

From: [REDACTED]@aldeparty.eu>

Date: 16 janvier 2014 21:01:08 UTC+1

To: Guy Verhofstadt EXT <guy.verhofstadt@europarl.europa.eu>, "olli.rehn@ec.europa.eu" <olli.rehn@ec.europa.eu>

Cc: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Subject: SV: Presidential debate

Dear Olli,
Dear Guy,

In response to the request from Guy to hold a debate between the two nominees prior to the start of the voting, we have been offering the option from the side of the ALDE Party to facilitate a webstreamed debate.

This offer has been on the table since Tuesday, January 7, where I have asked both of you to commit to having the debate. However, as time are a limited resource in order to set up this debate before the start of the voting, also with respect for the busy calendars both of you have, we have been forced to set a deadline for today for a positive answer to commit to the debate from both of you. If this commitment was not received by today, I would have to interpret this as a de facto no to the debate, which has been communicated earlier.

I have this afternoon been informed that it will not be possible for you, Olli, to commit to such a debate by today's deadline. I have therefore no other option than to cancel our plans for a debate and propose to move to our alternative proposed solution, that I have previously communicated to both of you, which is the separate Q & A sessions by each nominee to be webstreamed.

I have today been in contact with your respective staff members, asking for a time next week in your calendars for these sessions to be filmed and then put online. I hope that you will both take up this offer, prioritise the time for this and come back with a possible timeslot for the session.

Kind regards,
[REDACTED]

Fra: VERHOFSTADT Guy [guy.verhofstadt@europarl.europa.eu]

Sendt: 7. januar 2014 16:39

Til: WATSON Graham; Graham Watson

Cc: [REDACTED]; 'olli.rehn@ec.europa.eu'; [REDACTED]

Emne: Presidential debate

Dear Graham,

I am writing to you concerning the organisation of a debate prior to the vote for the common Liberal

candidate.

The procedure foresees a speech by the two candidates at the Congress on 1 February, but no debate.

Furthermore, the voting is set to start on 25 January, nearly two weeks prior to the Congress.

I would therefore ask you and the Party to organise a debate between the two candidates ahead of the start of the voting, to be webstreamed and therefore ensure that the maximum number of delegates are able to follow the debate prior to being called on to vote.

I am certain that you will agree with me that it would be entirely unthinkable for the Party to call on delegates to vote prior to having been able to follow a debate between the two contenders.

I am copying this email to Olli.

With kind regards.

Guy

President of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE)

European Parliament

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