

# GUIDE TO

@HYBRID



**FEPS**  
ANNUAL  
AUTUMN  
ACADEMY  
**2021**

**“DEFENDING AND  
DEEPENING DEMOCRACY”**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Edition**

**#FEPSAAA**

**11<sup>TH</sup> - 14<sup>TH</sup>**  
OCTOBER 2021

**FEPS** |  
FOUNDATION FOR EUROPEAN  
PROGRESSIVE STUDIES



# FEPS

FOUNDATION FOR EUROPEAN  
PROGRESSIVE STUDIES



## FEPS is the European progressive political foundation

The Foundation for European Progressive Studies (FEPS) is the think tank of the social democratic political family at EU level. Our mission is to develop innovative research, policy advice, training and debates to inspire and inform progressive politics and policies across Europe. We operate as hub for thinking to facilitate the emergence of progressive answers to the challenges that Europe faces today.

FEPS works in close partnership with its members and partners, forging connections and boosting coherence among stakeholders from the world of politics, academia and civil society at local, regional, national, European and global levels.

Today FEPS benefits from a solid network of 68 member organisations. Among these, 43 are full members, 20 have observer status and 5 are ex-officio members. In addition to this network of organisations that are active in the promotion of progressive values, FEPS also has an extensive network of partners, including renowned universities, scholars, policymakers and activists.

Our ambition is to undertake intellectual reflection for the benefit of the progressive movement, and to promote the founding principles of the EU – freedom, equality, solidarity, democracy, respect of human rights, fundamental freedoms and human dignity, and respect of the rule of law.





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# 3<sup>RD</sup> FEPS ANNUAL AUTUMN ACADEMY

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Autumn Academy was a memorable event. Back in spring 2021, when the work began to identify the thematic and organisational frameworks – much remained unknown: it was hard to predict how the pandemic situation would evolve in fall and it was unclear what safety measures would apply. To that end, it was also not obvious if people – even those most politically engaged – would be apt for travelling. And to which extend the hybrid events would become a new reality, considering also the broadly quoted “zoom-fatigue”.



**In the midst of that, FEPS and especially FEPS AAA Team got ready to face it all – the dynamic context, the unknown and the ambition to accelerate, to live up to the expectation that every next edition of the FEPS AAA is even better than the previous one. So, with the motto *impossible is a matter of opinion* – the proverbial sleeves were rolled up to organise the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition.**

The preparations began with having a look at what the FEPS Annual Autumn Academy already stands for, being widely recognised at a flagship training event of FEPS. The brand that has been built consequently in 2019 and 2020 had been standing for: creativity, engagement, and inspiration. It has been associated with high level speakers, as it offered a stage for the outgoing Commissioners and representatives of the incumbent leadership of the sister organisations to engage in a debate about the priorities for the new legislative period. It was known for its specific modules (such as the characteristic blocks of “3”: thematic workshops, country case studies, visits to the institutions), with being space for forging connections among the progressives from across the EU. And in 2019 it was pioneering, becoming the unique event of that kind in Brussels and gaining recognition among the FEPS members, who have always been key to identifying the participants matching the recruitment call for the “most promising, young, but already electorally experienced progressive politicians in Europe”. **In 2020 it not only**

**retained this reputation, but additionally started being recognised for being the format through which new technologies are being mastered. It was in fact the largest event of that kind organised throughout a period of 3 days with usage of a platform, which had been designed specifically for this activity.** With that proud legacy, in 2021 the project was to reach a new level – being a true hybrid event, which would see speakers and participants being the first guests of the new FEPS Headquarters, alongside with a community connected via the platform. It was aimed to use the potential of both to maximum, so instead of just connecting what was “in the house” with online, the programme was to be truly built as “3 in 1” – using innovative methodologies for online, physical and hybrid.

Another important step that was taken concerned the philosophy of the concept. The first two editions were embedded in somewhat more general debates about the future of Europe. In 2019 it was held ahead of the moment in which the European Commission would announce its priorities for the next 5 years, which inspired the programme that was constructed to offer participants a chance to learn about them, discuss them and propose their own. A year later, the event was close to the state of the union and the post-Covid recovery plans – which remained in the focus as the anchoring point for all the debates. **But in 2021, the decision was taken to enable FEPS Annual Autumn Academy to gain more focus, see the discussions reach another depth and aim at more of accelerated training aspect. With that in mind, the topic “Deepening and defending democracy” was chosen – as the one that was believed to be core for any fundamental debate about the future of the Union,** the situation in the respective member states, as also about the ways in which individuals would recreate their communities and rephrase the respective social contracts in the post-pandemic world.

Consequently, in the design of the event, each of the 4 days would focus on another aspect of democracy. Among the selected ones were Representative Democracy, Participatory Democracy, Inclusive Democracy and European Union’s Democracy which would allow ensuring that each of the topics is both thoroughly discussed and looked at from the perspective of what could be done by the progressives. Additionally, all the four angles were analysed from several perspectives: democracy as ideal and set of values; democracy an institutional construct; democracy as a set of governing principles; and democracy as a framework for individuals to act as citizens in their communities, states and beyond. The programme segments were therefore constructed to coherently refer to those all through the event, whilst identifying major challenges and ways in which everyone, especially participants included,

could take part in facing these. Preparing the content, FEPS anchored itself in several relevant publications, audio-visual and materials (such as FEPS Talks), many of which were in-house productions, and all were made available to all the participants ahead of the event and during its course (in the section of the online platform called “Library”).



**The selection of the topic and the good reputation of the FEPS Annual Autumn Academy were key reasons for which this year especially the recruitment of the participants was done in *no time* – with places filled in by nominees with amazing profiles, impressive achievements and loads and loads of talents.** FEPS remains most grateful to the network of the FEPS AAA alumni, to the FEPS member foundations, respective sister parties’ international secretaries, colleagues from within the secretariats of the sister organisations and from diverse FEPS communities (FEPS Ones to Watch, Young Academics Network, Next Left and others) – for helping us to spread the call and reach out to all those remarkable participants. Their enthusiasm, their active participation (as stats suggest – minimally half speaking time) and their engagement (in all the formats, including mentorship programme, competitions, drafting and communication committees), was what made the 3<sup>rd</sup> FEPS AAA “our common event, our common success”. And by that standard of shared ownership, live up to the principle that it was not just a matter of debate, but about participatory and deliberative democracy put into action (even if just in a micro scale of the activity).

Upon the arrival, the participants at the FEPS Headquarters received badges, which on their back featured questions for “bingo”. These were there to enable participants to *break ice easier*, having a set of issues they could instantly ask one another and right away start mingling. For those online, the programme featured a carousel – which would connect individuals for a limited time for bilateral exchanges. Of course, those in Brussels all were also equipped with the log-in’s and herewith already from the

start the event set up the standard of “hybrid”. Later in the programme, several other activities allowed this kind of connectivity and mixing among the online and present participants – with lounges (moderated by FEPS colleagues) and some of the competitions.

**The first plenary was inaugurated by László Andor, FEPS Secretary General video address and Ania Skrzypek, FEPS Director for Research and Training – who welcomed everyone in Brussels and/or connected via platform, explaining the driving ideas behind the FEPS AAA programme, offering some insights to the logic of some of the applied methodologies and setting out the objectives.** They both emphasised that the FEPS AAA is reaching new level, which has only been possible thanks to support and involvement of so many – among whom the partners at the spot PES, S&D Group, PES Group in CoR... were especially acknowledged. The invitation was issued to also visit their virtual stands via the online platform. Last but not least, special words of appreciation were addressed at the colleagues at the PES, who agreed to host daily groups of the FEPS AAA participants. Due to the COVID safety measures it wouldn’t be possible to accommodate all the individuals at the FEPS premises and the hospitality of the Party was how still everyone willing to come to Brussels could be welcomed.



