



Press release: 19 January 2015

Intergroup fighting against poverty in defence of human rights reconfirmed as official European Parliament intergroup

The intergroup is delighted to confirm that it has once again been recognised as an official intergroup^[1] of the European Parliament for the 2014 - 2019 mandate.

The intergroup fighting against poverty has existed since 1980 and will continue throughout this mandate **to defend the interests of Europe's most deprived citizens, and to provide a structure for dialogue and consultation in order to enable Europe's most deprived to have a voice at European level.**

The intergroup considers **poverty to be an attack on human dignity and on fundamental rights.** Inequality continues to rise in Europe, as do the number of people living in poverty, or at risk of poverty its work remains of the utmost importance. By creating structures to enable dialogue and consultation, in order to redirect policies, each European - including those whose voices are so rarely heard in the European institutions - can find their place. The intergroup's objective is to introduce these concerns into the work of the European Parliament and to analyse legislative proposals with these concerns in mind. Alongside the organisation of events **amendments and written questions will be**

tabled to directly have an impact on European legislation.

The intergroup bureau consists of **Sylvie Goulard, ALDE, President, and Vice-Presidents Silvia Costa, S&D, Jean Lambert, Greens, Verónica Lope-Fontagné, EPP** and welcomes MEPs wishing to fight against poverty and to defend fundamental rights who wish to join the intergroup. It will continue to work closely with ATD Fourth World, who helped to create the original intergroup and whose international movement continues to provide support to the intergroup, as well as other NGOs.

For more information about the intergroup and its upcoming activities please contact sylvie.goulard@ep.europa.eu

Details about previous intergroup events during the 2009 - 2014 mandate can be found here: <http://www.sylviiegoulard.eu/lutte-contre-la-pauvrete/>

[1] Intergroups are organised by MEPs from different political groups who wish to work together on specific themes in order to promote discussions, exchanges and reflection, both within the European institutions and with representatives of interest groups and civil society, beyond the framework of formal work undertaken by MEPs in their respective parliamentary committees.