

Whistle-blowing and institutional accountability

Thursday 30 September, 10 am –
Passage Room - International Press Centre (IPC), Résidence Palace, Rue de la Loi,
Brussels

Following Dougal Watt's presentation to the NUJ earlier this year, the NUJ and IFJ are organising a conference and presentation on the theme of whistle-blowing and its importance to democracy and institutional accountability .

Invitees will include leading whistleblowers, as well as MEPs, journalists and European officials. Basically the event will be open to any European politicians, journalists and other actors interested in the maintenance of a healthy, transparent and accountable European society.

Formal presentations will be given by whistleblowers Paul van Buitenen and Dougal Watt, as well as IFJ General Secretary Aidan White. Following a Q&A session, an informal mingling over drinks will be held to encourage the free and informal exchange of information and opinion.

Dougal Watt will explain his experience as a public service auditor with the European Court of Auditors (CoA), and the events that eventually lead to him being forced out of his position. He will also question CoA management efficiency and the willingness of MEPs to act on information given to them. Paul van Buitenen is likely to summarise the events that lead to his departure from the EC and eventual election as an MEP.

NB. This is an initial announcement only, more information will be released nearer to the date.

For more information

For more information, contact:

- **JAYS** (Journalists@YourService) – **Valentina Bonaccorso**, International Federation of Journalists (IFJ), +32 2 235 2212 info@brusselsreporter.org
- **NUJ** (National Union of Journalists, UK) – **Jeremy Woolfe** +32 2 733 7199 (after 21 Sept), **Philip Hunt** +32 2 687 2177, **Terry Brisco** +32 2 646 6606