

Celebrating World Consumers Day 2019 at the European Parliament

European Consumers Union (ECU) official presentation – 5.3.2019

Hosted by MEP Daniele Viotti
European Parliament Building – Altiero Spinelli

Seminar: Towards EU Elections: Strengthening the European Union for a more effective consumer protection

The aim of the Seminar was to highlight how the implementation of the *New Deal for Consumers Directive* would benefit consumers, as well as public and private bodies

Grace Attard, delegate of the EESC Consultative Commission on Industrial Change chaired the Seminar.

The Seminar was addressed by key speaker Carina Tornblom, European Commission – Directorate General for Justice & Consumer Affairs . In her presentation she spoke about the *EU commitment on Consumer Protection – which perspectives from the New Deal*

The Seminar was also addressed by MEP Daniel Viotti, (video message) Sergio Veroli, ECU President and Vice-President Federconsumatori and a number of European and National stakeholders including:

- Andrew Ebrill, Secretary General of the Council of European Energy regulators (CEER)
- Paolo Falcioni, Director General APPLiA – Home Appliances Europe
- Dirk Jacobs, Deputy Director of Consumer Information, Diet and Health and Food and Drinks
- Francois Bilem, Formateur INDECOSA CGT
- Anastasia Chatzipavlou, Director of the Union of Working Consumers of Greece and
- Emilio Viafora, President Federconsumatori

The speakers highlighted the new opportunities and the new risks that a globalised market brings, in particular to vulnerable groups of consumers and users which The New Deal addresses and how they are being implemented in the different sectors they represent. The importance of pluralism of voices in the dialectic between consumers and producers at EU level can bring more benefits among public, regulators and private bodies. Finally the key areas which all agreed on were better enforcement, market surveillance and privacy and security

Mariano Vota, ECU General Secretary brought the Seminar to an end emphasising the importance of ensuring the values of the European Union are strengthened in the forthcoming European Parliament elections

Grace Attard
Association for Consumer Rights, Malta (ACR)
General Secretary