

European Elections Project
May 23rd, 2014

WEEKLY UPDATE – SPECIAL EDITION



Radical Democracy: European Video Challenge 2014

Last Sunday the winners of [the Radical Democracy: European Video Challenge 2014](#) were awarded and screened at the Planete+ Doc Film Festival in Warsaw. Watch the [Radical Democracy Reel](#) of all winning videos, read the report of the Award Ceremony in Warsaw, find out more about our winners and download the Radical Democracy Booklet. Feel free to share and

use any of these or of the other 212 entries in the competition as many might come from your countries and/or useful for your own campaigns!



We Don't Care

Young people don't care about voting or politics. That is what we keep hearing. [Bite the Ballot](#), a non-profit organisation that empowers young people to speak up and act, talked to them, and [it turns out they do care!](#) You can also play the game they created, ["Put your money where your mouth is"](#), created to raise awareness amongst the youth and inform them on the importance of participating in politics and speaking up.



Every Vote Counts. Your Vote Counts.

The ["You are at home. Vote!"](#) campaign was initiated by the [Association School for Leaders](#), Forum Polonia-Ireland and the [Polish City Club](#) from the UK, aiming at increasing the political participation of the Polish community abroad living within the borders of the European Union, outside of Poland. [This video](#) they have created as part of their campaign (with subtitles in English) shows the importance of every single vote!



NGOs call for election candidates to side with the people not the multinational tax dodgers!

In May 2014, [SOMO](#) attended a NGO strategy meeting in Brussels, where tax campaigners from across Europe gathered outside the European Parliament calling for candidates in the upcoming elections to ensure that fighting tax dodging and promoting financial transparency is at the top of their agenda. SOMO then produced [a video](#) that explains their objections

regarding the current tax system that facilitates tax dodging by multinational, and their demands for tax justice.



Populonia

An interesting investigative report presented in a news-game format by [Acuerdo](#) entitled '[Welcome to Populonia](#)' focusing on real-life interviews from French local, Slovak regional and Hungarian national level where governments are populist and how an imaginary country of Populonia with all levels governed by populists might look like. [This video](#) shows the growing fears and concerns of interviewed people from Manteville, a village in France that elected a mayor from

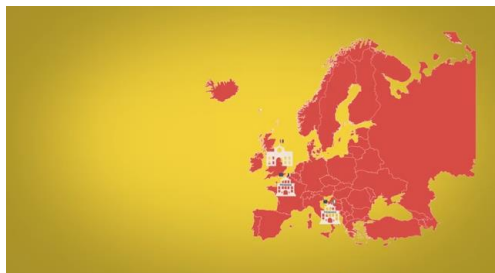
the populist Front National. Other interesting videos are available on their website.



Transeuropa Caravans: connecting local alternative voices

The [Transeuropa Caravans](#) have embarked on a journey across Europe, connecting local alternative voices, hearing what the citizens have to say, and promoting their [Citizens Manifesto](#). In [this video](#), Jon Worth, blogger, writer, speaker and trainer, part of the Transeuropa Caravans team, explains the importance of voting in the European elections, and focuses on

interesting aspects such as why it is so important for citizens to be able to vote in the place where they live, and not necessarily where they come from. These and other interviews on the Transeuropa Caravans project are available on their website.



Romanians living abroad

Soros Foundation Romania has prepared [this video](#), as part of a series on mobilizing Romanians living across the European Union to vote in the European Parliament elections. Check out the video (in Romanian, but easy to understand thanks to the visual work), and help us share! Other videos are available in their [YouTube channel](#).



Happy Voting!

The [League of Young Voters](#), a politically neutral initiative that aims to amplify young people's concerns and expectations in the run-up to European elections has prepared a special [video](#) to promote this event! Check it out and share it!



A far l'Europa Comincia Tu

Vote LGBTI friendly in the European Elections 2014! This is the message of the campaign launched by [Arcigay](#) and [Anddos](#) which aims to mobilize, channel and amplify the voice of LGBT Italian people and their sympathetic allies in the elections, by constructing a permanent tool for monitoring, campaigning, mobilizing and lobbying. They produced the video "[A far l'Europa Comincia Tu](#)" as part of this campaign.



Choose your own luck, don't leave anything to chance.

[GONG](#) is a Croatian civil society organization founded in 1997 to encourage citizens to actively participate in political processes. Its goal is promoting and elevating human and civil rights, as well as encouraging and empowering citizen participation in political processes. Check out the [first of three videos](#) they prepared in occasion of the European elections, entitled "Choose your own luck, don't leave anything to chance". The rest of the videos are available on [their](#)

[YouTube channel](#).



Time to Vote

[This video](#) is part of a campaign led by a coalition of NGOs that aims to inform the EU migrants of their rights ahead of the elections. The initiative focuses on Polish and Romanian working away from home, in particular those in the UK, Italy and the Netherlands, motivating them to vote and to protect their right to work. A [webpage](#), a [Facebook page](#) and a [YouTube channel](#) have been created for this initiative.



After an Economic Crisis, Modern-Day Greek Ruins

[This video](#) (a voice piece featured in [OSF's European elections site](#)) is part of a series of interviews with photographers featured in Moving Walls 21, an exhibit produced by the Open Society Documentary Photography Project exploring a variety of social justice and human rights issues. The video shows the work of Nikos Pilos, who documents the wreckage of Greece's industrial zone in the wake of the financial crisis.



And then came a lot of sheep.

Voting for the first time can be a real adventure. Who knows what might happen... [Take a look for yourself!](#) The European Parliament has also prepared a video in occasion of the elections, this time, for first time voters. Make sure you check their [elections website](#), their [Elections Night Tumblr account](#) and their [YouTube channel](#) for the latest developments during these days!

This report contains some updates and information related to the European Elections Projects. The views expressed are not necessarily shared nor supported by OSF/OSIFE. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Francisco Malavassi (osife.intern@opensocietyfoundations.org).