

## **MEPs Ana Gomes and Monica Macovei Organise a Hearing on Corruption in Europe**

The economic and financial crisis has highlighted the need for an effective European approach to fight corruption. On July 1<sup>st</sup>, MEPs **Ana Gomes (S&D, PT)** and **Monica Macovei (EPP, RO)** organise the public hearing "**Corruption: a European Business?**" to discuss examples of corrupt deals involving European companies and government officials.

Two experts from Transparency International (TI) will present cases of corruption in Europe. **Mark Pyman** will discuss corruption in defence equipment deals together with remedy measures adopted in NATO Member States. **Aris Syngros** will bring examples of corruption in his country, Greece, the most severely hit by the crisis, in which corruption played a damaging role, both within the business community and the public administration.

Ana Gomes will present the case of the corrupt deal made in 2004 by Portuguese government with Portuguese and German companies for the purchase of two submarines. This case has been under the media spotlight for several months now, both in Germany and in Portugal, as the judicial authorities of both countries investigate the deal for suspected bribe and fraud.

The MEPs are calling for EU-wide coordinated action against corruption, a phenomenon that worsens the already severe impact of the economic crisis and budget hardship throughout Europe. The call is in line with the anti-corruption position of the European Parliament, as expressed in the recent Written Declaration on the Union Efforts in Combating Corruption in May 2010.

The hearing will take place in room 5G305 in the Altiero Spinelli building of the European Parliament in Brussels and will start at 12h30 on July 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **For registration or interview requests:**

**MEP Ana Gomes Office**

**Tel: + 32 (0) 2 2847824**

**[anamaria.gomes@europarl.europa.eu](mailto:anamaria.gomes@europarl.europa.eu)**