



EUROPEAN COUNCIL
THE PRESIDENT

Brussels, 21 May 2014

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I would like to invite you to an informal dinner in Brussels on 27 May 2014. A few days before, European citizens will have cast their vote for the European Parliament. Some may have voted for or against the European project as such, but many more will have expressed themselves on how they want to shape our Union. I would like us to discuss the outcome of the elections and to look at what we can learn from its results.

It will be too early to decide about names. We will talk about the process leading to the European Council proposing a candidate for the future Presidency of the Commission to the European Parliament for election, as set out in the Treaty on the European Union and in Declaration 11 to that Treaty, and how to organise our work over the coming weeks.

In this context, it is important to reflect on the challenges for the Union ahead of us, on our priorities for the next years and on the best way to achieve them. In recent years we have been working hard for the stability of the euro area, we have reoriented and reformed our economies, we have fought for growth, jobs and competitiveness. We have dealt with major developments on the international scene. I believe that, thanks to the responses we provided, today's Europe is different and emerging stronger than five years ago. We must continue our action, together with the other institutions, and work towards a stronger EU, with more economic growth and more jobs.

Following the Presidential elections in Ukraine and ahead of the G7 meeting in Brussels, we will naturally also exchange views on related developments.

I very much look forward to greeting you in Brussels on 27 May.

&salutations

H. VAN ROMPUY