The important feature of the first and subsequent days was a lecture. It was ensured that each day would start with one, seeing a leading academic offer a three-quarters long presentation (leaving exactly a quarter for the follow up questions and comments). On the first day it was Professor Daphne Halikiopoulou on the Rise of Populism, an on the second Professor Colin Crouch on Participatory Democracy. On the other two days, it was Richard Corbett and Agnes Hubert, whose lectures on “The Progressive Potential of the EU” and “Gender Equality and the European Union” respectively, were based on two new books. Each

of these had been commissioned by FEPS to become the first two **Primers – a new series of educational volumes, which would annually be launched at the occasion of the FEPS Annual Autumn Academy and in time grow to be indispensable instructive material for progressives engaged in public and political debates on different levels of governance across the continent.**



On the first day, the lecture was followed by the first appearance of a “Special Guest”. It was Conner Rousseau, the leader of Vooruit – who joined the FEPS AAA in person to explain the party’s new strategy “The Big Shift”. His presentation inspired many exchanges at the plenary and in aftermath, allowing also the FEPS AAA participants to form first-hand opinions on what issues should frame the ideological and organisational renewal of social democracy. The theme continued with the presentation by Paul Magnette, leader of Belgian PS – who coming on the 3rd day focused, among the others, on the concept of eco-socialism. On the second day, it was Alexander Shlyk – who joined as the Special Guest, explaining the situation in Belarus and what the European Union alongside with the international community could do to support the Belarussian citizens in their ongoing, escalating fight for democracy.

**Importantly, the “Special Guests” were the opportunities for honest, direct and very vibrant exchanges with the Progressive leaders.** But next to these memorable moments, the technology also enabled FEPS to ensure that the FEPS AAA participants were addressed on Tuesday by Enrique Barón as the FEPS Chair of Scientific Council, Ricardo Lagos as the former President of Chile, George Papandreou as the Former Prime Minister of Greece. On Wednesday by Margot Wallström as the former Foreign Affairs Minister of Sweden, and on Thursday by Tanja Fajon as the S&D Party Leader-Slovenia and an MEP, Alicia Homs as the S&D MEP and YES President, Synre Lysø, Secretary General of Arbeidernes Ungdomsfylking – AUF, Norway, and Paul Stich as the SJOE Chairman in

Austria. These were very short messages, recorded on advance to offer encouragement, inspiration and further focus for the ongoing fight for democracy. The prevailing thread among them was the plea for making democracy inclusive and for ensuring that it remains representative for all regardless of their gender, age, origin, beliefs, sexual identity, economic or social status, health condition etc. And to that end, that democracy should never be taken for granted – and the young progressives, inheriting a legacy of so many dramatic fights that caused lives to make democracy prevail – have a particular responsibility to always remember, reiterate and revolt against any attempt to tarnish its ideal. The videos were played during the programme, as also stored in the library section and remain further available – being a very instructive material and a part of the FEPS AAA toolkit.



The choice of topic, the logic and the methodology also dictated the selection of the three “debates” – as the central panels of the FEPS AAA programme were called. The first one was devoted on “Democratising the Digital”, involving Paul Nemitz (Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers of the European Commission), Liia Hänni (former member of the Estonian Parliament and an expert on e-Democracy), Evelyne Gebhardt (S&D Member of the European Parliament) and Miapetra Kumpula-Natri (S&D Member of the European Parliament). It pointed out the challenges that the contemporary times are facing, when it comes to digital space, platform workers and their rights, big data and right to protection, as also the influence of i.e. social media. The set of speakers ensured both insights into ongoing debates, as also joint deliberation as per what are the next big questions that the progressives should be protagonist of at that field. The subsequent, was the exchange on “Fighting for democracy in the EU”, with Katarina Barley (S&D member and vice-president of the European Parliament), Adam Bodnar (Dean Faculty of Law University of Warsaw and a Polish Ombudsman for Citizen Rights) and moderated by László Andor. **The debate was very heated, as it evolved around the indispensability**

**of the core values on which the EU was founded and the ways through which the principles such as the independence of judiciary, media and right to fair trial must be guaranteed across the Union.** Finally, the last debate focused on the “Conference of the Future of Europe” and with speakers Maria João Rodrigues as the FEPS President, Marek Belka (Member of the European Parliament and Vice-President of S&D), Luca Visentini (General Secretary of ETUC) and moderation by Ania Skrzypek, FEPS Director for Research and Training – looked at how to continue fighting for a meaningful Conference, during which all the citizens voices are heard and considered, and which at the result lives up to the historical expectations that had been laid down at its conception.

Alongside the debates, there was also a variety of other modalities that enabled further discussions with experts and exchanges also based on respective personal expertise of participants. First among them were the already mentioned “blocks of 3”. This year, when it comes to country case studies, following were in the spotlight: France, Corinne Narassiguin (PS FR, National Secretary Coordinator – number 2 of Parti Socialiste), Cécilia Gondard (PS FR, National Secretary for Gender Equality) and Pierre Leturcq (Senior Policy Analyst Institute for European Environmental Policy) moderated by François Balate, Sweden with Lisa Pelling (Political Scientist and head of Arena Idé, Paula Ör (Member of the Riksdag), moderated by Johan Sjolander (Head of Tiden), and Hungary with András Bíró-Nagy (Director of Policy Solutions), Gabor Scheiring (Political Economist), Aniko Gregor (Assistant Professor – Eötvös Loránd University), Balazs Barany (MSZP International Secretary) moderated by László Andor (FEPS General Secretary). All three looked at the situation inside of the countries, the prospect of the elections and the strategy that the progressives are choosing in their regard, and then the lessons already learnt (which could be beneficiary, when shared with the representatives of the sister parties). **Some of the workshops featured passionate and heated debates, but all with no exception enabled everyone involved to learn a lot!**

Second block included thematic workshops, which this year included the topics of “Economic Democracy” with Judith Kirton-Darling (Deputy General Secretary of industriAll Europe), Isabelle Ferrera (Professor of Sociology at UCL), Pedro Silva Pereira (S&D Member and Vice President of the European Parliament), moderated by David Rinaldi (FEPS Director of Studies and Policy). The topic of “Transitional Parties and lists” with Gaby Bischoff (S&D Member of the European Parliament”, Tapio Raunio (Head of Political Science at Tampere University) Isabelle Hertner (Senior Lecturer at King’s College London) moderated by Ania Skrzypek (FEPS Director for Research and Training). Lastly, the topic of “Empowerment of civil society” with Mikael

Leyi (Secretary General of SOLIDAR), Oliver Röpke (President of the Workers’ Group EESC), Anna Terrón (Director Ibero-American Foundation for Administration and Public Policies), moderated by Hedwig Giusto (FEPS Senior Policy Advisor). As they were conducted in smaller circles, they have proven to be extensively participatory. Additionally, they were also a momentum when further content from the rich library of FEPS was shared (i.e. in the context of the workshop “Transitional Parties and lists” it was the chance for participants to have a sneak peak of the result of the research conducted by the FEPS permanent Working Group on Europarties and Transnational Democracy).



