

Annual report

2015



Introductory Notes

EU40 is the network of young Members of the European Parliament. Our mission is to serve young Members under the age of 40 and strengthen their role inside the European Parliament. We do this by connecting young politicians with each other and offering them opportunities for publicity and political interaction. We thereby serve as an interlocutor, creating synergies as we move forward. EU40 celebrates modern, political communication in the 'Brussels Bubble' and beyond and has become renowned for its fresh, creative and inspirational style, when communicating political content and complex messages.

EU40 is led by a Board composed of 7 MEPs from across the political spectrum with whom we take decisions and shape the agenda of our projects and debates: **MEP Philippe De Backer (ALDE), MEP Victor Negrescu (S&D), MEP Eva Paunova (EPP), MEP Antanas Guoga (ALDE), MEP Daniel Dalton (ECR), MEP Pablo Zalba Bidegain (EPP) and MEP Brando Benifei (S&D)**. We currently have **98 MEPs from the main political groups of the European Parliament**.

Our events are always young, fresh and invigorating, never boring or unimaginative. In 2015 we worked with 10 corporate partners from different fields: **MCI-Logos, Cambre Associates, Enel, BP, Statoil, Petrochemicals Europe, Microsoft, DocMorris, Johnson&Johnson and Nestlé**.

Once again, 2015 was a very active year in terms of successful events and projects: from #LikeYou portraits on the esplanade of the European Parliament to Young Members of Parliament European Forum 2015 and various initiatives detailed in this report. We feel that our network has continued on the ascending path and we are looking forward to a promising year in 2016.

Here following a summary of the events EU40 organised in 2015 in collaboration with its partners:

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Privacy in the Digital Age | 4 |
| European Health Parliament – 2nd plenary session | 5 |
| The Energy Outlook: Where are we heading? | 7 |
| Collaboration with MEP Awards 2015 | 8 |
| Strengthen your election results. Facebook's role within political communication | 9 |
| An efficient Energy Union | 10 |
| European Health Parliament – 3rd plenary session | 11 |
| Emerging Trends in the Evolution of mHealth | 13 |



| | |
|--|-------|
| Alliance for YOUTh Workshops | 14 |
| Exclusive meeting between Anthony L. Gardner, the US Ambassador to the EU and EU40 MEPs | 15 |
| The EU in 2025. Updating the widening vs. deepening debate | 16 |
| Alliance for YOUTh high-level debate | 17 |
| European Health Parliament closing plenary session | 18 |
| Energy perspectives | 19 |
| Meeting with Maggie de Block and the Health Parliamentarians | 20 |
| "#LikeYou", a project in 3 phases. Phase 1: supersized photo booth | 21 |
| Chances of mHealth in a digitalised Europe | 22 |
| "#LikeYou", a project in 3 phases. Phase 3: exhibition on the Esplanade of the European Parliament | 23 |
| What can data driven healthcare do for Europe? | 24 |
| Meeting with Health EU Commissioner Andriukaitis | 25 |
| Backstage with Europe's creators exhibition | 26 |
| Young Parliament Members European Forum 2015 | 27-28 |
| 70 Years of Division: The Role of the European Union for the Future of the Korean Peninsula | 29 |
| Collaboration with Charlemagne Youth Prize 2015 | 30 |
| Re-Occupy Health Street | 31 |
| Energy scenarios for the future of road transport | 32 |
| Arctic business breakfast dialogue | 33 |
| App challenge for societal change | 34-35 |
| US Presidential style debate on Digital Platforms | 36-37 |
| European Health Parliament 2016 kick-off session | 38 |
| Stats EU40 website | 40 |



Privacy in the Digital Age

on 21st of January 2015

The first debate of 2015 took place on the 21st of January, at the European Parliament, in the form of an early-morning bagel breakfast debate, jointly organised with our partner, Microsoft. We welcomed more than 100 participants in the public, despite the early kick-off (7.30 am)

The debate was co-hosted by **MEP Victor Negrescu** (S&D) and **MEP Eva Paunova** (EPP) with **Brad Smith**, General Counsel and Executive Vice President of Legal and Corporate Affairs of Microsoft, as a guest speaker. We were honoured by Brad Smith's participation in the debate on route to Davos. He has overseen numerous negotiations leading to competition law and intellectual property agreements with governments around the world and with companies across the IT sector. He has played a leading role within Microsoft and in the IT sector on government surveillance, privacy, intellectual property, immigration and computer science education policy issues.

MEP Eva Paunova said: "I completely agree with Microsoft and other IT companies that it is not enough to reform data protection and digitalisation legislation once in a decade. It is crucial that the public and the private sector follow the same pace". In the field of privacy protection, MEP Paunova is confident that "we will achieve more in the next five years than the European institutions have accomplished in the past few decades", she continued. "The fact that governments and the business have access to any kind of information regarding citizens does not mean that they have to abuse it. We urgently need clear and applicable rules guaranteeing better security and data protection", underlined **Brad Smith**. "Without stronger encryption capability we are vulnerable. We need negotiations on both sides of the Atlantic", he stressed.



From left to right: MEP Victor Negrescu, Brad Smith, MEP Eva Paunova, MEP Axel Voss



The breakfast debate took place at the EP in a fully-packed venue

Pictures are available at the following link: <http://bit.ly/1NsiqVE>



European Health Parliament – 2nd plenary session

on 27th of February 2015



From left to right: Marco Pancini, Amanda Bok, Peter O'Donnell, MEP Philippe De Backer, Jane Griffiths

The panel was moderated by **Peter O'Donnell**, Editor at POLITICO, and consisted of the following speakers:

- **Philippe de Backer**, Member of the European Parliament;
- **Miriam Dalli**, Member of the European Parliament;
- **Jane Griffiths**, first Company Group Chairwoman at Janssen EMEA;
- **Amanda Bok**, CEO of the European Hemophilia Consortium;
- **Marco Pancini**, Public Policy and Government Relations Sr. Counsel and Head of European Commission Team at Google
- **Michele Van den Heuvel**, Red Cross;

MEP Philippe de Backer hosted the second session of the European Health Parliament (EHP) debate, an initiative which gathers more than 80 young people under 35 years of age of all backgrounds, from all over Europe.

The 80 young Health Parliamentarians divided in seven subgroups each had a short presentation showcasing what they did so far and receiving input from the other groups. The aim, in this phase, was to have a first draft of a high-level paper that the participants are co-authored. The bright minds were then divided in break-out sessions to brainstorm and include in their works what they learned during the day.

