



A European Non-Governmental Organisation in official liaison with
European Parliament, European Commission and the Council of Europe

Press Release

Dublin, Ireland, 18 May 2013: the European Union of the Deaf (EUD) General Assembly has today elected its new Board. EUD's new President is Dr Markku Jokinen and from Finland. The former World Federation of the Deaf (WFD) President is supported by the Vice-President from Italy: Dr Humberto Insolera. The other Board Members are: Louise "Lolo" Danielsson from Sweden, Alfredo Gómez Fernández from Spain, and Dr Gergely Tapolczai from Hungary.

The President was elected by a majority of 56% of the votes by delegates from 28 different countries. For the first time the full election was broadcast live via web stream and followed by over 100 persons around Europe and the world. This was a step towards making the EUD Board elections more inclusive and transparent, bringing the political process closer to all Deaf citizens.

The new Board members will start their official posts on Sunday after the General Assembly is formally closed by the current President, Berglind Stefánsdóttir, who has stepped down to re-focus on her career as the head of a well-known research institute for the Deaf. At the same time the Icelandic was unanimously awarded honorary membership of EUD by the delegates. The new Board will have their first Board Meeting in September in Lithuania, as part of their ambitious four-year mandate.