Thirdly, also traditionally already, there was a block “visit to the institutions” – which at least in two cases was more of a “institution’s visit to FEPS” due to difficulties with accessing the EU institutions premises due to COVID measures. This year it got a format of a set of workshops: by S&D Group in the European Parliament with Vassilis Ntousas (FEPS Senior Policy Advisor), by PES Group in CoR with Ainara Bascuñana (FEPS Head of Communication), and by PES at their hospitable premises, with Andreas Dimmelmeier (FEPS Policy Analyst). Being able to learn about how the sister organisations work, how they in practice realise the ambitious agendas, how they connect with their constituencies – that all was a knowledge gained through these respective discussions, equipping participants with an answer on how they themselves can also further get involved.

On the top of these, as an innovation to the programme – a set of masterclasses was introduced. They were facultative (with a minimum requirement for the participants in Brussels) and were designed to offer accelerated course in a chosen subject for a small group of attendees. **As the trainings focused on skills in the previous editions, the masterclasses were overwhelmingly popular – leading to opening extra ones.** The full list included “Ways to engage in CoFoE” with Francesco Cerassani (Political Advisor for the S&D in the EP), “Women Representation in the Political Landscape with Eleonora del Vecchio (Brus-



sels Binder), “how to read the opinion polls” with Marcin Duma (CEO/ President of the Board of the Institute for Market and Social Research IMSR) “Disinformation and Fake News: what it is, what it isn’t, and how to fight it”, with Paul Butcher (Policy Analyst European Policy Centre), “Mobilising public opinion in time of pandemic” with Eric Sundström (Landsorganisationen (LO)), “Article 7 of TEU and Conditionality Mechanism” Thijs Reuten (S&D Member of the European Parliament) “Primacy of EU law & legal implications of article 7” with Juan Fernando López Aguilar (S&D Member of the European Parliament, President LIBE Committee), “Talking about EU & Global Affairs at local level” with Anna Colombo.



Consequently, **mentorship programme was another important innovation. It had a format of a competition.** Participants were invited to submit within a deadline of the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of the event what they would consider their very own ground-breaking idea on how to deepen democracy. The ideas were then analysed by the FEPS AAA Team in order to assign their authors to one of the four MEPs Alex Agius Saliba, Evin Incir, Andreas Schieder and Isabel Carvalhais, who agreed to mentor the proposal’s givers for an hour preparing them for a kind of an agora. There all the ideas were presented (with each of the authors being given 3 minutes and additional time to respond to eventual questions / comments from the audience). As the participants were competing individually and in the teams of their mentor – MEP (each of whom had 3-4 participants to mentor), then MEPs were offered a possibility to additionally recommend the presented ideas and ask the audience to support these. The winner was Ismael Quittineh from Sweden with the idea “Equality Before Trade”, but effectively everyone who dared to take part should be considered also as one! It was an incredibly interactive, inspiring session – which proved – as the title announced that “The Progressives have great ideas!” indeed. What made the evening even more exceptional,

was the appearance and address of Zita Gurmai, PES Women President and FEPS Vice-President.

The evening was an absolute highlight, generating loads of creativity and positive energy – of which many other sources were several other features of the programme. First, there was a number of competitions – starting from Bingo; through Pub Quiz about the History of Social Democracy in Europe; the trivial Table Competition and several others. They all served as a “light way” to learn something interesting, curious even perhaps, and definitely for the group to further consolidate. Secondly, there were few methodologies used that would allow participants to share their own experiences (like the “Me and Democracy: the history” workshop) and make commitments, preserving the enthusiasm that they would leave the seminar with (“Democracy: the love letters”). Thirdly, **the programme was indeed considered as “co-owned”, which is also why the Communication and Drafting Committees were established – both fully organised and run by the participants themselves.** The latter one, working under the leadership of the Chair they elected – Lora Lyubenova, was in session till far past beyond midnight of Wednesday, debating politics and coming up with an insightful declaration – which was presented and adopted unanimously at the end of the Academy. Fourthly, as the days were intense and long, there was also a way for participants to team up and sneak out to explore the EU capital a little bit – an encouragement for which was the specially designed for the occasion “Treasure Hunt”.

As mentioned at the beginning, it was a challenge indeed to translate all the features of the programme into hybrid / online format, especially that this meant also a need to heavily rely on technology. With exception of some glitches, it was nevertheless accomplished. And some of the participants stayed connected all through - despite even the time difference (which made some of them stay all through the late night or very early in the morning). There was a parallel evening session organised especially and exclusively for the online participants as well on Tuesday, which workshop was a variation of “Democracy - let’s tell the story methodology”. And because so much effort went to conquering the new ground of hybrid event this time, the FEPS AAA Team took a decision to write them all up – creating the first FEPS AAA hybrid events manual, that is becoming yet another product of ever growing FEPS AAA toolkit.

The four days have been intense and when the closing session came about, it was hard to believe that it all passed so quickly. The ceremony was a part of the sequence that featured the earlier mentioned debate on the “Conference on the Future of Europe”, which already as a part of a grand finale saw three young leaders: Ana Pirtskhalava (YES Secretary General), Bruno Gonçalves, (IUSY Secretary General, tbc) Anna Kassautzki (SPD Member of the



Bundestag) appearing to share their view and pledge of what they, in their respective roles, will do aiming at “Defending and deepening democracy”. **Their voices were powerful and once again emphasised the sense of urgency – it is today that the future is being determined and progressive must be at the forefront of making it fairer, better and with more equal opportunities for each and everyone.** This was indeed the message of the grand finale, which ceremony was conducted by Maria João Rodrigues, FEPS President and László Andor, FEPS Secretary General. They used the momentum to award the participants with the FEPS AAA graduates’ certificates and also to congratulate the winners of diverse competitions.

All in all, 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Autumn Academy was unforgettable indeed. It offered an incomparable experience, it provided knowledge and inspiration, it forged connection and created a community – which remains active and stays in close touch with FEPS. As organisers we have been humbled by the enthusiastic reception of the programme and by so many encouraging reviews, which we received at the spot and through the evaluation forms submitted by participants. They make us committed to already now think about the next year’s edition with a desire that one of the pop songs spells as an ambition to reach “higher and higher”.

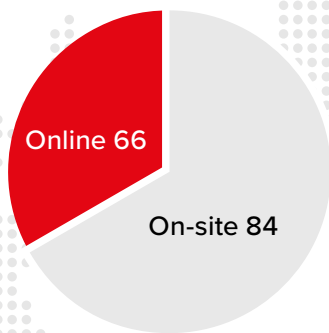




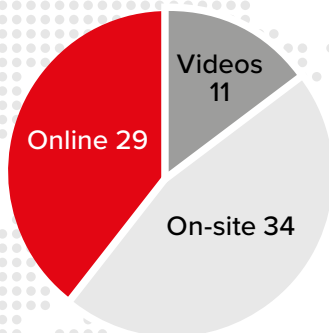
# AAA PLATFORM STATS

## FEPS AAA IN NUMBERS

**PARTICIPANTS: 150**



**SPEAKERS: 74**  
35 WOMEN / 39 MEN



**TRAINERS: 8**



+ 50 FEPS AAA Supporters

■ Online ■ On-site



VISIT TO EU INSTITUTIONS - 3

COUNTRY-CASE STUDIES - 3

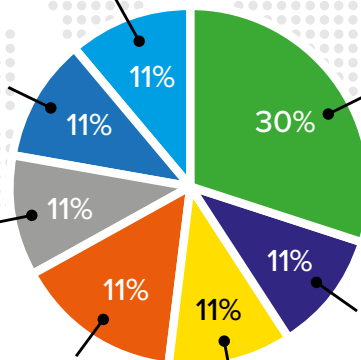
DEBATES - 3

LECTURES - 4

HIGH LEVEL GUESTS - 3

MASTERCLASSES - 8

THEMATIC WORKSHOPS - 3



# TWITTER FEED

Ο χρήστης FEPS έκανε Retweet



**Maria João Rodrigues** @MJRodriguesEU · 13 Οκτ

This week @FEPS\_Europe is hosting its annual training Academy! This year's topic is #democracy & I'm pleased to welcome brilliant leaders such as @PaulMagnette from @PSofficial, @katarinabarley from @TheProgressives & @agnes\_hubert to share the views on such a key issue! #FEPSAAA



3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Autumn Academy was unforgettable. It offered an incomparable experience, it provided knowledge and inspiration, it forged connection and created a community.

