



SG/AC

**European Association of former Members of Parliaments of the Member
States of the Council of Europe or the European Union**

ACTION COPY

Malta, 16th June 2016.

His Excellency
Mr Ban Ki Moon
Secretary General of the United Nations
United Nations Headquarters
NY 10017 - New York



Mr Secretary General,

As the newly elected President of the European Former Members of Parliament Associations, permit me to raise an important issue which, though dear to Your Excellency, has unfortunately always been put on the back-burner and left practically untouched since the adoption of two related conventions in 1954 and 1961. I am referring to the fate and future of **"Stateless Persons"**.

Whilst high officials in all countries are aware of the enormous problems faced by these people, none but a few have ever ventured to put their neck out to regulate this inhumane issue.

Since most Former Members of Parliament no longer seek re-election, we are in a position to tackle and discuss any issue providing sound, clear and ambitious recommendations based on our collective experience. These recommendations are then forwarded to the European Union, the Council of Europe and respective Governments for their perusal and appropriate follow-up action.

In the beginning of November 2017 our Association is holding a Seminar in Malta about "Stateless persons" since we consider it as a most urgent and important subject.

In this regard, we believe that Your Excellency's wide personal experience, particularly enhanced during two terms as U.N. Secretary General, can help the international community identify to truly renew its commitment to humanely deal with this tragic issue.

J..

Seat : Assemblée Nationale, 126, rue de l'Université - Paris
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**European Association of former Members of Parliaments of the Member
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J.,

For this reason our Association would like to invite Your Excellency in your personal capacity to address our Seminar and participate in its proceedings.

Aware that Your Excellency's term of office will be completed at the end of this year, Your Excellency's successor as U.N. Secretary General will also be invited to participate in the Seminar.

Our Association is also inviting the President of the European Parliament, The Hon Mr Martin Schulz, and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, H.E. Mr Filippo Grandi.

Held under the patronage of the President of Malta, H.E. Ms Marie Louise Coleiro Preca, the Seminar will be addressed by the Prime Minister of Malta, the Hon Dr Joseph Muscat and other distinguished guests.

We, who value the elementary principles of human dignity and human rights, have a moral and social obligation of doing whatever it takes to make our voices heard to those who have none.

I am therefore sincerely hopeful in Your Excellency's acceptance of this personal invitation to address and participate in the 2017 Malta Seminar on Stateless Persons and also to convey the same invitation to your successor as U.N. Secretary General.

Conveying my regards and best wishes,

Sincerely,

Lino DeBono,

President FP-AP.



Central

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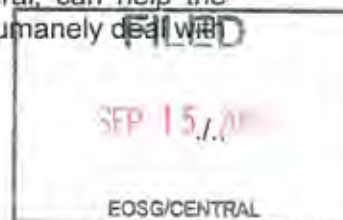
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SCH/08/002, COM/11/001



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