



The Greens | European Free Alliance  
in the European Parliament

## Public Hearing

# The European Citizens' Initiative

## Toothless Tiger - Or an Open Door for the People?

12 May 2010, 14:30 – 18:00  
room ASP1 G3

### INTRODUCTION

14:30            **Rebecca Harms**  
Co-President of the Greens/EFA Group of the European Parliament

### KEY-NOTE SPEAKERS

14:35            **Prof. Jürgen Meyer**  
Former member of the German Bundestag as well as of the Convention on the Future of Europe and the Convention on the Charter of Fundamental Rights

14:45            **Maroš Šefčovič**  
Vice-President of the European Commission, responsible for Inter-Institutional Relations and Administration

14:55            **Bruno Kaufmann**  
Director of the Initiative & Referendum Institute Europe (IRI)

15:05            **Gerald Häfner**  
Coordinator of the Green/EFA group in the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and member of the Committee on Petitions of the European Parliament

### OPEN DISCUSSION

15:15            Introduction of the questions by Gerald Häfner

15:20            How representative shall a European Citizens' Initiative be and what should be the minimum number of Member States? (Art.7)

15:40            Which rules and procedures should be established for the collection and verification of signatures? (Art. 5, 6, 9, 12, 14)

16:20            Which rules shall apply for checking the admissibility of an ECI? (Art. 4, 8)

16:40            How should European institutions respond to a successful ECI? (Art. 11)

17:10            Do ECI organisers need support for setting up an initiative?

## CONCLUSIONS AND FOLLOW-UP

- 17:30            **Eva Lichtenberger**  
Vice-President of the Greens/EFA in the European Parliament
- 17:40            **Isabelle Durant**  
Vice-President of the European Parliament and Member of the  
Greens/EFA in the European Parliament
- 17:50            **Gerald Häfner**  
Coordinator of the Green/EFA group in the Committee on Constitutional  
Affairs and member of the Committee on Petitions of the European  
Parliament
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**Online registration** until 10 May 2010 at noon:

<http://www.greens-efa-service.org/event/eci>

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