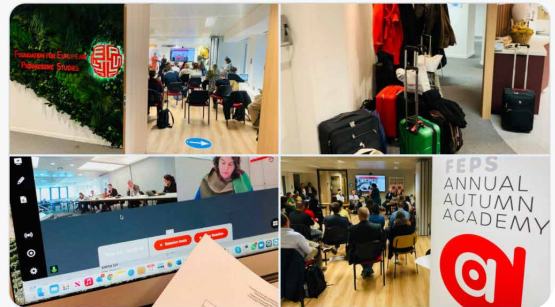
The AAA was the first occasion after the worst period of the pandemic to organise in-person debates, masterclasses, lectures, workshops, country case studies, and other activities at FEPS new headquarters.



**FEPS** @FEPS\_Europe · 14 Οκτ

Thanks to all #FEPSAAA nominees, partners and remarkable speakers who made possible the 3rd edition of FEPS training flagship initiative! 🙌

For the 1st time, we could organise at our new headquarters -and in a hybrid way- debates, masterclasses, lectures & much + on #Democracy



**FEPS** @FEPS\_Europe · 14 Οκτ

As a final step of FEPS Training Academy #FEPSAAA, President @MJRodriguesEU discussed with @VisentiniLuca ETUC and S&D VP @profMarekBelka about the stakes of the next democratic transformation of Europe and the next phase of the EU project #FutureofEurope #CoFoE



EUROPEAN TRADE UNION και S&D Group

The debate on the Future of Europe looked at how to continue fighting for a meaningful Conference, during which all the citizens voices are heard and considered.

Mentorship programme was another important innovation and it had a format of a competition. Four members of the European Parliament were the "coaches" of the participants.



**Isabel Carvalho** @IECarvalho · 13 Οκτ

I was very happy to participate in @feeps.europe 3rd Annual Autumn Academy! The four days of this programme are devoted to "Defending and deepening democracy" - it was great to see promising young talents.

#FEPSAAA  
@FEPS\_Europe  
@TheProgressives





## DESCRIBING FEPS AAA 2021 IN THREE WORDS

*“inspirational, rich, well-organised”*

*“amazing, amazing and again amazing”*

*“inspiring, insightful and intense”*

*“interesting, deepening and brain-stimulating”*



## MAIN TAKEAWAYS

*“socialist democracy is alive in Europe!”*

*“becoming more outspoken about my own ideas”*

*“how important laws are for a democracy and how the justice system needs to be protected +how I want to include and organise more people on the local level”*

*“becoming more outspoken about my ideas”*



## AND AS FOR THE FEPS AAA TEAM

*“you are more than friends, you are like my family... I felt like I really belong”*

*“thank you so much, you took very good care of us and you really made this event into a great success”*

*“you are superhuman! I really hope you’re going to get a well-deserved break after this. Organising this much content with so many variables and somehow making it all work out in the end without any hiccups (the tech issues we had don’t really count) is an impressive feat. Thank you!!!”*

*“you are one wonderful team! Thank you! :)”*

INSIGHTFUL  
LOCAL  
INSPIRING  
SPEAKERS  
NOMINEES  
IDEAS  
SUCCESS  
ACADEMY  
RULE OF LAW  
TEAM  
JUSTICE  
DEMOCRACY  
EUROPE  
DEEPENING  
DECLARATION  
HYBRID  
PROGRESSIVE  
SOCIAL  
DEMOCRACY  
MASTERCCLASS  
NETWORKING

# PROGRAMME

## THE FEPS ANNUAL AUTUMN ACADEMY 2021

“DEFENDING AND DEEPENING DEMOCRACY”

Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> - Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> - Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> - Thursday, 14<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2021





# DAY 1

## MONDAY, 11<sup>th</sup> October 2021 REPRESENTATIVE DEMOCRACY

**13.15 BINGO**  
In FEPS Office for those who are in our premises.  
Through the platform carousel for those joining online.

**14.00 OPENING**  
**László Andor**  
*(Secretary General of FEPS)*  
**Ania Skrzypek**  
*(FEPS Director for Research and Training)*

**14.20 NETWORKING LOUNGES**  
Animated by:  
**Euléane Omez**  
*(FEPS Project Officer)*  
**Susanne Pfeil**  
*(FEPS Project Officer)*  
**Stefano Porciello**  
*(FEPS Communication Assistant)*

**15.00 LECTURE**  
**Daphne Halikiopoulou**  
*(Professor of Comparative Politics, University of Reading)*  
Moderator:  
**László Andor**  
*(Secretary General of FEPS)*

**16.00 INAUGURATION**  
**Iratxe García Pérez**  
*(President of S&D Group in the European Parliament)*  
**Sergei Stanishev**  
*(President Party of European Socialist)*

**16.10 FIGHTERS FOR DEMOCRACY**  
Message by:  
**Howard Lee M.S.L.A.**  
*(State Legislative Assembly person - State of Perak, Malaysia/Former IUSY President)*

**16.15 LAUNCH OF THE PUB QUIZ**  
Introduced by **László Andor**  
*(Secretary General of FEPS)*

**16.30-17.30 SPECIAL GUEST**  
**Conner Rousseau**  
*(President Vooruit, BE)*  
Moderator:  
**Maria Maltsching**  
*(Director of Renner Institut)*

**18.30**  
Drafting Committee  
*(Lobby Hotel Le Berger)*  
Comms Committee  
*(Lobby Hotel Le Berger)*

**19.00**  
Dinner with an  
AAA special Tables competition  
Presented by **Céline Guedes**  
*(FEPS Project Officer)*  
*(Hotel Le Berger)*

### COLOUR CODE

**Light grey:** compulsory

**Grey:** optional

**Dark Grey:** only for presential members

**White:** networking



## DAY 2

TUESDAY, 12<sup>th</sup> October 2021  
PARTICIPATORY DEMOCRACY

### 09.00 FIGHTERS FOR DEMOCRACY

Message by:

**Margot Wallström**

*(former First Vice-President of the European Commission - 2004-2010)*

### 09.05 LECTURE:

**Colin Crouch**

*(Professor Emeritus of the University of Warwick)*

Moderator:

**Ania Skrzypek**

*(FEPS Director for Research and Training)*

### 10.00 FIGHTERS FOR DEMOCRACY

Messages by:

**Enrique Barón Crespo**

*(FEPS Chair Scientific Council, former President of the EP)*

**Ricardo Lagos**

*(former President of Chile)*

**George Papandreou**

*(President of Socialist International, former Prime Minister of Greece)*

### 10.15 SPECIAL GUEST

**Alexander Shlyk**

*(Special Representative of Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya, leader of Belorussian opposition)*

Moderator:

**Ania Skrzypek**

*(FEPS Director for Research and Training)*

### 11.00 BREAK

### 11.15 DEBATE

Democratising the digital

**Paul Nemitz**

*(Director General for Justice and Consumers of the European Commission)*

**Liia Hänni**

*(Former Member of Estonian Parliament, expert on e-Democracy)*

**Evelyne Gebhardt**

*(S&D Member of the European Parliament - Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection)*