The session was kick-started by the panel debate “What are the future opportunities for better European healthcare?”. The programme continued with a networking lunch with the guests speakers, MEPs’ assistants and ENVI Committee secretariat policy officers, as well as the Health Parliamentarians to give them the chance to share their experiences and exchange ideas on how to create a better healthcare system in Europe.

Group picture with all speakers and EHP 2015 Members



Video: <http://bit.ly/1PYyA87> More pictures: <http://bit.ly/1XqiswH>



MEP Philippe de Backer stressed the importance of having 100 young bright minds as part of the project, exchanging and flowing new ideas and thinking outside of the box in order to make a change and improve healthcare in Europe. **MEP Miriam Dalli** thinks that young people will bring a totally new vision to the many issues they discuss and come with completely different solutions than the most traditional ones.

“The most exciting part for me is a whole room of young people who are going to put their brains together and come up with new ideas how to deliver healthcare and that’s what we really need right now with an ageing population and increasing healthcare costs.”, said **Jane Griffiths**. One of the interviewed participants, **Raquel Bello**, said she is very excited to propose new ideas that the European policy makers will take into account. She is very enthusiastic about it, and also considers it is a big responsibility.

The initiative is led by Janssen with the support of the College of Europe, Google, EU40 and Politico. The dedicated website with news, articles, participants’ profiles is available at: www.healthparliament.eu

POLITICO’s report is available here: <http://politi.co/1Owo43G>



Participants of the Health Parliament, second session



Enthusiastic participants of the Health Parliament, second session

The Energy Outlook: Where are we heading?

on 3rd of March 2015

EU40 organised an Energy bagel breakfast debate on March 3rd on “The Energy Outlook: Where are we heading? *An insight into what the changing costs of energy mean for the EU in 2015 and Global energy trends over the next 20 years*”. This was the first debate of the EU40 series of energy bagel breakfasts, in collaboration with our partner, BP.

The discussion explored long-term energy trends and projections for world energy markets until 2035 and how the changing landscape will impact the global energy mix and the EU energy policy.

The debate kicked-off by looking at the current scenario in 2015, which is synonymous of a very large decrease of the oil prices on the international markets. Some of the debated aspects were: main drivers for change, how long is this going to last and what is the impact on consuming countries.

Powerful insights arose by looking at how the fluctuating oil and gas prices will impact EU energy policy, in particular the 2030 Climate and Energy Framework, and the transition to the Energy Union, and how energy patterns will look like in 20 years from now.

The workshop was hosted by **MEP Anneleen Van Bossuyt**, Substitute of the ITRE Committee who led an informal discussion together with **Mr. Emmanuel Haton**, Director European Government Affairs at BP.



Emmanuel Haton (mid-left)
and MEP Anneleen Van
Bossuyt (mid-right)



View of the fully-packed venue

More pictures from the workshop are available here: <http://bit.ly/1XqksVF>



Collaboration with MEP Awards 2015

on 18th of March 2015

EU40 once again supported the MEP Awards and thereby endorsed the MEPs who achieved great results in their respective policy areas. We fully supported the EU40 MEPs who were nominated as top three candidates to receive the Award and we lobbied for them to be voted by the other Members of our network. It is the main goal of EU40 to strengthen the visibility of its Members and ensure they are known in the Parliament for their outstanding performance in the policy areas they deal with. This year, a record of 16 EU40 MEPs were shortlisted, covering 12 categories out of the total of 17. In 2015, 7 EU40 MEPs won the awards.

Adam Mouchtar, our Managing Director, introduced the Best Newcomer category and handed the prize to the winning MEP Eva Paunova.



EU40 MEPs nominated for the MEPs Awards 2015

Nominees:

Philippe De Backer, ALDE, Belgium – Research and Innovation
Christofer Fjellner, EPP, Sweden – Trade and Internal Market
Victor Negrescu, S&D, Romania – Digital Agenda
Eva Paunova, EPP, Bulgaria – Best Newcomer MEP
Marietje Schaake, ALDE, the Netherlands – Digital Agenda
Jan Huitema, ALDE, the Netherlands – Agriculture
Hugues Bayet, S&D, Belgium – Best Newcomer MEP
Miriam Dalli, S&D, Malta – Best Newcomer MEP
Urmas Paet, ALDE, Estonia – Best Newcomer MEP
Ilhan Kyuchyuk, ALDE, Bulgaria – Corporate Governance
Pablo Zalba Bidegain, EPP, Spain – Economic and Monetary Affairs
Martina Dlabajová, ALDE, Czech Republic – Employment and Social Affairs
Miroslav Poche, S&D, Czech Republic – Energy
Simona Bonafè, S&D, Italy – Environment
Daciana Sârbu, S&D, Romania – Health
Roberta Metsola, EPP, Malta – Justice and Civil Liberties

Winners:

Christofer Fjellner, EPP, Sweden – Trade and Internal Market
Victor Negrescu, S&D, Romania – Digital Agenda
Eva Paunova, EPP, Bulgaria – Best Newcomer MEP
Jan Huitema, ALDE, the Netherlands – Agriculture
Pablo Zalba Bidegain, EPP, Spain – Economic and Monetary Affairs
Martina Dlabajová, ALDE, Czech Republic – Employment and Social Affairs
Roberta Metsola, EPP, Malta – Justice and Civil Liberties



MEP Awards 2015 winners on stage

More pictures available at: <http://bit.ly/1Hmt6Tj>



Strengthen your election results. Facebook's role within political communication

on 15th of April 2015

The aim of the debate was to generate an interactive discussion on how to use social media as a tool for better connecting and interacting with citizens from local constituencies. The discussion came at a good time before elections in the UK and Poland and panelists shared insights from their own experience of using social media in successful election campaigns.

Katie Harbath, Head of Politics & Government Outreach Team at Facebook provided the attendees with powerful ideas into how to use social media as a tool for achieving better election results. Ms. Harbath has her background in political campaigning, having worked with politicians, political campaigns, and government offices in the United States, India, Australia, Canada, Brazil and Argentina, amongst others, including Republican Senatorial Committee and the Rudy Giuliani for President campaign.

The debate was co-hosted by: **MEP Siegfried Mureşan, MEP Eva Kaili, MEP Daniel Dalton and MEP Kaja Kallas.**

The attendees appreciated the intimate and informal setting encouraging all the participants to contribute, share their opinions and learn from each others' experiences and stories.

