

Zbigniew Gniatkowski*

Ambassador of The Republic of Poland to New Zealand

Filip Skawiński, Izabela Zygmunt

The European Commission Representation in Warsaw, Poland

THE COMMISSION'S REFLECTIONS ON THE EU'S FUTURE

ABSTRACT

This paper presents the way the European Commission (EC) views the European Union's future and its own future role. It argues that despite the new rules introduced by the Treaty of Lisbon, the EC will not become overly politicized after the 2014 European elections. The paper also outlines the case for political union through a "democratic federation of nation states", as proposed by the President of the European Commission José Manuel Barroso in State of the Union 2012, and discusses the Commission's proposals for further economic integration in the Eurozone and the EU in general, with special focus on the European Semester procedure and the EU's new economic governance. The Commission's projects are then put in the context of predictions about the EU's future, made by researchers dealing with the subject.

Key words

UE, European Commission, Eurozone

1. The nearest future

The European Commission does not have, and in any case should not have, any influence on the European elections. However, this time the vote does significantly influence the Commission. The slogan of the information campaign that sought to explain the meaning of the election to the wider public was: "This time

* Zbigniew Gniatkowski served as Deputy Director of the Representation of the European Commission in Poland at the time when text was drafted. In July 2014 he was appointed as Ambassador of the Republic of Poland to New Zealand.