



**Marina Yannakoudakis**

Conservative MEP for London



**LATEST NEWS**

[www.marinayannakoudakis.com](http://www.marinayannakoudakis.com)

**Spring 2011**

## Fighting for First Past the Post!

THE campaign against the AV system of voting is hotting up ahead of the electoral reform referendum on May 5.

Marina Yannakoudakis joined the fight this month with Chris Philp, the NO to AV co-ordinator for London. Chris is organising street stalls around London. To help contact [philp\\_chris@hotmail.com](mailto:philp_chris@hotmail.com).

To help the campaign:

- Sign up for weekly email newsletters [www.no2av.org](http://www.no2av.org)
- Send a photo to the supporters' wall [www.no2av.org/advocates/](http://www.no2av.org/advocates/)
- Join [www.facebook.com/NO2AV](http://www.facebook.com/NO2AV)
- On Twitter, follow @no2av



**SPREADING THE WORD:** Marina with Chris Philip, Janice Lavery (Conservative London Region Deputy Chairman Political), councillors and activists at a street stall in Hampstead

# CLEARER RULES ON OPERATIONS ABROAD

THE right of Britons to travel elsewhere in Europe for a state-funded operation will be guaranteed by a new EU Directive.

Until now, all UK citizens have been certain of getting NHS-style medical treatment if they become ill while on holiday. But there has been a grey area about patients who travel abroad for a pre-arranged operation rather than having to wait for NHS treatment.

Now patients will be able to get pre-arranged treatment in other EU countries if they have been authorised by a medical professional here.

Marina Yannakoudakis met Health Minister Anne Milton MP in Brussels and London to discuss the impact of the Directive, which comes into force in 2013.

EU countries and political groups all over Europe have worked together to reach a compromise which will mean member states will retain sovereignty over healthcare provision while individuals keep the right to seek health

services throughout Europe. It means people from other EU countries must also be authorised for treatment before arriving in the UK and the cost will have to be reimbursed to Britain.

British people who become ill while abroad will still be able to get state treatment in EU countries and EU nationals who become sick in Britain will be treated here by the NHS.

### ++ Health update++Health update

MARINA chaired a session on herbal medicines at a Brussels event organised by the Association of the European Self-Medication Industry.

London constituents have voiced their concerns over Directives, which are causing significant change in the regulatory framework for traditional herbal medicines and food supplements.

## Sure win by Suresh!



**COIJNT ON KENTON:** Suresh Marina Charles and team MARINA and fellow MEP Charles Tannock helped Conservative Suresh Kansagra in his successful campaign to win Brent Council's Kenton ward.

Suresh was elected with a good majority – a sign of support for the Conservatives in government so far. Marina said: "Brent is not a traditional stronghold for the Conservatives, but I was pleased to see how much support there was in Kenton. Residents expressed satisfaction with the decisive action taken by the Conservative-led government to reduce Labour's national debt mountain. They were optimistic about the future in spite of the difficulties ahead."

*Out and about:* Marina also met members and activists from Westminster North Conservative Association at their Lebanese evening. She said: "This event was a great success due to the hard work of Rula Al-Adasani who headed up this well-organised Association. It was an incredibly fun night."

## Tomorrow's Future



**GREAT DEBATE:** Marina and the speakers

MARINA met the politicians of tomorrow at Conservative Future's 'The Great Debate 2011' at the House of Commons, organised by the recently elected Regional Chairman for London Nicolas Clark. She said: "This is a great way to allow the high calibre members to voice their opinions and assert themselves. " Attorney General Dominic Grieve awarded the prizes.

## Addressing fears over 'naked' image airport scanners

THE safety of airport body scanners and their impact on personal dignity was a major topic for discussion at the European Parliament's environment and public health (ENVI) committee.

A report adopted by ENVI addresses concerns over their use, particularly the protection of personal data and safety fears.

Since 9/11 and subsequent terror plots, a new generation of body scanners which create images of people as if they were not wearing clothes has been introduced.

There have been concerns about the health effects of non-ionising radiation from the machines as well as controversy over keeping private the detailed images produced of the human body.

Marina said: "I have been assured that both the health and civil liberty concerns have been examined and existing laws and regulations already provide enough protection for individuals."

## Have your say on the EU

MARINA is hosting a series of lunchtime briefings and debates on topics related to her work in the European Parliament that affect Londoners.

These events will tackle a range of subjects and include expert speakers throughout the programme. There will plenty of opportunity to participate and ask questions, so please save the dates!

The venue is the European Parliament information office for the United Kingdom at 32 Smith Square, London, SW1.

**March 4, 2011:** Women Entrepreneurs

**March 18, 2011:** Domestic Violence

**June 17, 2011:** Counterfeit Medicines and Information to Patients

**September 30, 2011:** Book launch by Marina on Health issues

**October 21, 2011:** Dementia and Alzheimer's

**November 18, 2011:** European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control and World Health Organisation

To attend please register with:  
Poppy@marinayannakoudakis.com  
or call 020 8445 8055.