For Dutch speakers, an article on the website of MEP Van Bossuyt is available here: <http://bit.ly/1O6A4IL>

*From left to right:
MEP Anneleen Van Bossuyt,
Katie Harbath, Erika Mann,
MEP Kaja Kallas, MEP
Siegfried Muresan, MEP Eva
Kaili, MEP Daniel Dalton*



View of the fully-packed venue

More pictures : <http://bit.ly/1MCJ0rz>



An efficient Energy Union

on 21st of April 2015

This was the 2nd debate of the EU40 series of energy bagel breakfasts at the European Parliament, hosted by **MEP Jeppe Kofod**.

The debate kicked-off by analysing the necessity and benefits of having an European Energy Union and what is the estimated impact on energy prices and consumers. Some of the debated aspects were represented by energy security and energy efficiency.

The debate was aimed at generating a dynamic discussion, emphasising the importance of attracting investment flows to the EU, thereby creating jobs and growth. **MEP Jeppe Kofod**, Member of the ITRE Committee, led an informal discussion together with **Mr. Anders Marvik**, Vice President and Head of the Statoil EU political Affairs Office. **MEPs Claude Turmes, Miapetra Kumpula-Natri, Jo Linen and Cornelia Ernst** attended the debate, as well.



From left to right: MEP Jeppe Kofod and Anders Marvik



Attendees enjoying the bagel breakfast debate

More pictures: <http://bit.ly/1HpbKFf>



European Health Parliament – 3rd plenary session

on 24th of April 2015

The third session of the European Health Parliament (EHP) debate took place on April 24th, at Google's offices. During the session, the seven subgroups of the European Health Parliament shared their draft papers with each other. Each of the seven committees invited guests speakers to accompany them along the journey. The EHP is initiated by Janssen with the support of the College of Europe, Google, EU40 and Politico. The dedicated website is available at: www.healthparliament.eu

Since its launch in November 2014, the EHP has consolidated the critical voice of future EU healthcare experts by giving them space to address real world policy concerns – from issues related to chronic disease, patient empowerment, therapeutic innovation, cross-border health threats, as well as the economic and technological dimensions of health. The debate featured a high number of speakers from the health sector, working for the European Institutions and important industry stakeholders.

Speaking of the initiative, EHP Chair & President, **Magdalena Kalata** from Poland, said: "EHP's motto - *Occupy Health Street* - is a direct challenge to established thinking. Increasingly, we are seeing that the EU can make significant achievements for our generation by combining forces. This doesn't mean replacing national healthcare systems, but strengthening them rather." Media coverage of the third session include articles on the **European Pharmaceutical Review**, **POLITICO** and **EurActiv**.



From left to right: Marc Lange, Dee O'Sullivan, MEP Eva Kaili and Peter O'Donnell



Group picture: Members of the Big Data Committee (EHP) and guest speakers

Video: <http://bit.ly/1XvksDT> More pictures: <http://bit.ly/1Ok16kG>



Session 1: Big Data

- **MEP Eva Kaili** (S&D, Greece)
- **Tapani Piha**, Head of Unit of e-Health and Health Technology Assessment, DG SANTE
- **Licínio Kustra Mano**, Head of International Projects, Portuguese Ministry of Health Shared Services
- **Brieuc Van Damme**, Deputy Head of Cabinet of the Belgian Health Minister Maggie de Block

Session 2: E/m Health

- **MEP Eva Kaili** (S&D, Greece)
- **Marc Lange**, EHTEL
- **Tapani Piha**, Head of Unit of e-Health and Health Technology Assessment, DG SANTE

Session 3: Patient Centricity

- **Pascal Nohl-Deryk**, European medical students organisation
- **Jim Phillips**, Associate editor for the international journal Self Care
- **Donna Walsh**, Executive Director of the European Federation of Neurological Associations [EFNA]

Session 4: Prevention of Chronic Diseases

- **Sofia Ribeiro**, Technical Officer at the WHO Office at the EU
- **Aleksandra Kaczmarek**, Senior Policy Officer at Eurocare

Session 5: Access to Medicines

- **Olga Salomon**, Deputy Head of Unit, European Medicines Agency, DG SANTE
- **Artur Carvalho**, Policy Officer in the Healthcare System Unit, DG SANTE, European Commission
- **Irene Norstedt**, Acting Executive Director, IMI

Session 6: the Economic Dimension of Healthcare

- **Yves Verboven**, Director Market Access & Economic Policies at MedTech Europe
- **Dirk Van Den Steen** - health economist, DG SANTE

Session 7: Cross Border Healthcare Threats

- **Ben Duncan**, Senior Policy Expert, European Centre for Disease Control (ECDC)
- **Dr. Wouter Arrazola De Oñate**, Medical Director Belgian Lung and Tuberculosis Association
- **Helle Aagaard**, EU Policy Officer, Access Campaign, Medecins sans Frontières (MSF)



Emerging Trends in the Evolution of mHealth

on 6th of May 2015

This debate organised in partnership with Cambre Associates, aimed at exploring the future of mHealth services and exchange views on the potential of mobile technology to meet challenges in the health area, in particular investigating emerging trends. Some key questions were answered during the debate, for example: are prescription mobile applications the future? If so, how should such applications be regulated? What would be the benefits and the limitations linked to such apps? What are other innovative trends linked to mHealth that we can expect in the coming years?

The debate was hosted by **MEP Philippe De Backer**. The other speakers on the panel were: **Peteris Zilgalvis**, Head of Unit for eHealth and Wellbeing, DG Connect, EC; **Sophie Crousse**, VP European Public Affairs, GSK Consumer Healthcare Europe; **Max Müller**, Chief Strategy Officer, DocMorris; **Dee O'Sullivan**, Managing Director, myhealthapps.net and **John Higgins**, Director General, DigitalEurope. The debate was moderated by **Dave Keating**, Journalist, POLITICO.

“The interesting thing about the whole mobile applications sphere is that it is such a broad ecosystem of different actors who don't talk to each other – telecoms people and clinicians, mobile devices manufacturers and patients and everybody needs to be involved in the process.”, stressed **Dee O'Sullivan**. **MEP Philippe de Backer** said that “We need to put in place at European level a framework that makes sure people trust this kind of apps”.



