. Less than a year later he was leader of the Socialist group, a position he would hold until finally taking over the Parliament presidency in 2012.



Refugee Lifelines

Refugees from different corners of the world arrive in Thessaloniki, where their lives intertwine as they forge their own lifelines, go to school, love, work, dream, get frustrated, marry, and create, in a constant negotiation with the city.



The promises and dictates of the different institutions, laws, interstate agreements and the famous "papers" order, yet are also transformed by, their relationships with the locals, the host society, the citizens of the country and Europe.

Take a look at this [documentary](#) based on the work of [Symβiosis](#) on combating the discrimination in Greece.

Migrant Vote

Watch the [video](#) (in Italian) by Murat Cinar (shared by our friends from [COSPE](#)) based on interviews to Romanian citizens living in Turin on last May's European elections: a little bit of euroscepticism but also confidence in the European project!



European Initiative for Media Pluralism

Take a look at the [European Citizens Initiative for Media Pluralism](#) that one of OSIFE's grantees, [European Alternatives](#), is leading. Help us spread the word through your networks, and sign the petition!

European Alternatives and Alliance Internationale de Journalistes have been working since 2010 towards the establishment of a European Initiative for Media Pluralism, a coalition promoting the idea that European institutions should safeguard the right to free, independent and pluralistic information. The European Initiative for Media Pluralism (EIMP) brings together organisations, media, and

professional bodies from throughout Europe with the immediate purpose of running a European Citizens Initiative (ECI) demanding the implementation of an EU Directive on media pluralism. The ECI is a new tool of participatory democracy introduced from April 2012 by the Lisbon Treaty, which allows civil society coalitions to collect online and offline one million signatures in at least 7 EU member states to present directly to the European Commission a proposal forming the base of an EU Directive, initiating a legislative process.



Federalists: Relaunching the European political project

Union of European Federalists and [Young European Federalists \(JEF\)](#) have sent a letter to the newly elected MEPs calling them to take the lead in relaunching the European project. The letter is available [here](#).



This report contains some updates and information related to the European Elections Projects. The views expressed are not necessarily shared nor supported by OSF/OSIFE. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Francisco Malavassi (osife.intern@opensocietyfoundations.org).