HEARING

Method for citizens' direct participation in EU Member States - model for a more democratic Europe

A European Union of, by and for the citizens
How can Europe provide better possibilities for the participation of its citizens?

18 September 2012, from 9.00 am to 12.30 pm and from 14.00 pm to 17.00 pm

Brussels – Room: Altiero Spinelli A1G 3

*** Draft Programme ***

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Speaker(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9.00 – 9.30</td>
<td>Opening words</td>
<td>Carlo CASINI, Chair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Gerald HÄFNER, Organizer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.30 – 11.00</td>
<td>PANEL 1: Participative democracy</td>
<td>Prof. Dr. Christian Joerges (t.b.c.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>concepts, conditions and challenges for the European Union</td>
<td>Univ. Bremen – EU Citizenship and Political Participation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Bruno Kaufmann</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>President, Initiative and Referendum Institute Europe (IRIE) and Chairman of Election Commission in Falun (SV): Popular votes on Europe – From the European Citizens Initiative to a supportive infrastructure for citizen participation across Europe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Exchange of views</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

04.9.2012
11.00 – 12.30  PANEL 2: Direct democracy in Europe

**Prof. Dr. Theo Schiller**, Univ. Marburg (D): direct Democracy in Europe: conditions, chances and challenges

**Prof. Dr. Gebhard Kirchgässner**, Universität St. Gallen (CH): Popular votes on financial issues? Experiences with and empirical findings on the impact of direct democracy on fiscal policy and public spending

Exchange of views

12.30 - 14.00  Pause

---

**Afternoon**

14.00 – 16.30  PANEL 3: Participatory, deliberative and direct democracy – Proposals for the EU level.

What can the EU learn from instruments and experiences in the Member States?

- **Prof. Dr. Ulrike Liebert**, University of Bremen: *European Economic and Social Constitutionalism and the quest for Democracy after the Treaty of Lisbon.*

- **Dr. Andreas Gross**, Council of Europe, Saint Ursanne (CH): Governing with the people – The impact of Direct Democracy on the level of information, discourse, engagement, acceptance, integration, identification

- **Dr. Nadja Braun-Binder**, Hochschule für Verwaltungswissenschaft, Speyer: *Popular initiatives and referenda in Europe - a best practice model*

Exchange of views

16.30 - 17.00  Closing words