From left to right: Dave Keating, Sophie Crousse, Peteris Zilgalvis, MEP Philippe de Backer, Max Müller



View of the fully-packed venue

Video: <https://youtu.be/dZWqYyAkIPY> Pictures: <http://bit.ly/1IRCfng>



Alliance for YOUTh Workshops

on 7th of May 2015

The Alliance for YOUTh is an initiative conducted by Nestle', together with 200 companies, aimed at creating more than 100 000 jobs and apprenticeships in Europe in 3 years. One year after the signing of the pledge, the YOUTh workshop took place at the European Parliament to assess the results. 50 young people including "Alliance for YOUTh" apprentices and trainees, EP policy officers and youth representatives participated in the workshop. The young people discussed their expectations on youth employment and the difficulties they met when entering the job market and made recommendations on how policy-makers and business can further boost youth employability.

MEP Javi Lopez gave an introductory speech and the results of a survey conducted at European level, consulting youngsters' feed-back with respect to the creation of 100 000 jobs, were presented. The young people took part then in three break-out sessions, in order to discuss further on the results of the survey. A spokesperson delegated for each of the three groups presented the outcomes of the discussions in a plenary room gathering all the participants. **MEP Martina Dlabajová** made the closing remarks.



Youngsters debating the conclusions of the survey conducted at European level



Group picture with all the young participants

More pictures: <http://bit.ly/1INPnQa>



Exclusive meeting between Anthony L. Gardner, the US Ambassador to the EU and EU40 MEPs

on 20th of May 2015

The ties between the US and the EU have been increasingly strained. EU40 is content it can do a small step towards mending the ties between these two transatlantic partners. We are proud **we welcomed 24 EU40 MEPs** to the meeting with **Anthony L. Gardner**, the US Ambassador to the EU, at the European Parliament in Strasbourg, at the initiative of **MEP Victor Negrescu**. MEPs gathered around the Ambassador over a cup of coffee and discussed on different topics related to their interests, from digital agenda to visas, TTIP, economy and the climate.



From left to right: MEP Victor Negrescu and Anthony Gardner



Group picture of Anthony Gardner and EU40 MEPs

More pictures: <http://bit.ly/1ThtZxN>



The EU in 2025. Updating the widening vs. deepening debate

on 26th of May 2015

When President Juncker stated there should be no enlargement for the next five years, he seemingly pressed pause on the 'widening vs. deepening' debate. But as the EU faces rising external security threats and internal pressures, its future cannot be static.

Some of the key aspects discussed were: What will EU membership look like ten years from now? Will the trend towards a multi-speed Europe continue? Will the EU have any new powers and if so, in what areas? Will there be new members? Who could plausibly be included by 2025?

The event was co-hosted by: **MEP Victor Negrescu**, **MEP Brando Benifei** and **MEP Urmas Paet** (former Estonian Foreign Minister) and it was organised in partnership with Cambre Associates and Lansons. Special guest speakers on the panel were: **Mr. Štefan Füle**, former European Commissioner for Enlargement and Neighbourhood Policy 2010-2014; **Christophe Hillion**, Professor of European Law, Leiden University; **Danuta Hübner**, Former European Commissioner for Regional Policy, MEP (EPP) Chair of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs; **Fraser Cameron**, Director of EU-Russia Centre and **Emran Mian**, Social Market Foundation and former senior civil servant.



Group picture of panelists and high-ranking guests



The event took place in a fully packed committee room

More pictures: <http://bit.ly/1NfSvi0>



Alliance for YOUTh high-level debate

on 2nd of June 2015

Commissioner Marianne Thyssen, I. Kalvane, representing the Latvian Presidency, together with **14 MEPs** participated as guest speakers. **CEOs of leading companies involved in the Alliance for YOUTh initiative** were part of the panel debate, too, together with young beneficiaries of the newly created jobs, traineeships and apprenticeships, as well as industry stakeholders. The debate was broadcasted, simultaneously to several other events being organised across Europe under the Alliance umbrella.

The one hour debate was organised like a TV show with short and snappy interventions no longer than 1 minute and it aimed at assessing the initiative's results one year after the launch of the pledge to create 100 000 job and traineeship opportunities across Europe in three years. **Nestle' Vice President, Luis Cantarell, also participated as a speaker.** The debate was preceded by a **press conference** of 30 minutes at the European Parliament together with Commissioner Thyssen and **MEP Eva Paunova**, the Ambassador of the Alliance for Youth.

The streaming of the debate is available at the following link:

<https://alliance4youth.livecasts.eu/youth-debate>

A podcast with interviews following the debate is available here: <https://goo.gl/dKFjll>

The initiative was supported by the European Commission and the EPP Group of the European Parliament and had extensive media coverage.



Group picture with all the participants



From left to right: Luis Cantarell, EU Commissioner Marianne Thyssen, MEP Eva Paunova



MEPs participating in the conversation (panelists' view)

Media coverage: <http://bit.ly/1Ut89YE>



European Health Parliament closing plenary session

on 16th of June 2015

The high-level policy paper was introduced, which was written by more than 80 young people from 20 countries, proposing recommendations on how to improve Europe's healthcare system. The closing session consisted of seven short panels, matching the chairs of the seven subcommittees of the EHP project with MEPs. **Nine MEPs** participated on the panel on this occasion: **Philippe De Backer, Margrete Auken, Cristian Busoi, Charles Goerens, Karin Kadenbach, Eva Kaili, Katerina Konecna, Giovanni La Via** and **Victor Negrescu**.

The young "health MEPs" worked and brainstormed in seven committees around specific topics ranging from big data to prevention of chronic diseases, access to therapeutic innovation, cross-border health threats, electronic/mobile health, the economic dimension of healthcare and patient empowerment. Each committee delivered a high-level policy publication at the end of the program. The initiative is run by Janssen and supported by the College of Europe, Google, EU40 and Politico.

MEP Philippe de Backer, who has been championing the EHP since its beginnings, made clear: "Politicians need to listen up. The European Health Parliament members are among the professionals who will be driving and delivering our healthcare in the future. A design for life should be a right for all, not a privilege for the few. The ball is on our court now, in order to ensure this vision is realised."

You may find here more information on the young participants' **bold recommendations**:

<http://www.healthparliament.eu/recommendations>.

Media coverage related to the event:

<http://bit.ly/1IZGyrj>



Group picture of MEP Giovanni La Via and Prevention of Chronic Diseases Committee



The Library of the European Parliament was fully-packed.

