



Marina Yannakoudakis Conservative MEP for London



LATEST NEWS

www.marinayannakoudakis.com

July-August 2012

BARROSO SLAMS TORIES

European Commission President José Manuel Barroso launched a scathing attack on Conservative MEPs at the latest full parliament sitting in Strasbourg. The Portuguese former Maoist accused Marina and her colleagues of taking “delight in the difficulties of the euro area”. Barroso also expressed puzzlement “at the ease with which (Conservative MEPs) recommend that some Member States should leave the euro” Marina is on record as having said that she believes Greece should leave the single currency. This is not as Mr. Barroso suggests because she is delighting in anybody’s difficulties. On the contrary, nobody, let alone Conservative MEPs, is pleased to see so many people suffer as a result of the Commission’s failing political project. Marina knows that staying in the euro will require the Greek people to suffer more hardship. With a Greek husband and many friends and family in the country she does not believe that the Greeks can give any more. Barroso should face facts and look elsewhere for a scapegoat for the euro’s woes.



LASHING OUT: Inept Commission blames Tories

STANDING UP FOR BRITAIN’S RIGHTS

COMMISSIONER GETS A CANING

EU Agriculture Commissioner Dacian Cioloş was told to stop sitting on his hands when he met with Marina and other MEPs who co-signed her letter calling for action on the EU sugar regime. Marina chaired the meeting and has been leading a campaign to adjust EU preferential access rules to help refineries, such as Tate and Lyle Sugar’s plant in Silvertown, to import raw sugar cane in the quantities that they need. Cane refineries have stopped running at full capacity and there have been lay-offs with more jobs are threatened. Marina told the Commissioner that he needed to act now to change the rules on imports in order to meet the shortfall and get factories back in action. Marina also invited the Commissioner to join a cross-party, multi-national task force of MEPs to address the sugar quota and tariff issues. Marina has already begun to follow up with Commissioner Cioloş to ensure that senseless EU rules don’t destroy 4,500 jobs across Europe, including London.



DON'T CROSS THE LINE: EU rules must not put UK jobs at risk

NO TO MATERNITY LEAVE DIRECTIVE

Marina was disappointed to learn when she met with Sotiroula Charalambous, Cypriot Minister of Labour and Social Insurance, that Cyprus may yield to pressure to re-open negotiations on the EU Maternity Leave Directive. Marina has written to the Cypriot EU Presidency demanding that they drop plans for unnecessary employment legislation which would cost the UK economy £2.5 billion a year and would adversely affect debt-ridden countries like Cyprus.



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Marina’s YouTube channel:
<http://www.youtube.com/user/MarinaMEP>

**SAVE THE DATE: Friday 28th September 12.00-14.30. Europe House, 32 Smith Square, SW1P 3EU
Lunch and event on cord blood donation and stem cells**

Published monthly by email. Sign up at: marina.yannakoudakis@europarl.europa.eu or online.

PROTECTING LGBT RIGHTS

Marina co-authored a resolution aimed at supporting rights for lesbian women in Africa earlier this month. The motion addressed violent and degrading treatment which targets lesbian women in Africa and denounced hatred and violence on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression. Gay women are particularly at threat from violence and rape when their sexual orientation is revealed and Marina and other members of the European Parliament's women's rights committee have been concerned by the worsening situation. Marina also invited members of the executive of LGBTory, the Conservative Party's lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender group, to visit Brussels. She set up meetings with ECR chairman Martin Callanan and Conservative leader Richard Ashworth. The visitors also met with Labour MEP Michael Cashman in his capacity as president of LGBT Intergroup, which Marina has recently joined.



LGBTORY: In Brussels

WE MUST PUT AN END TO BARBARIC FGM



FGM: On the rise in London

The European Parliament unanimously voted to support a resolution condemning female genital mutilation (FGM) earlier this month. Marina tabled the motion which called on all EU countries to stop the ritual genital mutilation of girls and women. The diaspora communities in Europe are continuing the practice even though it is illegal in a number of EU countries, including the UK. Girls in Marina's London constituency, which has a large émigré population from North-East Africa, are particularly at risk. In the capital 6,000 girls a year – some as young as ten – are at risk from this cruel and unnecessary procedure. In the debate in Strasbourg, Marina said. "I am ashamed to say that the number of cases reported in London is rising and some procedures are in fact carried out in London itself. FGM is illegal in the UK and the law extends to protect citizens even if they are taken abroad for the procedure. All Member States must take firm action to combat this illegal practice and we need to ensure the EU is doing all it can to safeguard girls and women, thus setting an example to the developing world."

AROUND LONDON



BROMPTON: With Abbas Barkhordar

There were more council by-elections in London this month and Marina was out helping to drum up support for Conservative candidates. In West London Abbas Barkhordar was elected to Kensington and Chelsea Council, with Andy Brown successfully defending the seat vacated by Stephen Greenhalgh, who has taken up the position of Deputy Mayor for Policing. In Waltham Forest, John Moss won the seat in Larkwood while in Kingston, local barrister Adrian Amer, lost by just 23 votes to the Liberal Democrats. This was one of the best votes in Grove Ward for some time and with hard work by our conscientious activists in Kingston Conservatives should prevail next time round.



BROWN FOR TOWN: With Andy Brown in Fulham

Outside of by-elections your London MEP was able to catch up with local activists when she attended the chairman's barbecue in Sutton and Cheam. She also made a presentation to Streatham Conservatives about her work in the European Parliament. London CWO members also gathered at another information event at the Carlton Club where, over tea, Marina spoke about how to encourage more female entrepreneurs. There was an opportunity to find out more about the work of London's voluntary party when the London Tory MEPs met with London Campaign Director Chris Scott and Conservative Association Chairmen. London's associations are working hard canvassing, fundraising, organising events and preparing for elections.



PAINT THE TOWN BLUE: London Association Chairmen



SAVE THE STOW: With John Moss

If you would like Marina to speak at a London event email: marina.yannakoudakis@europarl.europa.eu