



**PES**

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# RED ALERT

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## PES ratifies nomination of Martin Schulz as 'Candidate designate'

**Schulz to conduct tour of PES Member Parties to 'engage directly with party members' before 1st March Election Congress**

"In 2010 only 488 MEPs voted for the European Commission and its President. In 2014 I want 390 million citizens to have their say", says Schulz.

[read more...](#)



[Interactive map](#) of PES Member Parties internal selection procedure for the PES designated candidate



## Letter of candidacy by Martin Schulz

Millions of Europeans are suffering the consequences of a crisis they did not cause.

Nearly 27 million Europeans are without a job. 80 million Europeans live at or under the poverty threshold. 24% of Europeans are socially excluded. Nearly 9% of Europeans suffer from severe material deprivation. Most shockingly, 5-and-a-half million young Europeans (nearly a quarter of Europe's youth) are unemployed.

The original promise of Europe, that by working together we shape a better life for tomorrow, that promise has been broken. It is up to our political family to fix it.

[Read the full letter](#)

## Editorial



**A democratic milestone**

*Ruairi Quinn, PES Treasurer and Chair of Working Group Candidate 2014*

In May 2014, 390 million Europeans will for the first time, thanks to the PES, have a say in the future leadership of the Europe Union. The vital change comes as a result of article 17 of the Lisbon Treaty.

The election of the Commission president will finally be politicised, and the most powerful seat in the European Union will get a democratically elected face..