More pictures are available here: <http://bit.ly/1AtGmF>



Energy perspectives

on 17th of June 2015

This was the 4th debate of the EU40 series of bagel energy breakfasts at the European Parliament. This edition was hosted by **MEP Miriam Dalli** and **Mr. Eirik Wærness**, Chief Economist, Statoil. The debate provided the audience with an analytical description of various possible development projections for the world economy, international energy markets and energy-related greenhouse gas emissions.

An analytical description of various possible development projections for the world economy, international energy markets and energy-related greenhouse gas emissions was given. The debate generated a dynamic discussion by analysing the changing energy supply and demand, as well by drafting three different long-term scenarios for 2040.



MEP Miriam Dalli (mid-left) and Eirik Wærness (mid-right)



View of the fully-packed venue



Philippe de Backer handed the EHP book to Maggie de Block on 17th of June 2015

On June 17th, a delegation of the European Health Parliament represented by **Magda Kalata**, **Diana Kanecka** and **Yasemin Sener** took part in the meeting organised at the initiative of **MEP Philippe De Backer** with **Maggie De Block**, Belgian Minister for Social Affairs and Health.

Ms. de Block was happy to receive the paper and said the Ministry is working on files focused on patient centricity and big data and she will try to include some of the recommendations into their work.



MEP Philippe De Backer handing the EHP book to Maggie De Block



From left to right: Yasemin Sener, MEP Philippe De Backer, Maggie De Block, Magda Kalata and Diana Kanecka



#LikeYou, a project in 3 phases. Phase 1: supersized photo booth between 23rd – 25th of June

EU40 contributed to the Inside Out Project realised by the famous photographer JR, whose vision is to transform a large scale participatory project with messages of personal identity into collective art.

MEPs #LikeYou is a meeting between politicians and citizens. Portraits of both were mixed to close an imagined gap, exemplifying that we all look the same and are indistinguishable. A supersized photo booth was placed on the Esplanade, in front of the European Parliament in Brussels, between June 23rd and 25th for the 1st phase of the project. More than **100 MEPs** came to the booth to have their picture taken during the three days.

The second part took place during the parliamentary summer break; there was a **gamification of the mixed portraits of MEPs and EU citizens**. The challenge was to guess who is the MEP and who is not, when put together 2 by 2, in black and white. For the 3rd and final stage of the project, the portraits were printed as large posters and exhibited on the Esplanade, covering more than 130 m2, between the 14th and 18th of September 2015.

Flick through the dedicated website: <http://likeyou.eu40.eu>



MEP Matthias Groote shooting a video and preparing to have his portrait picture taken



#LikeYou giant photo booth on the Esplanade of the European Parliament

Video available here: <https://youtu.be/bERT93oEg4w>



Chances of mHealth in a digitalised Europe

on 30th of June 2015

On the occasion of the launch of a new pharmacist tool, EU40 organised a mHealth debate, hosted by **MEP Victor Negrescu**. The following panelists analysed the opportunities and pitfalls of the digital pharmacy: DocMorris' Chief Strategy Officer (CSO), **Max Müller**, International Diabetes Federation's Chief Executive Officer, **Dr. Petra Wilson** and Policy officer, Unit H1 – Health and wellbeing, DG CONNECT, **Terje Peetso**.

The debate provided the audience with powerful insights with respect to the transition from a pure pharmaceutical distributor to a digital healthcare consultant and personal well-being thanks to big data.

Moreover, the discussion analysed the digital product “Live Advisor” (life consultant, which is ideal for patients with asthma who would like to learn breathing exercises or diabetics, who have questions concerning the use of blood glucose meter and all pharmacy customers, who want to discuss in detail and vividly from home. **Jennifer Baker**, Senior Interviewer & Presenter, viEUws, moderated the debate.



From left to right: Jennifer Baker, MEP Victor Negrescu and Max Muller



The event took place in a fully packed venue



#LikeYou, a project in 3 phases. Phase 3: exhibition on the Esplanade of the European Parliament between 14th -18th of September 2015

Too often politicians don't succeed to convey their human side. Their constituents tend to refer to those originally elected by them as "those up there", thereby forgetting that they are their representatives. The #LikeYou project aims at revealing the human side. Politicians are not different than you. Therefore, we took photos of more than **100 Members of the European Parliament**, printed them in extra-large and stuck them on the Esplanade in front of the European Parliament building, along with over 100 citizens' pictures, as a huge mosaic of photos. People became indistinguishable and the pictures are all humours, with all participants making funny faces and thereby proving that they don't take themselves all too seriously, at least not all the time.

The exhibition of the photos was visible between Monday, September 14th and Friday noon, September 18th on the Esplanade, in front of the European Parliament. The opening was attended by many of the MEPs photographed and three EU40 Board Members **Daniel Dalton**, **Eva Paunova** and **Pablo Zalba Bidegain**. We created a dedicated website: <http://likeyou.eu40.eu> and the EurActiv video is available here: <http://www.eu40.eu/likeyou-exhibition-official-opening/> ANSA and Politico wrote about the project, too: <http://bit.ly/1TMMLN2>



MEP Eva Paunova with her portrait



MEP Daniel Dalton with his portrait



#LikeYou exhibition on the Esplanade of the European Parliament



What can data driven healthcare do for Europe?

on 15th of September 2015

The debate, organised together with Cambre Associates, was hosted by **MEP Claudiu-Ciprian Tanasescu**, Member of the ENVI Committee, and featured the following panelists:

- **Dr. Bernard Maillet**, Vice-Chair of the eHealth Working Group at the Standing Committee of European Doctors (CPME);
- **Dr. Beth Thompson**, Policy Adviser at the Wellcome Trust;
- **Cornelia Kutterer**, Director for Digital Policy EMEA at Microsoft;
- **Arthur Stril**, Chair of the Big Data Committee of the European Health Parliament 2014 – 2015

Amongst others, the following topics were debated:

- Will big data help take healthcare to the next level or will privacy & security concerns trouble the process?
- Does big data represent an opportunity or a threat to citizens' health (e.g. due to privacy issues, excessive reliance on IT, less human relationship with doctors)?
- Would they aggravate privacy issues or would they be the fundamental step to enable a continuum of care? What is the role of data-driven healthcare?
- Does the use of big health data have more potential / risks related to other types of data? How should the use of such data be regulated?
- Is there a way to centralise and collect big data related to health (e.g. EHRO)? What would the benefits and the weaknesses of this be?



