



Glenis Willmott MEP Labour's Leader in Europe

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Rights for victims

Labour MEPs are supporting a campaign to make it easier for victims of crime abroad to get the help and support they need.

At a meeting this month Glennis and other Labour MEPs heard the story of GMB member Maggie Hughes, who had to spend over three months away from home when her son was left in a life-threatening condition after being beaten up while on holiday in Greece.

"Innocent victims of crime must not be forgotten." Glennis said. "And it's not just the victims themselves who may be affected, but also countless family members and close friends who often don't know where to start to navigate their way around a foreign country's systems."

Last year the Foreign Office gave consular support to over 2,000 people who were hospitalised in another EU Country.

The European Commission is putting finishing touches to proposals for EU countries to coordinate the way they deal with victims, and an announcement is

What Tory MEPs did for International Women's day

On March 8th, the world celebrated the centenary of International Women's day which highlights and champions the causes of women around the world, and recognises the role of women in society.

Yet whilst the rest of the world was celebrating, the Tories in Europe were voting in the European Parliament in Strasbourg to make the lives of women more difficult.

- All Conservative MEPs bar one voted against calling on EU member states to guarantee women easy access to methods of contraception.
- All Conservative MEPs voted against a call for member states to guarantee the right to safe abortion.
- All Conservative MEPs bar two voted against the principle of the EU and the Member States supporting organisations which promote women's human rights, including their sexual and reproductive rights.
- All Conservative MEPs bar two voted against the report on health inequalities in the EU, which demanded access to healthcare systems and affordable healthcare for all.
- Conservative MEPs refused to support reports on both female poverty and gender equality.



Labour's women MEPs celebrate International Women's Day

Meanwhile, Tory Prime Minister David Cameron held a special celebratory reception at 10 Downing Street to mark the Centenary Year of International Womens Day, speaking of the importance of women being involved in all levels and aspects of public life in the UK and internationally.

The double standards are astonishing, yet this hypocrisy is true to form, with Cameron saying one thing, and his MEPS doing another. Also sadly true to form was the failure of the British media to report it!

Glenis

News in brief.....

Race for Life

Along with thousands of other women, Glenis will be taking part in this year's [Race for Life](#) on behalf of Cancer Research UK. She will be running (or walking) on June 4 at the Victoria Embankment in Nottingham.

If you would like to join "Team Glenis," contact the office for more information..

If you are unable to take part, then please do come along and support the team, or you could always [sponsor us](#).

Brain Tumour Research

Glenis recently visited the [Children's Brain Tumour Research Centre](#) at the Queens Medical Centre in Nottingham. Please have a look at the website which is raising funds for research into this awful disease.

Labour Movement for Europe

The next meeting of members interested in forming an East Midlands Branch of the [Labour Movement for Europe](#) will be at 10.30 am on Saturday 2nd April 2011 at GMB offices, 3rd Floor, St Katherine's House, St Mary's Wharf, Mansfield Rd, Derby DE1 3TQ. If you would like to attend, please contact Glenis' office on 01159 229717 or office@gleniswillmott.org.uk

**For more information, contact
Glenis' office on 0115 922 9717 or
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Fake Medicines

Glenis has [welcomed](#) the European Parliament's decision to introduce new measures to crack down on the illegal market in [counterfeit drugs](#), that can lead to NHS patients being given simple sugar pills rather than life-saving medicines.

New rules backed by the European Parliament will introduce EU-wide regulations which will enable pharmacists to carry out serial number checks on the medicines they dispense, so that they can be confident that the product they are giving to a patient is genuine.

Road Safety

Every year, 79,000 offences are committed on UK roads by foreign drivers.

Yet the British Government has [refused to participate](#) in a pan-European scheme which would make it possible to take action against drivers from other EU countries.



Other European governments have decided to implement a system that would allow them to impose fines on foreign drivers where they are caught speeding or jumping a red light.

However, our own Tory-led government has refused to get involved with the plans, making it easier for drivers from other countries to get away with breaking our road traffic laws, allowing these offences to continue to go unpunished.

Labour MEPs have called on the government to rethink its stance. Across Europe we see other countries cooperating to make their roads safer, but Britain is refusing to act.

And Finally....

The office has been inundated with enquiries about the trip to Brussels. In the next few weeks, we will be putting final arrangements in place and asking for deposits. If you have not already shown an interest in going, and would like to, then email office@gleniswillmott.org.uk