JAN ZAHRADIL

Your Candidate for European Parliament President



ECR GROUP

#RetuneTheEP



Jan Zahradil

RETUNING THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

I believe that meaningful and lasting reform of the European project requires us to recognise the boundaries of European integration. Our ultimate goal needs to be winning back the trust of European citizens and finding a new balance between European and national level. Following on from my campaign to be Commission President, I remain passionate and motivated towards continuing this work.

REGAINING TRUST

By running for President of the European Parliament, I want to win back the trust of citizens and save the credibility of the European project. The European Parliament must serve the people that elect us.

The results of the recent elections show that European voters favour parties that respond to their genuine concerns, hopes, and aspirations.

We need a new approach and a rebalancing, away from a type of politics that excludes citizens by marginalising the voices of the people they chose to represent them. I want to change this.

AN OPEN AND FAIR PARLIAMENT

- I believe that every Member - whether from a small or large group, whatever the Member State, returning or newly elected - is treated fairly and equally while at the same time demonstrate respect for this house and each other.
- The Parliament's administration must adhere to the highest standards of neutrality, professionalism and openness. The administration shall act as committed public servants, implementing political decisions rather than taking them.
- I will instead hold open competitions run by an independent Senior Appointments Advisory Committee and insist on the Secretary General of the Parliament being a term-limited post.

LISTENING AND RESPONDING TO CITIZENS' CONCERNS

- Our debates must become more interactive and more relevant to citizens.
- It is a disservice to the ideas and expertise present in Parliament for our plenary debates to be reduced to a series of mini press statements.
- I will ensure our debates demonstrate to voters that we are listening to them. We must refocus our debates, where Members can genuinely voice the views of citizens and allow for a wide ranging exchange of ideas on the issues of the day.
- I will revise the programme of debate to allow rapporteurs greater time to speak and for Members to pose questions, better recognising the role of Parliament, rapporteur and the interests of other Members.

#RetuneTheEP

SINGLE SEAT

- Despite numerous votes in the Parliament in favour of a single seat, there has been no real progress. The will of the Parliament has consistently been blocked in back room deals with no substantive debate on the issue. This must change.
- As President, I will fully commit myself to a roadmap for a single seat. I will also insist on this important matter at every European Council meeting where I will represent the will of the Parliament.

MORE EFFICIENT AND LESS WASTE

- We represent not only the European voters but also the European taxpayer. I will ensure that the Parliament does more with less by simplifying procedures, promoting resource efficiency savings and cutting wasteful bureaucracy.

STRATEGIC OVERSIGHT

- A culture change is needed. It is time that the Parliament sees itself as the chief scrutiny body of the European Commission.
- I will work with the Conference of Presidents to establish a Standing Committee, comprised of Members from all Political Groups and independent stakeholders, to make the EU fit for the 21st century. The Standing Committee will do this by ensuring that any EU initiative put forward will add value and make a real impact to the policies of the Member States.



EUROPEAN
CONSERVATIVES
AND REFORMISTS
GROUP

#RetuneTheEP