



## Press release No. 7/2012

# Ombudsman event: European citizens can tweet their live questions to Barroso, Schulz, Thorning-Schmidt

### 23 April 2012

The European Ombudsman investigates complaints about maladministration in the EU institutions and bodies. Any EU citizen, resident, or an enterprise or association in a Member State, can lodge a complaint with the Ombudsman. The Ombudsman offers a fast, flexible and free means of solving problems with the EU administration.

**For more information:**  
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On 24 April 2012, from 10.00 to 12.30, the European Ombudsman, **P. Nikiforos Diamandouros** is organising an event in the European Parliament in Brussels, entitled “Europe in crisis: the challenge of winning citizens’ trust”.

The keynote speakers are **José Manuel Barroso**, President of the European Commission, **Martin Schulz**, President of the European Parliament, and **Helle Thorning-Schmidt**, the Prime Minister of Denmark and President of the Council of the EU.

During the event, European citizens will be able to tweet questions to the speakers, by using the **Twitter** hashtag **#EO2012**. As many questions as possible will be displayed in the seminar room, giving the speakers an opportunity to address them.

The event will be web-streamed live at:  
<http://www.ombudsman.europa.eu/home.faces>

The European Parliament (<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/ep-live/en/other-events/>) and Europe by Satellite (<http://ec.europa.eu/avservices/ebs/live.cfm>) will also stream the event live.

**“Europe in crisis: the challenge of winning citizens’ trust”**

According to the Ombudsman, the most important current issue at both the EU and the Member States levels is undoubtedly the economic and financial crisis and its implications for the future of the European Union. Citizens in many Member States of the EU are not only losing trust in their national governments. They are also increasingly sceptical of the EU’s ability to find solutions to the worst crisis in its history. The event is a unique

occasion to discuss these issues with speakers at the highest level and to explore positive and concrete ways for the EU to move forward.

Please note that registration for the event is now closed.

More information is available at:  
<http://www.ombudsman.europa.eu/activities/calendarevent.faces/en/602/html.bookmark>