From left to right: Beth Thompson, Bernard Maillet, MEP Claudiu-Ciprian Tanasescu, Cornelia Kutterer and Arthur Stril



View of the fully-packed venue

Video done by Cambre: <https://youtu.be/n0RCy0e4n3I>

Pictures: <http://bit.ly/1ILdbUZ>



Meeting with the Health Commissioner Andriukaitis

on 16th of September 2015

A small European Health Parliament (EHP) delegation had the pleasure to meet with the **Health Commissioner Andriukaitis** to introduce the recommendations comprised in the book launched in June at the European Parliament titled “7 recommendations on healthcare in Europe”: <http://bit.ly/1JXgH19>

We were happy to see that the Commissioner was particularly interested in topics related to health promotion, prevention, screening, vaccination, new mobile health applications and alcohol labeling/advertising. He gave us some food for thought for the next edition of the EHP 2016.



Health Commissioner Andriukaitis meeting EHP delegation



From left to right: Camelia Vasile, Veronica Zilli, Health Commissioner Andriukaitis, Yasemin Sener and Magda Kalata



Backstage with Europe's creators exhibition

between 22nd - 23rd of September 2015

MEP Victor Negrescu and EU40 hosted an exhibition in the European Parliament on September 22nd - 23rd titled "Backstage with Europe's creators." The exhibition was hosted on the 3rd floor, ASP building ("Vox Box"). For the official opening, **MEP Victor Negrescu** was joined by guest speaker **Matt Brittin**, **President, Google Europe**, and special guests including: **Eliot Higgins**, Citizen Investigative Journalist, **Tobias Moller**, Director at the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra, and many other European digital creators and innovators from 6 European countries.

The Backstage with Europe's Creators exhibition was an interactive and immersive experience highlighting Europe's newest generation of innovators and creators who are harnessing the power of the internet to reach new audiences. Attendees experienced and interacted with some of the latest tech innovations available to European creators, including 360° immersive videos.

We organised country tours / presentations at different moments during the two days, matching 6 MEPs with creators in different fields from the same country, which were joined by journalists. More than **35 MEPs visited the exhibition during the two days** and there was an impressive media coverage from **EuroNews**, **EurActiv**, **ANSA** (biggest Italian media agency), as well as lots of local media from various countries. Social media activity was impressive, too.



From left to right: Matt Brittin and MEP Victor Negrescu



Group picture with Matt Brittin, MEP Victor Negrescu and Europe's top YouTube creators

Media coverage: <http://bit.ly/1K4aqSn>

Video: <https://youtu.be/HmQ9iSisWak>



Young Parliament Members European Forum 2015

between September 29th – October 1st 2015

We brought together **50 young Members of national parliaments from 14 Member States** for a 'Young Parliament Members European Forum' at the European Parliament in Brussels between September 29th and October 1st 2015, in order to generate a stronger cooperation between the European and national parliaments, but also to tackle some of Europe's most urgent issues.

The 1st Young Parliament Members Forum, which encompassed the main political groups, was organised **under the high patronage of the European Parliament with the support and participation of Martin Schulz**. This year we decided to discuss the possibilities of the **European Investment Fund (EFSI) as a tool to increase innovation and technology and tackle youth unemployment on the European continent**.

The Members of national parliaments (MPs) worked together, in order to table a **resolution** built on three pillars: **youth unemployment, research and innovation and SMEs**. The MPs discussed and amended the text with great passion and met with high-ranking politicians who participated as guest speakers: **Martin Schulz**, President of the European Parliament and **Manfred Weber**, Chair of the EPP Group in the European Parliament, as well as **Margaritis Schinas**, European Commission's Chief Spokesperson and **Nick Jennett**, Director of the European Investment Bank (EIB).



From left to right: MEP Eva Paunova, MEP Philippe De Backer, MEP Victor Negrescu, EP President Martin Schulz and MEP Daniel Dalton



From left to right: MEP Eva Paunova, EPP Chair Manfred Weber and MEP Siegfried Muresan



Young Parliament Members European Forum 2015

between September 29th – October 1st 2015

EU40 Board Members, MEPs: **Victor Negrescu, Brando Benifei, Eva Paunova, Philippe De Backer and Daniel Dalton** participated in various sessions which took place during the three days of the Forum which concluded with a press conference, in which different ideas were shared. Also **MEPs Anneleen van Bossuyt and Siegfried Muresan** contributed as speakers on various panels.

What will happen after the Forum

We should ideally be able to meet regularly in different European cities; it is our objective to keep the network active and growing. The resolution adopted by the MPs participating will be pushed forward in other institutional settings in order to maximise its impact. We encouraged the MPs to share it with their media contacts back home and introduce elements of it in legislation pieces that will come on the tables of the national parliaments in the upcoming period. We believe we managed to succeed in the challenging endeavour to launch a network, which has the potential to write history and we are already looking forward to next year's edition.



Group picture with the MPs participating and EP President Martin Schulz

Media coverage: <http://bit.ly/1VNGcPJ>

All the pictures are available at the following link: <http://bit.ly/223QJa2>



70 Years of Division: The Role of the European Union for the Future of the Korean Peninsula

on 1st of October 2015

In partnership with the Institute for Far Eastern Studies of Kyungnam University, we organised a debate on “70 Years of Division: The Role of the European Union for the Future of the Korean Peninsula”, on the 1st of October, at the European Parliament.

The debate was co-hosted by **MEP Urmas Paet**, former Estonian Foreign Minister, and the **Ministry of Unification of the Republic of Korea**.

“I am astounded that after six decades neither side has even contemplated drawing up a peace treaty”, stated **MEP Nirj Deva**, Chair of the delegation for relations with the Korean Peninsula. As the largest donor to the region, the EU has a key role to play in advancing the agenda for Korean unification.



Group picture



View of the fully-packed Members Salon

More pictures: <http://bit.ly/1SWGjD7>



Collaboration with the Charlemagne Youth Prize 2015

between 14th - 15th of October 2015

For the 2nd consecutive year, EU40 organised for EU40 MEPS to be shadowed by the winners of the Charlemagne Youth Prize 2015, who were invited to Brussels as part of their prize.

This year, **7 MEPS** were involved in the initiative: **MEP Eider Gardiazabal Rubial**, **MEP Pablo Zalba Bidegain**, **MEP Miriam Dalli**, **MEP Roberta Metsola**, **MEP Tom Vandenkendelaere**, **MEP Anneleen Van Bossuyt** and **MEP Jonas Fernandez Alvarez**. They met with the winners of the young Karlspreis and gave them insights into what means on a daily basis being a Member of the European Parliament.



