



Press Release

37 newly elected MEPs have pledged to help improve fire safety in buildings

Brussels, 11 July 2019: 37 newly elected MEPs from 21 countries have pledged to work to improve fire safety in buildings in this new European Parliamentary term.

Launched in the European Parliament in February, the **#Together4FireSafety** campaign called for candidates to act together with the construction industry, architects, fire safety engineers, firefighters, building owners, and citizens to improve fire safety in buildings for people.

98 European Election Candidates signed the pledge, and 38 other stakeholders supported the campaign, among which firefighters, educators, and national fire safety associations. This sent a strong signal that action is necessary to ensure that people are safe in the buildings where they spend most of their time.

37 of the candidates who pledged have been elected for this European Parliamentary term and will have the opportunity to build up on the successes of the previous parliament and significantly improve fire safety in buildings.

"Fire safety has to be a priority for European institutions and European Member States" said **Brando Benifei**, MEP.

Every day in Europe, 11 people die in fires, and 190 people are hospitalised. Losses caused by fire are estimated at 1% of global GDP per year, and fires have an environmental impact with air, soil, and water pollution.

To improve fire safety in buildings, Members of the European Parliament could for example:

- **#ThinkFireSafety**: Ensure that fire safety is taken into account in relevant European policy areas such as tourism, consumer protection, education, sustainable buildings, etc
- Work on a European Fire Safety Strategy enabling EU countries to set common goals for fire safety
- Continue to support the work of the European Commission's Fire Information Exchange Platform

"I believe fire safety should be addressed at the European level because we should all have the same standard of protection, and I will continue my fight to protect European citizens from fires in any way I can" said **Zeljana Zovko**, MEP

Juliette Albiac, Managing Director of Fire Safe Europe, said: "We thank all the candidates

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who pledged to improve fire safety for their support and congratulate the new MEPs on being elected. We look forward to working with them in this Parliamentary term to significantly improve fire safety in buildings for people and communities across the EU.”

You can view all the candidates who signed the #Together4FireSafety pledge at www.together4firesafety.eu

About Fire Safe Europe

Fire Safe Europe (FSEU) is the European Fire Safety Association bringing together fire experts, firefighters, associations, and international companies. FSEU’s mission is to improve fire safety in buildings for people and society. **#EUCanBeFireSafe, #Together4FireSafety & #ThinkFireSafety**