



Press Conference:

## Save the hole world - Protection of caves as a cultural, natural and environmental heritage in the European Union

**\*When:** Tuesday 11 November at 11h00\*

**\*Where:** European Parliament Press Briefing Room PHS0A50, Brussels\*

**\*Who:** Mikel Irujo (Eusko Alkartasuna), Christiane Grebe (European Cave Protection Commission), Alexey Zhalov (European Speleological Federation), Ioana Meleg (Biospeleologist), Jean Pierre Bartholeyns (International Union of Speleology)

MEP Mikel Irujo, the European cave Protection Commission and invited experts will be campaigning for two days in the European Parliament to gain signatures for the Written Declaration on Cave Protection which they launched in September. Entitled 'Written Declaration on Protection of caves as a cultural, natural and environmental heritage' the document was launched by MEP Mikel Irujo, MEP Rebecca Harms, MEP Csaba Sándor Tabajdi and they hope to obtain more than a half of the signatures of all MEPs (785) in order to make this declaration pass.

Within the two day campaign, there are several actions planned;

- Meeting with the European Commission to talk about the necessity of a European law on the matter
- Information Stand at the Parliament
- Publicity campaign to sign Written Declaration 66
- Projection of some documentary films about caves