MEP Gardiazabal with the winners



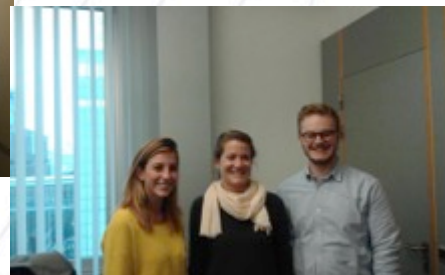
MEP Metsola with the winners



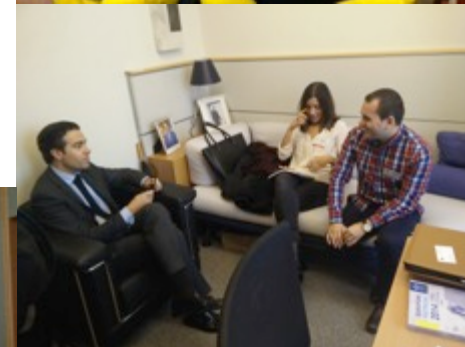
MEP Vandenkendelaere with the winners



MEP Dalli with the winners



MEP van Bossuyt with the winners



MEP Zalba with the winners



Group picture of MEP van Bossuyt with the Prize winners in the plenary of the European Parliament



Re-Occupy Health Street

on 17th of November 2015

Following the four plenary sessions of the European Health Parliament (EHP) debate, we organised a follow-up debate co-hosted by **MEP Giovanni La Via**, Chair of the ENVI Committee and **MEP Philippe de Backer**, Member of the ITRE Committee, on the 17th of November, at the Library of the European Parliament. The spokespersons of the EHP also participated on the panel.

The results of the four sessions of the EHP have been comprised in a published book with 7 recommendations on how to improve the European healthcare system. The book has been handed to top-level health officials, namely the **EU Health Commissioner**, Vytenis Andriukaitis and the Belgian Minister for Social Affairs and Health, **Maggie de Block**, who received it with great enthusiasm and provided feed-back and further food for thought. The President of the ENVI Committee, **MEP Giovanni la Via**, said that the recommendations of the health parliamentarians will be taken into account by himself and his colleagues in the ENVI Committee. He also released a video message for the participants: <http://bit.ly/1RTGu3S>

The boldest idea of the EHP 2015 edition is the **creation of EHRO (European Health Records Organisation)** gathering all the patients' data in electronic format that can be accessed throughout Europe. There is a related **Written Declaration**, which was launched by **MEP Victor Negrescu**, gathering signatures from supporting MEPs. The proposal was also well received by the European Commission.

Sam Proesmans, a young Doctor specialised in HIV/TB/Tropical diseases, EHP member and part of the “Flying Doctors” TV Show, was invited as guest speaker and held a TED style presentation.



From left to right: Diana Kanecka, MEP Philippe De Backer & Magda Kalata



Sam Proesmans (left) and MEP Philippe De Backer (right)

More pictures: <http://bit.ly/1QnWawF>



Energy scenarios for the future of road transport

on 18th of November 2015

On November 18th, we organised a bagels and smoothies lunch debate titled “Energy scenarios for the future of road Transport: an assessment of technological progress and economics for fuel and vehicles” that took place at the European Parliament, hosted by **MEP Miroslav Poche**, Member of the ITRE Committee.

The debate featured interventions from the following panelists: **Mr. Emmanuel Haton**, Director European Government Affairs for BP and **Mr. Jos Dings**, Director Transport and Environment. Electrification and reduction of CO2 emissions were discussed in connection with consumers’ behaviors, amongst other aspects.



From second person left to right: Emmanuel Haton, MEP Miroslav Poche and Jos Dings



View of the venue



Arctic business breakfast dialogue

on 18th of November 2015

Together with Statoil, we organised a debate titled “Arctic Business Breakfast Dialogue” on November 18th, at the European Parliament. The debate was organised as a side event of the Arctic Future Symposium and Senior Arctic Officials from different countries, who also participated in the symposium, attended the bagel breakfast. Norwegian Member of Parliament, Eirik Selnaes Sivertsen, also participated in the debate.

The debate was hosted by **MEP Eva Kaili**, Member of the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy (ITRE) and featured interventions by:

- **Tara Sweeney**, Executive Vice President of External Affairs for Arctic Slope Regional Corporation and Chair of Arctic Economic Council
- **Knut Harald Nygård**, Vice President, Northern Area Initiative, Statoil
- **Morten Karlsen**, Director of innovation, Statoil



From second person left to right: Morten Karlsen, Tara Sweeney, MP Eirik Selnaes Sivertsen, MEP Eva Kaili and Knut Harald



View of the venue



App challenge for societal change

on 2nd of December 2015

In collaboration with the European Disabilities Forum and the Application Developers Alliance, we organised an exciting bagel and smoothies breakfast debate about the positive impact of technology for people living with disabilities.

Hosted and moderated by **MEP Philippe De Backer**, the debate featured the following speakers:

- **Zoran Stančić**, Deputy Director-General, DG CONNECT, European Commission
- **Alejandro Moledo**, New Technologies & Innovation Officer, European Disabilities Forum
- **Olivier Jeannel**, CEO RogerVoice, an app enabling deaf people to make phone calls – *practical demo*
- **Catriona Meehan**, Apps Alliance EU Policy Director
- **Steve Tyler**, Head of Solutions, Strategy and Planning, RNIB Solutions (Royal National Institute of Blind People)
- **Maria Lavonen**, CEO Vivago, an app enabling elderly and disabled people to take care of their health from the comfort of their home – *practical demo*



From left to right: Steve Tyler, Alejandro Moledo, Olivier Jeannel, Adam Mouchtar, MEP Philippe De Backer, Catriona Meehan and Maria Lavonen



View of the fully-packed venue

Media coverage: <http://bit.ly/1OkaWhR>



App challenge for societal change

on 2nd of December 2015

Zoran Stančić, Deputy Director-General, DG CONNECT, European Commission, said: "I was happy to see that the debate did not only address people with disabilities, but also the societal change that can help the integration and participation of all people at risk of exclusion."

MEP Philippe de Backer, the host of the debate, stressed that "The inclusion of persons with disabilities should be high on the political agenda."

"When accessible, mobile devices and apps are recognised as an enabling factor for persons with disabilities to live independently and participate in all aspects of life", stated **Alejandro Moledo**, New Technologies & Innovation Officer, European Disability Forum.

