

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| Media/Source | : Irish Independent |
| Date | : 3 June |
| Title | : European vote is hugely important |

European vote is hugely important

Wednesday June 03 2009

On Friday, we will have the opportunity to elect the 12 Irish members of the [European Parliament](#). Despite growing apathy towards the elections, and antipathy towards politicians, we should remember that the world's poorest people have many reasons to care about the outcome of the vote.

The MEPs we elect will play an important part in shaping [Ireland's](#) and [Europe's](#) approaches to some major international issues, ranging from global climate change negotiations to global trade rules and the international response to the global economic crisis.

These issues to date have been shaped by rich countries, while profoundly affecting the billions of people that live in the world's poorer countries.

The choices we will make on Friday and the manner in which Irish MEPs work in [Brussels](#) will have an enormous influence not just in Ireland and Europe, but on the global community. Let's use the power of the [EU](#) for the benefit of the world's poor, marginalised and vulnerable people.

[Hans Zomer](#)

Dochas, 12 Harcourt Street, Dublin 2