

**Conference on
The 2009 EP Elections: Discussing Ways of Enhancing Democracy, Legitimacy
and Institutional Balance**

19 March 2009, 10.00 – 17.00 h, Brussels
Fondation Universitaire, Salle Félicien Cattier; 11 rue d'Egmont, 1000 Brussels

10.00 h Registration

10.15h Welcome Note
Gianni Bonvicini, *Istituto Affari Internazionali, Rome*
Wolfgang Wessels, *University of Cologne & College of Europe*

**10.30 h-12.45 h Panel 1: The European Parliament within the institutional
architecture of the EU**

Chair: Gianni Bonvicini, Istituto Affari Internazionali, Rome

A look outside the structure: National Parliaments and the EP

Maximilian Schröder, *European Parliament, Directorate for Relations with Nat. Parl.*

Interest Groups and the European Parliament

Wilhelm Lehmann, *European Parliament, DG for Internal Policies of the Union*

The Council and the European Parliament

Sara Hagemann, *European Policy Centre*

The Commission and the European Parliament

Piotr Maciej Kaczynski, *Centre for European Policy Studies*

Discussion

Introduced by interventions from students of the College of Europe (Katie McGowan & Julian Siegl)

12.45-13.30 h Lunch

13.30 h - 14.45 h Panel 2: How European are European elections?

Chair: Mathias Jopp, Institut für Europäische Politik, Berlin

30 years of direct elections: A Parliament in the making?

Michael Shackleton, *European Parliament*

**European Parties in the European election campaign: Actors or passive
observers?**

Brendan Donnelly, *The Federal Trust*

Discussion

Introduced by interventions from students of the College of Europe (Camilla Hansen & Johan Fredborn)

14.45 h – 15.00 h Coffee

15.00 – 17.00 h

Turning research into practice: “Give European Citizens a Voice”

Chair: Jean Victor Louis, Acting Secretary General TEPSA*

Introduction of the initiative “Give European Citizens a Voice”

Gianni Bonvicini, Istituto Affari Internazionali, Rome

Presentation of the

Call on Political Parties, EU Candidates and Future MEPs:

“Give European Citizens a Voice”

Tommaso Padoa-Schioppa, *Notre Europe*

Comments by

Wolfgang Wessels, *University of Cologne / College of Europe*

Julia De Clerck-Sachse, *Centre for European Policy Studies*

Pierpaolo Settembri, *Council of the European Union**

Juan Behrend, *European Greens*

Young rapporteur from the College of Europe

Discussion

17.00 h

End of conference