Olivier Jeannel, CEO RogerVoice thinks that "The use case for accessibility goes beyond niche segments. The democratisation of technology means everyone can now contribute."

"It is key for the future of the EU that we focus on solutions helping the lives of elderly people and people with disabilities. EU40's interactive workshop is greatly needed to bring this issue up.", said **Maria Lavonen** CEO of Vivago Ltd.

Steve Tyler, Head of Solutions, Strategy and Planning, RNIB Solutions (Royal National Institute of Blind People) shared his authentic experience with the audience and declared that "what we want is access to what everyone has and everybody is taking for granted. For the future, I just want to be able to use the washing machine like everybody else."



CEO Olivier Jeannel presenting RogerVoice app



US Presidential style debate on Digital Platforms

on 8th of December 2015

We organised a US Presidential style debate on Digital Platforms on 8th of December, at the Microsoft Innovation Center, co-hosted by **MEP Victor Negrescu** and **MEP Antanas Guoga** and moderated by **Jennifer Baker**, viEUws and No. 1 Brussels Geek. We welcomed 100 attendees on this occasion.

The debate on Digital Platforms was aimed at exploring how far European legislators may go, in order to adjust the playing field between the US and Europe. How far is Europe lagging behind and is it still possible to catch up?

The debate featured the following speakers:

- **Stefan Krawczyk**, Head Government Relations International, eBay
- **Vianney Hennes**, Director European Public Affairs, Orange
- **Nick Russel**, UK Representation to the EU, Digital Single Market for Europe
- **Robert Atkinson**, CEO of Information Technology and Innovation Foundation
- **Cornelia Kutterer**, Director for Digital Policy EMEA, Microsoft
- **Pascal Rogard**, Digital and Telecom Counselor, Permanent Representation of France to the EU
- **Luukas Kristjan Ilves**, Counsellor for Digital Affairs, Permanent Representation of Estonia to the EU
- **Dr. Gunther Grathwohl**, Telecommunications and Information Society, Permanent Representation of the Federal Republic of Germany to the EU
- **Thierry Pénard**, Professor of Economics at University of Rennes, author of a white paper on the use of platforms

The debate was live streamed via **Periscope**.



From left to right: MEP Victor Negrescu, Luukas Kristjan Ilves, Jennifer Baker, Cornelia Kutterer and Nick Russel



US Presidential style debate on Digital Platforms

on 8th of December 2015

"We need to involve citizens into the policy-making process, said **MEP Victor Negrescu**, Substitute of the JURI Committee; he continued by stressing that "A job created in the IT field creates other three jobs, SMEs grow two times faster if they use digital tools."

MEP Antanas Guoga, Member of IMCO Committee, stated: "The less regulation, the more Innovation. That's a no-brainer." "We have to talk about companies that change business models and break barriers like Uber", he suggested.

Robert Atkinson, CEO Information Technology and Innovation Foundation, said that "In comparison to Europe, the US is more used to a network based economy." He also believes that satisfaction with platforms is likely, because "network's feedback is powerful. There's no trust problem. Consumers benefit from platforms and have sufficient powers of redress for a bad experience.", he continued.

"The era of Internet of Things and Big Data will empower businesses, but also help tackle a range of social issues", considered **Cornelia Kutterer**, Director for Digital Policy EMEA, Microsoft.

Vianney Hennes, Director Public Affairs & Regulatory, Orange, thought of three words when defining online platforms: digital, bundled, services. "Better to focus on same services, same rules no matter if platform or not", he suggested.

Nick Russel, Digital Single Market for Europe, UKREP considered that things that are new are not bad...need to approach regulation through embracing opportunities. "Defining platforms should not be the aim - focus should be on market failures", he continued.

"Sectoral regulation and competition law will be enough for platforms", said **Pascal Rogard** from the French Perm. Rep.



From left to right: Pascal Rogard, Vianney Hennes, Jennifer Baker, MEP Antanas Guoga and Robert Atkinson



European Health Parliament 2016 kick-off

on 9th of December 2015



Packed room with the health parliamentarians for the kick-off session

On December 9th, the kick-off session of the European Health Parliament 2016 edition took place from 9:00 to 12:00 at the European Parliament, hosted by **MEP Philippe De Backer**, Champion of the project. The second part of the kick-off session took place at the Google offices.

Moderated by **Peter O'Donnell**, POLITICO, the debate featured a controversial and a more traditional speaker; both held TED style presentations:

- **Kris Verburgh**, bookwriter, scientist & creator of nutrigerontology – “The Science of Healthy Ageing: Can we live forever?”
- **Walter Van Dyck**, professor of strategic innovation and R&D management at Vlerick University – “Innovation in Healthcare: Brain teasers”

MEP Philippe de Backer said: “It is our job to put young people together and give the participants the right incentives and framework to think. Afterwards they can come up with recommendations that have the greatest impact on the discussions that we are having in the European institutions. It's up to us to change the world and together we can do it.”

Kris Verburgh stated: “An inspiring event and important initiative to improve health care across Europe. Gathering young bright minds to address new challenges in healthcare in an innovative and open-minded way is what we need to create breakthroughs in healthcare and change things for the better.”

Video: <https://youtu.be/wqjyEG4YBYc>

Pictures: <http://bit.ly/1NugdwU>



European Health Parliament 2016 kick-off on the 9th of December 2015

After having their group picture taken, the young bright minds went to Google's offices for the second part of the day. Inspired by the motto "Occupy Health Street", these brilliant minds will work together for six months, until June 2016, in five committees ranging from *Digital skills for the medical profession*, *Prevention & self-care*, *Anti-microbial resistance to Climate change & healthcare*, *Migration and health challenges*.

In the upcoming months, they will be working on finding bold proposals for a healthier Europe. Their work will be concluded in one paper per each of the sub-Committees and presented in June 2016, at the European Parliament, in front of an audience consisting of a broad range of policy makers and stakeholders.



Digital skills for the medical profession committee



Anti-microbial resistance committee



Stats EU40 website (2015)

- **Total page views:** 87 751 (240/day on average);
- **Unique page views:** 67 702 (185/day on average);
- **Average time on page:** 1'08";
- **Most visited debate / event: #LikeYou:**
22 542 views (Battle for your vote has had 9690 views!);
- **Most visited website category:** MEPs category: 3 210 views;
- **TV/video section:** 463 views;
- **Partners section:** 519 views

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