

You are cordially invited to the following event by the European Union Academic Programme HK:

## EU+ Series

### Seminar "Act. React. Impact - The European Parliament Elections"



**EU+ SERIES**  
**EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT ELECTIONS 2014**  
**ACT. REACT. IMPACT.**

In 25 May 2014, 400 million voters will elect 751 representatives for the new European Parliament (EP). The elections have been taking place every five years since 1979, paradoxically with diminishing voter turnouts but ever-increasing powers for the parliament.

**DISCUSSANTS:**  
**Vincent Piket**  
Head  
European Union Office to Hong Kong and Macao  
**Juan Manuel Lopez-Nadal**  
Consul General of Spain  
**Prof. Roger Vickerman**  
Dean for Europe  
University of Kent / Brussels  
**Kathleen Ferrier**  
Former Member of Parliament  
Den Haag / The Netherlands

**MODERATOR:**  
**Prof. H. Werner Hess**  
Deputy Director  
European Union Academic Programme Hong Kong

Join the Roundtable Discussion with diplomats from EU member states and academics from both the EU and HK about the future course of Europe beyond 2014!

REGISTRATION VIA E-MAIL  
7 APR 2014 (MON) 4 – 8:30pm  
WLB204, DE Wing Lung Bank Building  
Shaw Campus, Hong Kong Baptist University  
Kowloon Tong

euaphk@hkbu.edu.hk  
(852) 3411-6598  
euape.hkbu.edu.hk/euap  
facebook.com/HKEUAP

   This project is co-funded by the European Union

Date: 7 April 2014 (MON)

Time: 4:00pm – 5:30pm

Venue: WLB204, Wing Lung Bank Building, Shaw Campus, Hong Kong Baptist University, Kowloon Tong ([MAP](#))

#### Discussants:

- Vincent Piket, Head of Office of the European Union to Hong Kong and Macao
- Juan Manuel Lopez-Nadal, Consul General of Spain
- Prof. Roger Vickerman, Dean of Europe, University of Kent / Brussels
- Kathleen Ferrier, former Member of Parliament, Den Haag / The Netherlands

#### Moderator:

- Prof. H. Werner Hess, EUAP Deputy Director

Language: English

Please register at [euaphk@hkbu.edu.hk](mailto:euaphk@hkbu.edu.hk)

On 25 May 2014, 400 million voters will elect 751 representatives for the new European Parliament (EP). The elections have been taking place every five years since 1979, paradoxically with diminishing voter turnouts but ever-increasing powers for the parliament.

The EP is the only EU institution with directly elected members, thereby reflecting fairly accurately the 'people's will' across the entire Union. Since the 1980s, the Parliament's role has changed from a mere consultative body to a major decision maker in European affairs. The Lisbon Treaty of 2009 now also gives it the right to choose the candidate for Europe's top executive position – the next President of the European Commission. It is expected that he/she will emerge from among a small group of leaders of the main political groupings in the EP, among them Martin Schulz (current EP president) for the Socialists & Democrats, Jean-Claude Juncker (former prime minister of Luxembourg and president of the eurogroup of finance ministers) for the more conservative European People's Party, or Guy Verhofstadt (former Belgian prime minister) for the liberal ALDE group. At the same time, however, opinion polls indicate that the number of parliamentary seats for 'eurosceptics' and outright opponents of further EU integration will also increase.

Join a roundtable discussion with diplomats from EU member states and academics from both the EU and HK about the future course of Europe beyond 2014.



This project is co-funded  
by the European Union