

DR. CAROLINE LUCAS

Green Party  
*for the South East of England*

Prime Minister Gordon Brown  
10 Downing Street  
Westminster  
London SW1A 2AA

September 10<sup>th</sup> 2009

Dear Prime Minister,

I am writing to you in support of the European Women's Lobby<sup>1</sup> 50/50 Campaign for Democracy, to ensure an equal representation of women and men in decision-making at the highest levels of European governance.

At the upcoming European Summit on 29-30 October, the European Council will deal with the nominations for the so called "EU top jobs", namely the first ever Council President, the incoming EU High Representative for Common Foreign and Security Policy and the members of the new European Commission. This presents a unique opportunity for the European Union to become more democratic by **ensuring the equal representation of women and men at the highest levels of European decision-making when the nominations are made.**

I am aware that the nomination process will be subject to intense discussions and negotiations amongst governments' representatives. However, I would like to stress that it is the shared responsibility of European governments to ensure that the outcome of this selection reflects the fact that women represent half of the European population and that European policies at the highest level need to unequivocally reflect the needs and aspirations of *all* Europeans.

In order to gain in legitimacy, European institutions and decision-makers need to mirror the diversity of the population and I therefore hope that you will, in your discussions and nomination, make sure that the new face of the European Union will reflect the fundamental European values of justice and equality.

I am confident that you will do your utmost to ensure the equal representation of women and men in the important nominations to be made.

Yours sincerely,



Caroline Lucas - Green Party MEP for South East England.

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<sup>1</sup> The European Women's Lobby (EWL) is the largest coalition of women's organisations in the EU present in 28 Member States and accession countries, representing over 2500 member organisations. See: [www.womenlobby.org](http://www.womenlobby.org) or [www.5050democracy.eu](http://www.5050democracy.eu)