

European United Left • Nordic Green Left



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENTARY GROUP

GUE/NGL
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To

David Maria Sassoli

President of the European Parliament

Brussels, 19 June 2020

Subject: New voting system iVote

Dear President Sassoli,

We are deeply concerned about the use of iVote for votes in several committees as a temporary solution for remote voting.

We strongly oppose that the European Parliament would be dependent on a specific closed proprietary technological platform, in this case Apple. A participatory democratic institutions like the European Parliament must undertake its utmost to ensure that all its members and the public can participate in its activities with as little barriers as possible. Limiting this to only one supplier is contrary to this obligation.

In addition, our political group has always voiced its criticism of how Apple uses tax loopholes to avoid paying taxes in countries where they operate.

We strongly advise the use of voting tools that run on different platforms. The existing and functioning voting system should be made accessible to all Members to allow them to fulfil their democratic mandate.

We are sure you will be able to take these concerns into account.

Yours sincerely,

Martin Schirdewan

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