**Miapetra Kumpula-Natri**

*(S&D Member of the European Parliament - Special Committee on Artificial Intelligence in a Digital Age)*

Moderator:

**Justin Nogarede**

*(Digital Policy Analyst, FEPS)*

### 12.30 COUNTRY CASE STUDIES (3)

#### SWEDEN

**Lisa Pelling**

*(Political Scientist and head of Arena Idé)*

**Paula Ör**

*(Member of the Riksdag)*

Moderator:

**Johan Sjölander**

*(Head of Tiden)*





# FEPS ANNUAL AUTUMN ACADEMY 2021

## HUNGARY

**András Bíró-Nagy**  
(Director of Policy Solutions)

**Gábor Scheiring**  
(Political Economist)

**Anikó Gregor**  
(Assistant Professor - Eötvös Loránd University)

**Balázs Bárány**  
(MSZP International Secretary)

Moderator:

**László Andor**  
(FEPS Secretary General)

## FRANCE

**Corinne Narrassiguin**  
(PS FR, National Secretary Coordinator – number 2 of Parti Socialiste)

**Cécilia Gondard**  
(PS FR, National Secretary for Gender Equality)

**Pierre Leturcq**  
(Senior Policy Analyst Institute for European Environmental Policy)

Moderator:

**François Balate**  
(Head of Office of FEPS President)

13.30

**LUNCH BREAK**

14.00

### (OPTIONAL) MASTER CLASS

Ways to engage in CoFoE

**Francesco Cerassani**  
(Political Advisor for the S&D in the EP)

### (OPTIONAL) MASTER CLASS

Women Representation in the Political landscape Brussels Binder

**Eleonora del Vecchio**  
(Brussels Binder Coordinator)

16.30

### (OPTIONAL) MASTER CLASS

Disinformation and 'fake news': what it is, what it isn't, and how to fight it

**Paul Butcher**  
(Policy Analyst European Policy Centre)

18.30

Drafting Committee  
(Lobby Hotel Le Berger)

Comms Committee  
(Lobby Hotel Le Berger)

19.00

Dinner (Hotel Le Berger)  
"Me and democracy: our love letter"

19.00

### E-DEMOCRACY LOUNGE

(This session is an optional one for online participants)

#### COLOUR CODE

**Light grey:** compulsory

**Grey:** optional

**Dark Grey:** only for presential members

**White:** networking



## DAY 3

WEDNESDAY 13<sup>th</sup> October 2021  
**INCLUSIVE DEMOCRACY**

**09.00**

### LECTURE

**Agnés Hubert**  
*(President of G5+, the first European feminist think tank)*

Moderator:

**Laetitia Thissen**  
*(FEPS Policy Analyst)*

**10.00**

### SPECIAL GUEST

**Paul Magnette**  
*(President Parti Socialiste, BE)*

Moderator:

**László Andor**  
*(Secretary General of FEPS)*

**11.00**

### BREAK

**11.15**

### DEBATE

Fighting for democracy in the EU

**Katarina Barley**  
*(S&D Member and Vice President of the European Parliament)*

**Adam Bodnar**  
*(Dean of the Faculty of Law University of Warsaw, former Polish Ombudsman for Citizen Rights)*

Moderator:

**László Andor**  
*(Secretary General of FEPS)*

**12.25**

### FIGHTERS FOR DEMOCRACY

Message by:

**Sindre Lyso**  
*(Secretary General of Arbeidernes Ungdomsfylking – AUF, Norway)*

**12.30**

### THEMATIC WORKSHOPS (3)

#### ECONOMIC DEMOCRACY

**Judith Kirton-Darling**  
*(Deputy Secretary General of industriAll Europe)*

**Isabelle Ferreras**  
*(Professor of Sociology, UCL)*

**Pedro Silva Pereira**  
*(S&D Member and Vice President of the European Parliament)*

Moderator:

**David Rinaldi**  
*(FEPS Director of Studies and Policy)*

#### TRANSNATIONAL PARTIES AND LISTS

**Gaby Bischoff**  
*(S&D Member of the European Parliament)*

**Tapio Raunio**  
*(Head of Political Science at Tampere University)*

**Isabelle Hertner**  
*(Senior Lecturer King's College London)*

Moderator:

**Ania Skrzypek**  
*(FEPS Director for Research and Training)*

#### EMPOWERMENT OF CIVIL SOCIETY

**Mikael Leyi**  
*(Secretary General of SOLIDAR)*

**Oliver Röpke**  
*(President of the Workers' Group EESC)*

**Anna Terrón**  
*(Director Ibero-American Foundation for Administration and Public Policies)*

Moderator:

**Hedwig Giusto**  
*(FEPS Senior Policy Advisor)*



# FEPS ANNUAL AUTUMN ACADEMY 2021

**13.30 LUNCH BREAK**

**14.00 (OPTIONAL) MASTER CLASS**

Mobilising public opinion in time of pandemic

**Eric Sundström**

*Landsorganisationen (LO)*

**(OPTIONAL) MASTER CLASS**

*Article 7 of TEU and Conditionality Mechanism*

**Thijs Reuten**

*(S&D Member of the European Parliament)*

**(OPTIONAL) MASTER CLASS**

*How to read the opinion polls*

**Marcin Duma**

*(CEO/President of the Board of the Institute for Market and Social Research IMSR)*

**16.30 (OPTIONAL) MASTER CLASS**

Disinformation and 'fake news': what it is, what it isn't, and how to fight it

**Paul Butcher**

*(Policy Analyst European Policy Centre)*

**(OPTIONAL) MASTER CLASS**

*Talking about EU & Global*

*Affairs at local level*

**Anna Colombo**

*(Former official of S&D Group)*

**(OPTIONAL) MASTER CLASS**

Primacy of EU law & legal implications of article 7

**Juan Fernando López Aguilar**

*(S&D Member of the European Parliament, President LIBE Committee)*

**18.30**

**DRAFTING COMMITTEE**

*(FEPS Office)*

**COMMS COMMITTEE**

*(FEPS Office)*

**19.00**

**CONTEST: PROGRESSIVES HAVE GREAT IDEAS / DEMOCRACY AND ME - THE HISTORY**

Opening: **Zita Gurmai**

*(President PES Women and FEPS Vice President)*

**WITH S&D MEMBERS OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AS MENTORS**

**Alex Agius Saliba**

**Isabel Carvalhais**

**Evin Incir**

**Andreas Schieder**

*Dinner will be served at FEPS Office during the contest*

**COLOUR CODE**

**Light grey:** compulsory

**Grey:** optional

**Dark Grey:** only for presential members

**White:** networking



## DAY 4

THURSDAY 14<sup>th</sup> October 2021  
EUROPEAN UNION'S DEMOCRACY

### 09:00 FIGHTERS FOR DEMOCRACY

Message by:

**Tanja Fajon**

*(SD Party leader, Slovenia, S&D MEP,  
Chair of PES Democracy Network)*

### 09.05 LECTURE

**Richard Corbett**

*(Former Member of the European  
Parliament)*

Moderator:

