



*European Federation of Public Service Unions (EPSU)*

**INVITE press launch 6 November 2013**

**What's in a Promise? Assessing if the Commission has tackled corporate dominance in its Expert Groups**

(Brussels 5 November 2013) The European Federation of Public Service Unions (EPSU) member of ALTER –EU kindly invites you to a:

**PRESS CONFERENCE/DEBATE 6 November 2013:** What's in a Promise? Assessing if the Commission has tackled corporate dominance in its Expert Groups

*Should tax dodgers be given privileged access to advise on **tax havens**, telecoms giants on **data privacy** or big business on the **eurocrisis**?*

The Alliance for Lobbying Transparency and Ethics Regulation (ALTER-EU), AK EUROPA – the Brussels office of the Austrian Federal Chamber of Labour (Arbeiterkammer), and the Austrian Trade Union Confederation (ÖGB) invite you to a **press conference** for the launch of their new report which conclusively answers if the **European Commission has kept its promise to MEPs** – made in September 2012 – that it would tackle **corporate capture** in its advisory groups, aka **Expert Groups**.

**Date:** Wednesday 6 November; 13:30 for light lunch, 14:00 for speakers

**Place:** Salon Room, International Press Centre, Résidence Palace (Rue de la Loi 155C)

**Speakers:**

- Pascoe Sabido (ALTER-EU)
- Dennis De Jong, Dutch MEP (GUE/NGL)
- Nadja Salson (European Public Services Union; member of the Platform for Tax Good Governance)
- European Commission (Invited)
- Monika Kosinska – Chair (Secretary General, European Public Health Alliance; member of the Stoiber Group)



## **European Federation of Public Service Unions (EPSU)**

ALTER-EU reports have shown many of the Commission's Expert Groups, which play an influential role in advising on European legislation, have been dominated by big business interests at the expense of SMEs, trade unions and civil society organisations.

The latest research assesses all new Expert Groups created in the past year, when the Commission committed to reform, to see if it is keeping its promise. As well as highlighting the worst and best DGs and groups, three case-studies (on **tax havens**, **data privacy** and the **eurocrisis**) will provide concrete examples of the Commission's efforts.

Hear the author of the report present fresh evidence, the experience of MEPs fighting for improvements, first hand accounts of civil society members of important expert groups and the Commission's own assessment.

The meeting will not follow Chatam rules.

Please RSVP to [pascoe.sabido@corporateeurope.org](mailto:pascoe.sabido@corporateeurope.org)

<http://www.alter-eu.org/events/2013/10/28/press-conference-whats-in-a-promise-assessing-if-the-commission-has-tackled>

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*EPSU is the European Federation of Public Service Unions. It is the largest federation of the ETUC and comprises 8 million public service workers from over 265 trade unions; EPSU organizes workers in the energy, water and waste sectors, health and social services and local and national administration, in all European countries including in the EU's Eastern Neighborhood. EPSU is the recognized regional organization of Public Services International (PSI).*