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ESAE Annual Congress and Dinner

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# The evolution of European institutions: trends, changes and influence

Esa Härmälä, Director General at EFMA (the European Fertilizer  
Manufacturers Association)

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***The Evolution of European Institutions:  
Trends, Changes and Influence***

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Esa Härmälä  
Director General  
European Fertilizers Manufacturers Association  
EFMA



- **The role and powers of the European Parliament grow: even the official mandate doubles**
- **The unofficial mandate even bigger: the big deals will be done in the EP or at least with its direct involvement**
- **An example: Barroso's re-election, filling the new vacancies**
- **Heads of Governments cannot make deals over the EP anymore**



- **EU will have a President and a Foreign Minister in addition to the present top jobs**
- **Some kind of power struggle most inevitable, both between different EU Office Holders and between them and the Member States**
- **Most probably the Commission will lose some of its position in the future – the Commission President will not be the « EU's telephone number »**



- **EU's permanent dilemma – to eat a cake or to keep it ?**
- **Enlargement has changed and will further change EU**
- **Croatia and Iceland soon in, many West Balkan countries will follow, Turkish accession has been and will be slowed down but hardly stopped.**
- **Further enlargement leads to some kind of U.S. type of federal governance system (long term).**