**László Andor**

*(Secretary General of FEPS)*

### 10.00 VISITS TO 3 EU INSTITUTIONS

#### EP - S&D IN THE EP

**Alex Agius Saliba**

*(S&D Member of the EP)*

**Frazer Clarke**

*(S&D Deputy Secretary General)*

Moderated by

**Vassilis Ntousas**

*(FEPS Senior Policy Advisor)*

### COR - PES GROUP IN COR

**Jordi Harrison**

*(Secretary General PES Group in CoR)*

**Pascal Smet**

*(Secretary of State of the Brussels-  
Capital Region. PES CoR Member)*

Moderated by

**Ainara Bascuñana**

*(FEPS Head of Communication)*

### PES

**Yonnec Polet**

*(PES Deputy Secretary General)*

Moderated by

**Andreas Dimmelmeier**

*(FEPS Policy Analyst)*

### 11.00 BREAK

### 11.15 DEBATE

Conference on the Future of Europe

**Maria Joao Rodrigues**

*(FEPS President)*

**Marek Belka**

*(Member of the European Parliament  
and Vice-president of S&D)*

**Luca Visentini**

*(Secretary General ETUC)*

Moderator:

**Ania Skrzypek**

*(FEPS Director for Research and Training)*



# FEPS ANNUAL AUTUMN ACADEMY 2021

**12.15 FIGHTERS FOR DEMOCRACY**

Messages by:

**Alicia Homs**  
*(S&D MEP and YES President)*

**Paul Stich**  
*(Chair of SJOE, Austria)*



**12.25 COFOE - YOUNG PROGRESSIVE LEADERS**

**Ana Pirtskhalava**  
*(YES Secretary General)*

**Bruno Goncalves**  
*(IUSY Secretary General, tbc)*

**Anna Kassautzki**  
*(SPD Member of the Bundestag)*



**13.00 CLOSING CEREMONY**

**13.30 LUNCH**



**COLOUR CODE**

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**White:** networking



# FEPS AAA ALUMNI DECLARATION





## A CALL FOR DEMOCRACY THAT WORKS

FEPS Annual Autumn Academy's participants (FEPS AAA) believe democracy is a matter of human rights and equality. It's more important than ever to stand up for our freedom of speech, the right to organize and the right to vote in free and fair elections. Furthermore, **democracy goes beyond elections and includes the participation of all European citizens in their respective member states and at the EU-level.** Democratic institutions need to be able to do their work without undue political interference - examples for institutions would be supervising authorities, courts and prosecutors, media and civil society organizations. Especially right now when some of the member states question the rule of law inside the European Union. We believe the European Union is not just an economic and political union, but a union of values and ideas such as equal participation to the democratic processes, equal access to health, work, education and social security.

**We, the FEPS AAA nominees, commit to stand up for democracy as something far more than merely formal rights.** For us, it is a tool to realize the dreams of people, implement social progress and build a political revolution. We will only have inclusive democracy when Europeans have equal access to their social, economic and political rights!

The fight for democracy has been one which has been fought over many generations and which will continue on for many years to come. For that reason we call for ensuring that all member states have a defensive democratic system which protects the rights of (political) minorities, fights against internal anti-democratic forces and promotes a civil society which actively promotes the ideals of democracy. **Those ideals should be included in 'eternity' clauses in the constitutions of both the EU and the member states.**



Democracy is not only a matter of voting and reading party policies. We have to acknowledge that democracy is about having a say in society in general - it is about having a say in the working place, having a say on the education we get and the way we structure our families. That is what we want to implement on an European level, real democracy on

- how we shape our working place,
- how we shape public (and digital) spaces,
- eco-friendly environment and social climate policy,
- shaping our health and welfare system.

During the pandemic COVID-19, our welfare systems have been under extreme pressure. **Health systems have staved off the worst consequences of the pandemic, but they need investment and a shift towards a communitarian perspective of health.** Science and research can solve societal challenges, but public and private investment need to match the size of the problems and achievements need to be distributed between all citizens. Care policies need an update and cannot rely only on unpaid, informal networks of support, which are particularly burdensome on women. However, we must not allow autocrats and enemies of democracy to use public

health emergencies as an excuse to constrain freedoms and fundamental human rights.

**A strong democracy requires fair labour regulations and work dignity.** We call on political leaders to protect workers' in the new digital labour market. In order to avoid a new wave of youth unemployment, we have to make sure everyone has equal access to education and a smooth transition to the labour market. We demand that political leaders make sure that everyone is able to gain new digital skills, which will help to adapt to new telework and a green economy.

Digital technologies are shaking up democracies across the world. Digital platforms should be promoting literacy, and bringing people together, not maximizing engagement and clicks. AI should be liberating people from hard, unhealthy work environments and solving societal challenges, not profiling minorities and undermining fundamental rights. **Progressives should fight against business models that rely upon massive personal data collection and prioritize profits over values.** We should rethink digital infrastructures - those we use every day - as public utilities, including designing different governance structures that allow people to be involved in setting the goals and incentives of new, digital public spheres. It's also time to ensure a universal right to an internet connection and to a digital ID.

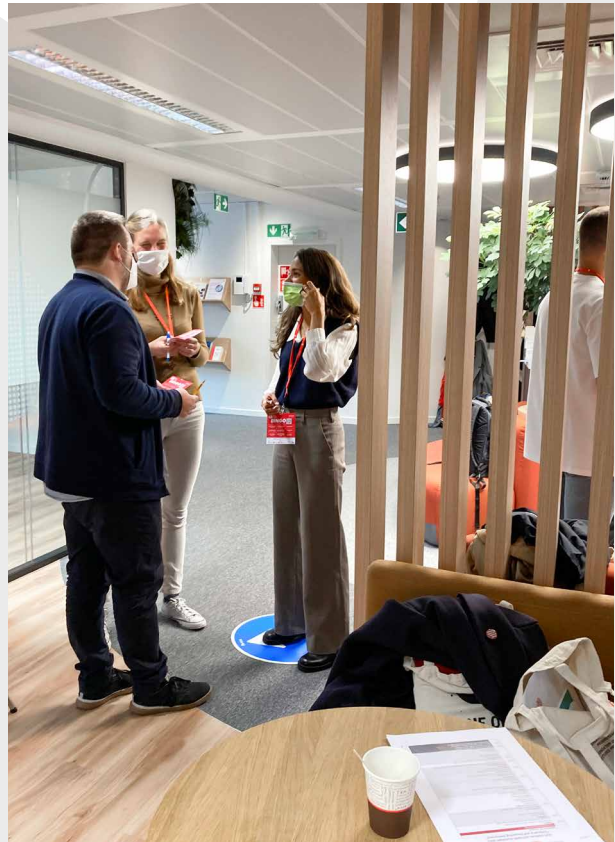


This can give us the possibility to tackle the effects of the climate crisis and work towards a green, fair and social transition. One of the greatest challenges that will be faced by our democracies is the lack of resources like fossil fuels, but also those resources essential for human life like food and water. We believe that to face this Crisis we will need to accelerate our efforts of redistribution of wealth, resources, and power in order to create an equal society. **European progressive leaders should commit to the goals set out by the Green New Deal**, and see them as the first step towards a more just, sustainable, and green Europe.

We call on the CoFoE to make sure the European citizens have equal participation to democratic processes as we accept the fundamental principles of democracy, that all people should have a say. There can not be restrictions for democratic participation in Europe. We cannot allow for the Social Contract to be broken.

**The FEPS AAA Nominees call upon all progressive leaders to fight for inclusive politics.** We demand policies, which empower young people, women and people from all socio-economic backgrounds. We call upon our political leaders to take action and make public policies to reduce the risk of poverty, especially that of young people and children. EU citizens need to be provided with a real safety net when at risk of poverty, due to precarious working environments. However, the economic dimension cannot upstage the social dimension. We commit to work for gender equality as well as ending xenophobia and racism. We have to defend women's rights throughout the EU, placing the Feminist Agenda at the centre of our public policies and democracies. We have to protect all LGBTI+ communities in all member states. No citizen living in EU should be treated in a discriminatory manner based on gender, sex or sexual orientation. We have to make an effort to make the EU more accessible, not only in large cities, but also in rural areas, where the message of the European project is most needed.

