

Mr Martin Schulz
President of the European Parliament
Parlement Européen
Bât. Paul-Henri Spaak 09B012
60, rue Wiertz / Wiertzstraat 60
B-1047 Bruxelles/Brussel

Ref : 14/101

Brussels, 16 October 2014

Subject: President-elect Juncker ignores EU citizens and Parliament's call for a sustainable economy and environmental protection

Dear President Schulz,

The Green 10 deplore that despite official and unofficial promises to add 'sustainability' to the portfolio of First Vice-President designate Frans Timmermans, together with oversight of climate and energy policy, no concrete changes have so far been made in that direction by President-elect Juncker.

Nor have any of the other proposals put forward by you in your letter to President-elect Juncker, and supported by a large number of MEPs and by the Green 10, led so far to a revision of the mission letters and to the new Commission set up.

We believe that by ignoring these concerns, President-elect Juncker would betray European citizens interest, and disregard the "grand coalition" election manifestos, where the political groups supporting President-elect Juncker commit to a more open, more responsive and more democratic Europe where citizens, civil society, and social actors have full democratic participation and control in European Union decisions.

During the election, the EPP and S&D also committed to invest in low carbon technology and innovation, and to make the EU regain global leadership in the protection of nature and natural resources and in the fight against pollution and climate change.

So far, none of these electoral commitments are reflected in the new Commission line-up. The Parliament's acceptance of this would risk undermining the credibility of the institution and boosting euro-skepticism and anti-establishment sentiments among EU citizens.

We call upon you to ensure that written changes in portfolios, titles and mandates are made by President-elect Juncker along the lines suggested by your letter. This should happen well ahead of the vote in the Parliament and not as last-minutes oral promises.

Yours sincerely,



Angelo Caserta, Regional Director, BirdLife Europe

The Green 10 is chaired by BirdLife Europe

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On behalf of the Green 10 EU Directors

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Christian Baumgartner, Director, Naturefriends International

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