



Marina Yannakoudakis

Conservative MEP for London



LATEST NEWS www.marinayannakoudakis.com **October 2011**

GOODBYE TO THE EURO!

Sometimes we get it wrong. Sometimes we need to say, "Yes we got it wrong". Sometimes we need to start again and get it right the next time! This is what the eurozone needs to do when it comes to the euro.

The euro was an ill-advised adventure by the more federal Europeans: a united currency being the first step towards a more united Europe. The problem, as we now see, is that not all member states have the same economic approach to issues such as taxation and banking regulation, which leaves a troubled situation. Some argue that all the eurozone nations will be forced into a single federal government to avoid future economic meltdowns. However this goes against everything the EU originally stood for.



I went to Greece this summer and witnessed first-hand what has happened to the economy. The EU can't solve the problem and it's doubtful that pumping more money into the country can help. Can Greece walk away from the euro and take control of its own destiny? If so will Italy, Spain, Ireland and Portugal also follow? It is time for France and Germany to wake up to reality and admit they got it wrong. The EU should go back to being what it once was: a friendly club working together through shared best practice and minimal legislative action. The EU needs to re-think its vision of a superstate and begin to restore Member State sovereignty.

TRANSPORT FOR 2012



ON THE BUSES: With TFL deputy Daniel Moylan

With the London Olympics just around the corner, Marina met with Deputy Chairman of Transport for London (TFL), Daniel Moylan, to discuss the transport issues that affect millions of Londoners every day. Mr Moylan emphasised that there has been a "huge investment in rail access" ready for the influx of Olympic spectators in London.

Marina also discussed the issue of bids by British firms for TFL rolling stock contracts. With Siemens winning the Thameslink and the tendering process for Crossrail delayed, Marina asked for an assurance that British firms would be given a level playing field to deliver transport infrastructure for TFL, as is the case with the New Bus for London project. Mr Moylan made it clear that it is important for the UK to treat "EU procurement regulations with

greater flexibility" as being in the EU opens the UK up to large European competitive markets. Marina was interested to hear about upcoming TFL projects which affect all Londoners as well as TFL's preparations for the Olympics.

	Marina is now on Twitter. Follow her at @MarinaMEP		Find Marina on Facebook at http://facebook.com/MarinaMEP
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CONSERVATIVE PARTY CONFERENCE

It was four busy days for Marina at this year's Conservative Party Conference in Manchester. She spent most of her time meeting with party members, especially her London constituents, explaining about how she is delivering for London in the European Parliament.

She met a number of London Conservative Party Association chairmen and agents, councillors, London Assembly Members and candidates. Both the Prime Minister and London Mayor Boris Johnson addressed the London and South East reception.

Marina spoke at a number of events, including a roundtable on Women and Entrepreneurship where, alongside Home Secretary Theresa May, she spoke on her report on Women and SMEs which was recently adopted by the European Parliament. She also made a presentation on equalities at an event organised by LGBTory, the Conservative Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Group.



OUR MAN IN GREENWICH: London Assembly Candidate Cllr Alex Wilson



BACKING BORIS: Telecanvassing for the Mayor of London at Conference

Marina later extolled the virtues of volunteering, with special reference to the London Olympics, at an event with Shaun Bailey, 2010 parliamentary candidate and director of the charity MyGeneration. Marina also attended events with the Conservative Friends of Israel, the Conservative Friends of Cyprus, Women 2 Win and the City of London Corporation.

On the final day of conference, Marina took part in a telecanvassing session for the Back Boris campaign. Marina is already working campaigning for Boris in the run up to the London Mayoral and Assembly elections next year.

"It's always good to catch up with friends and supporters," said Marina.

MARINA AROUND LONDON

Marina has been out and about around London campaigning for Conservative candidates in council by-elections.

In September she stumped for Nick Kilby for Kingston Council and later that month she was out helping David Jeffreys get elected in Bromley. David won a seat on Bromley Council on October 20. Marina will be campaigning in Redbridge and Islington soon.



SURBITON: With local councillors, candidate Nick Kilby, Stephen Hammond MP & Tony Arbour AM



SHORTLANDS: Campaigning with Bob Stewart MP and candidate David Jeffreys



CBI: With Policy Advisors Jim Bligh, Maxine Cahal & Tom Sallis

CBI

Representatives of the CBI came to Brussels to meet Marina to discuss women in the boardroom. Marina believes that more women in top jobs would bring benefits to business, but agrees with the CBI's position that there should be no compulsory legislative quotas. Women don't need to be patronised by binding targets.

If you would like Marina to attend a London event email: marina.yannakoudakis@europarl.europa.eu