**Let's act now, we call for a democracy that works!**





# FEPS EUROPEAN PROGRESSIVE QUIZ

## HISTORY AND PRESENT OF SOCIAL DEMOCRACY

15 questions – multiple choice (ABC)

1. The predecessor of the German SPD (General German Workers' Association) was launched by Ferdinand Lassalle in Leipzig. In which year?
  - A. 1948
  - B. 1863
  - C. 1889
2. Francois Mitterrand became French President in May 1981. Who was his first prime minister?
  - A. Michel Rocard
  - B. Jacques Delors
  - C. Pierre Mauroy
3. The Declaration of Principles of the Socialist International was adopted by the XVIII Congress, in June 1989. In which city?
  - A. Stockholm
  - B. Frankfurt
  - C. Barcelona
4. Pablo Iglesias Posse, founder of PSOE, is known to be first in something. What exactly?
  - A. first to publicly protest in newspaper article against the 1898 Spanish-American war?
  - B. first politician sentenced to life imprisonment after military takeover by General Franco?
  - C. first socialist deputy entering the Spanish Parliament in 1910?
5. The term “collective bargaining” was coined by one of the early leaders of the Fabian Society (Britain's oldest political think tank). Which one?
  - A. Beatrice Webb
  - B. George Bernard Shaw
  - C. William Morris
6. Michael Harrington was leading social democratic thinker in the post-war USA. What is the title of his most famous book?
  - A. The Future of Socialism
  - B. The Other America
  - C. The Modern Social Conflict
7. Under what programme the German social democrats launched their controversial labour market reforms (Hartz)?
  - A. Agenda 2010
  - B. Bridges to Work
  - C. Turn Around Germany
8. Before becoming head of state of Poland, Mr. Aleksander Kwaśniewski was:
  - A. Minister of Interior
  - B. Minister of Foreign Affairs
  - C. Minister of Sports and Tourism

## THE ANSWERS

15. B	10. C	5. A
14. A	9. A	4. C
13. C	8. C	3. A
12. B	7. A	2. C
11. A	6. B	1. B

9. Which Italian cities have centre-left (PD) mayors today?
- A. Bologna, Bergamo, Bari
  - B. Trieste, Torino, Terni
  - C. Palermo, Parma, Pisa
10. Which socialist / social democratic prime minister out of the three was in office (as head of government) for the longest time altogether?
- A. Mario Soares, Portugal
  - B. Wim Kok, Netherlands
  - C. Bruno Kreisky, Austria
11. The correct sequence of the PES Presidents is:
- A. Willy Claes, Rudolf Scharping, Robin Cook
  - B. Rudolf Scharping, Paavo Lipponen, Sergei Stanishev
  - C. Robin Cook, Poul Nyrup Rasmussen, Philip Cordery
12. Which Commissioner served as Vice-President of ECOSY ? (Young European Socialists, today's "YES")
- A. Maros Sefkovic
  - B. Federica Mogherini
  - C. Jutta Urpilainen
13. Confederation of the Socialist Parties of the EC was transformed into Party of European Socialists in:
- A. 1979
  - B. 1986
  - C. 1992
14. Pauline Green was:
- A. President of the Socialist (now S&D) Group in the Eu. Parliament
  - B. President of the PES Group in the Committee of Regions
  - C. President of the PES Women
15. PES activists, according to the PES statutes, are:
- A. All progressives in Europe, who sign up to be PES activists
  - B. All the members of the PES member parties
  - C. All the members of the PES member parties, who validate their membership via PES as PES activists



The FEPS AAA is powered by the Foundation for European Progressive Studies, with the particular engagement of the FEPS AAA team:

**László Andor**, FEPS Secretary General  
**Ania Skrzypek**, FEPS Director for Research and Training  
**Elena Gil**, FEPS Training and Project Coordinator  
**Céline Guedes**, FEPS Project Officer  
**Sophia Christodoulou**, FEPS trainee  
**Sophie Newlands**, FEPS Office Coordinator



## LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

**Adam Bodnar**, Dean of the Faculty of Law University of Warsaw, former Polish Ombudsman for Citizen Rights

**Agnés Hubert**, President of G5+, the first European feminist think tank

**Ainara Bascuñana**, FEPS Head of Communication

**Alejandra Oriola**, Director Union of European Federalists, Spain

**Alena Krempaská**, Program Director at Human Rights Institute, Slovakia

**Alessandra Medici**, local councilor Guastalla and Bassa Reggiana, Italy

**Alex Agius Saliba**, S&D Member of the European Parliament

**Alexander Shlyk**, Special Representative of Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya, leader of Belorussian opposition

