



4th EU MEETING OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMUNITY OF EUROPE (P.A.C.E)

BERLIN, 22nd – 23rd May 2013

PRESS RELEASE

The Public Affairs Community of Europe (P.A.C.E.), which gathers lobbyists national associations in the EU and public affairs professionals, has held its 4th EU annual meeting on May 22nd-23rd in Berlin, hosted by the German Association De'Ge'Pol.

At the event the debate focused on the current legal developments on lobbying regulations across Europe and on the need to share a common view on such issue, in order to promote a more homogeneous framework.

PACE has underlined how crucial is to keep a high attention on this matter, especially with regard to a definition of lobbying that must be comprehensive and non discriminatory.

The members has in fact pointed out that if a mandatory register is keen to be adopted, then it has to include any player who influences, directly or indirectly, the decision making process, avoiding hence exemptions that would otherwise weaken the transparency of lobbying activity.

Pace members hope that the future MEPs and the European Commission will pay particular attention to this sensitive issue and is ready to support national and EU institutions, by providing them its professionalism and expertise.

P.A.C.E. Has also decided that its 5th annual Conference will be held in Vienna, on May 21st and 22nd 2015, hosted by the Austrian Public Affairs Association (ALPAC).

During the conference also two Brussels-located organizations representing lobbyists and consultancies, SEAP and EPACA, have taken the floor to share their views on the state of art of the initiatives carried out by European institutions and express their opinions on a mandatory Transparency register.

PACE - Public Affairs Community of Europe

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Two representatives of Transparency International have participated at the debate, listening to the opinions of PACE members and have shared their position on lobbying definition and stressing, as well, the positive role that transparent lobbying can provide on democracy participation.

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