

**European Federation of Public Service Unions (EPSU)
Appendix to EPSU Press communication – 26 March 2014**



We commit to take forward the Right2Water Campaign when elected Commission President

We approached the candidates to bring forward the demands of the ECI for implementing the HR2W in the European Union when elected - please find our press release.



Franziska Keller, candidate for the Greens said:

"I and 1.9 million agree with the ECI Right2water. The Commission must implement the human right to water!"



Martin Schulz, candidate said for the Party of the European Socialists said:

If I am President of the European Commission I will ensure that the voice of more than 1.68 million people is heard by the EU and I will recognize the Human Right to water in the EU and your European Citizens Initiative has demanded.



Jean Claude Juncker, candidate for the European People's Party said:

"If I become the next President of the European Commission, I will take into account the human right to water in the European Union, demanded by your European citizens' initiative. I will ensure that the voice of 1.68m people is heard"



Alexis Tsipras, candidate for the European Left said:

That the European Left salutes the right to water ECI and if I am elected President of the European Commission on behalf of the European Left I would implement the ECI right to water.

(see the entire message in the following video : <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HobjhKO8i9U&feature=youtu.be>)



Guy Verhofstadt, Liberal Party candidate replied:

First of all, congratulations on becoming the first Citizens Initiative to reach the required number of signatories and be accepted for consideration by the European Commission.

Like the Commission, I recognise water as a public good and that no EU citizen should be deprived of basic water access rights. We also supported the exclusion of water from the recent vote on the concessions directive. Supply and provision of water clearly has different dimensions in different parts of the EU. In northern countries it is clearly less of an issue than in the drier, southern Member States where water management and distribution is of vital importance, not just to individual citizens but also to agriculture and industry. That is why we do not see the need for the EU to legislate on the matter as it is best managed by local and national authorities. The EU can play a role though in ensuring that Member States are vigilant in upholding high standards of water quality in their urban environments, managing waste water plants, minimising pollution of water courses etc. This principle should also apply to international commercial agreements where the EU must avoid granting any concessions for private ownership of water.

[See the photos in high quality](#)