**Alicia Homs**, S&D MEPS and YES Vice President

**Ana Pirtskhalava**, YES Secretary General

**András Bíró-Nagy**, Director of Policy Solutions

**Andreas Dimmelmeier**, FEPS Policy Analyst

**Andreas Schieder**, S&D Member of the European Parliament

**Andrejs Kameneckis**, Municipal deputy elect, Latvia

**Ania Skrzypek**, FEPS Director of Research and Training

**Anikó Gregor**, Assistant Professor - Eötvös Loránd University

**Balázs Bárány**, MSZP International Secretary

**Anna Colombo**, Former official of S&D Group

**Anna Kassautzki**, SPD Member of the Bundestag

**Anna Pacześniak**, Associate Professor at Wroclaw University

**Anna Terrón**, Director Ibero-American Foundation for Administration and Public Policies

**Anne Graumans**, trainer, Foundation Max van der Stoel, Netherlands

**Annefleur Teeuwen**, intern FMS, Netherlands

**Anni Järveläinen**, Conflict and Security postgraduate student, Finland

**Apostolos Christoforides**, Member of EDEK's Foreign Affairs office, Cyprus

**Barbara Roggevens**, special advisor to FEPS on Russia, Netherlands

**Bruno Goncalves**, IUSY Secretary General

**Carles Arques**, adviser of the Delegate of the Spanish Government in the Autonomous Community of València, Spain

**Céline Guedes**, FEPS Project Officer

**Christoph Engelmaier**, Municipal Council, Austria

**Colin Crouch**, Professor Emeritus of the University of Warwick

**Conner Rousseau**, President Vooruit, BE

**Corinne Narrassiguin**, PS FR, National Secretary Coordinator – number 2 of Parti Socialiste

**Cécilia Gondard**, PS FR, National Secretary for Gender Equality

**Daniel Kallo**, undergraduate student, Hungary

**Daphne Halikiopoulou**, Professor of Comparative Politics. University of Reading

**David Rinaldi**, FEPS Director of Studies and Policy

**David Simon**, Project manager assistant, foreign & security policy analyst, Hungary

**Demosthenes Kollias**, Policy Assistant, DIKTIO, Greece

**Denis Mihai Covaci**, Political Advisor for a Romanian MP, Romania

**Dorine Klein Gunnewiek**, Intern Lobby & Democracy at Foundation Max van der Stoel, Netherlands

**Elena Gil**, FEPS Training and Project Coordinator

**Eleonora del Vecchio**, Brussels Binder Coordinator

**Enrique Barón Crespo**, FEPS Chair Scientific Council, former President of the EP

**Eric Sundström**, Landsorganisationen (LO)

**Euléane Omez**, FEPS Project Officer

**Evelyne Gebhardt**, S&D Member of the European Parliament

**Evin Incir**, S&D Member of the European Parliament

**Felicia Modica**, Junior project manager and researcher, Italy

**Francesco Cerassani**, Political Advisor for the S&D in the EP

**Francesco Linguanti**, student, Italy

**Francois Balate**, Head of Office of the FEPS President

**Frazer Clarke**, S&D Deputy Secretary General

**Gabor Harangozo**, Director ISD, Hungary

**Gábor Scheiring**, Political Economist

**Gaby Bischoff**, S&D Member of the European Parliament

**George Papandreou**, President of Socialist International, former Prime Minister of Greece

**Giulia Benzi**, student, Italy

**Giulia Contes**, young graduate, Belgium

**Hedwig Giusto**, FEPS Senior Policy Advisor

**Howard Lee M.S.L.A.**, State Legislative Asseblperson – State of Perak, Malaysia/ Former IUSY President

**Ilona Grave**, Intern Democracy FMS, Netherlands

**Iratxe García Pérez**, President of S&D Group in the European Parliament

**Irene Crestanello**, postgraduate student, Italy

**Ismail Quttineh**, Member of the National Board in the Swedish Social Democratic Youth League, Sweden

**Isabel Carvalhais**, S&D Member of the European Parliament

**Jānis Urbanovičs**, IT Project manager, Latvia

**Janne Tuomela**, electrical engineer graduate, Finland

**Johan Sjölander**, Head of Tiden

**Jordi Harrison**, Secretary General PES Group in CoR

**Pascal Smet**, Secretary of State of the Brussels-Capital Region. PES CoR Member

**Jorge Felix Cardoso**, Assistant at the European Parliament, Portugal

**Juan Fernando López Aguilar**, S&D Member of the European Parliament

**Judith Kirton-Darling**, Deputy Secretary General of industriAll Europe

**Isabelle Ferreras**, Professor of Sociology, UCL

**Jure Zubcic**, President of the council group Socialdemocrats in the County council, Croatia

**Justin Nogarede**, FEPS Digital Policy Analyst

**Katarina Barley**, S&D Member and Vice President of the European Parliament

**Katrina Koppel**, Junior Researcher, Estonia

**Konstantins Cekusins**, Chairman of the political group “Harmony” in Riga’s City Council, Latvia

**Kulak Jerzy**, Mayor of Gostyn, Poland

**Laetitia Thissen**, FEPS Policy Analyst on Gender Equality

**László Andor**, Secretary General of FEPS

**Leila Rasima**, Board member of social-democrat party “PROGRESĪVIE”, newly elected member of Rezekne City Council, Latvia

**Liia Hänni**, Former Member of Estonian Parliament, expert on e-Democracy

**Lisa Pelling**, Political Scientist and head of Arena Idé

**Paula Ör**, Member of the Riksdag in Sweden

**Lora Lyubanova**, FEPS YAN Member/ PhD Candidate, Bulgaria

**Luca Visentini**, Secretary General ETUC

**Lucian Valeriu Andrei**, Deputy mayor, Romania

**Marc Cabanas**, Advisor, Spain

**Marcin Duma**, CEO/President of the Board of the Institute for Market and Social Research IMSR

**Marco Schwarz**, FES Brussels, Germany

**Marek Belka**, Member of the European Parliament and Vice-president of S&D

**Marene Elgershuizen**, Congress Presidium of Partij van de Arbeid (NL), LHBT Network, Arts&Culture Network, Netherlands

**Margot Wallström**, former Vice-President of the European Commission – 2004-2010

**Maria Joao Rodrigues**, FEPS President

**Maria Maltzsching**, Director of Renner Institut

**Marian Karagyozov**, Head of the cabinet, Ministry of Justice, Bulgaria

**Mariet de Boer**, Secretary Jong WBS, Netherlands

**Mark Matusz**, Scholarship holder employee at the City Diplomacy Unit, Municipality of Budapest, Hungary

**Martin Marechal**, Parliamentary Assistant, Belgium

**Mathias Pley**, student, Belgium

**Miapetra Kumpula-Natri**, S&D Member of the European Parliament - Special Committee on Artificial Intelligence in a Digital Age

**Michal Bartek**, Assistant Member of the National Council of the Slovak Republic. Regional Secretary of the HLAS Social Democracy Party, Slovakia

**Mihai Justin Banu**, Teacher, Romania

**Mikael Leyi**, Secretary General of SOLIDAR

**Nikolaos Arapidis**, Member of the Cypriot Socialist Youth, Cyprus

**Noemi Nemeth**, Project assistant, Hungary

**Oliver Röpke**, President of the Workers’ Group EESC

**Ona Teo-Zama**, Local assistant of MEP Andreas Schieder, Romania

**Paul Butcher**, Policy Analyst European Policy Centre

**Paul Magnette**, President Parti Socialiste, BE

**Paul Nemitz**, Director General for Justice and Consumers of the European Commission

**Paul Stich**, Chair of SJOE, Austria

**Pavlos Petides**, Research Associate, DIKTIO, Greece

**Pedro Silva Pereira**, S&D Member and Vice President of the European Parliament

**Peymana Assad**, Councillor on Harrow Council, and local school Governor, United Kingdom

**Qendresa Gerlica**, Cabinet Member of the Minister of education FWB, Belgium

**Rayna Dushkova Nikolaeva**, PR Expert in Public Administration Government, Bulgaria



**Ricardo Lagos**, former President of Chile

**Ricards Alans Miežitis**, Head of Digital Communications /  
Co-Chair of Working Group on Democracy (PROGRESIVIE), Latvia

**Richard Corbett**, Former Member of the European Parliament

**Samira Merenz**, VP of the Luxembourgish Young Socialists, Luxembourg

**Sara do Amaral Tavares da Costa**, Member of the District Council in the 3rd  
district of Vienna/Chairperson of the Environmental Committee, Austria

**Sergei Stanishev**, President Party of European Socialists

**Sindre Lysø**, Secretary General of Arbeidernes Ungdomsfylking –  
AUF, Norway

**Sophia Christodoulou**, FEPS trainee, Cyprus

**Sophie Newlands**, FEPS Office Coordinator

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**Susanne Pfeil**, FEPS Project Officer

**Tanja Fajon**, SD Party leader, Slovenia, S&D MEP,  
Chair of PES Democracy Network

**Tapio Raunio**, Head of Political Science at Tampere University

**Isabelle Hertner**, Senior Lecturer King's College London

**Thijs Reuten**, S&D Member of the European Parliament

**Tomas Hucko**, editor-in-chief of  
slovak monthly critical journal Kapitál, Slovakia

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**Tomas Vieira Silva**, Junior Lecturer at University of Amsterdam, Portugal

**Valentijn van de Beek**, General Boardmember Youth Wing, Netherlands

**Vassilis Gavalas**, Head of Communications, DIKTIO, Greece

**Vassilis Ntousas**, FEPS Senior Policy Advisor

**Venislav Emilov**, BSP Youth Union National Council, Bulgaria

**Vid Jereb**, Control Commission member of Youth Council of Slovenia  
and CC of Mladi forum (SD Youth wing) / Supervisory board Supervisory  
board, Slovenia

**Yonnec Polet**, PES Deputy Secretary General

**Zita Gurmai**, President PES Women and FEPS Vice President

**Zulla Ahemtovic**, secretary of the Socialist Youth Vienna, Austria





Everyone involved in the photos of this brochure had a valid COVID pass at the moment the pictures were taken.



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