



# THE STATE OF THE UNION

7-8-9 MAY 2014  
FLORENCE  
ITALY

## PRESS RELEASE

THE STATE OF THE UNION 2014 –TELEVISED PRESIDENT’S DEBATE – 9 MAY 2014 – PALAZZO VECCHIO,  
FLORENCE

On Europe Day, 9 May 2014, the [European University Institute \(EUI\)](#) will host the second of three Televised President’s Debates between the candidates for the Presidency of the European Commission. **Jean-Claude Juncker**, European People’s Party (EPP); **Martin Schulz**, Party of European Socialists (PES); **Guy Verhofstadt**, Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe Party (ALDE) and **José Bové**, European Green Party (EGP) will answer questions from **Tony Barber**, Europe Editor of the Financial Times; **Monica Maggioni**, Director of RAI News 24 and **J.H.H. Weiler**, President of the European University Institute. Taking place in the historic setting of the *Salone dei Cinquecento, Palazzo Vecchio*, the debate will be held in front of an audience of researchers and students as well as leading international academics, policy makers and representatives of the civil society. It will be broadcast live on RAI News 24 and live streamed.

The event will form an integral part of the 2014 edition of *The State of the Union* conference, a high level annual event created and organised by the EUI.

This year, the conference will feature the participation of leading politicians from across Europe including Italian Prime Minister **Matteo Renzi**, current European Commission President **José Manuel Barroso**, European Commissioner for Trade **Karel de Gucht**, Italian Senator **Mario Monti** and President of the Republic of Slovenia **Borut Pahor**.

For further information on the event, please visit [The State of the Union website](#).

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