

FOUNDATION FOR EUROPEAN
PROGRESSIVE STUDIES

FONDATION EUROPÉENNE
D'ÉTUDES PROGRESSISTES

Annual Activity

REPORT 2015





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FEPS - FOUNDATION FOR EUROPEAN
PROGRESSIVE STUDIES

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ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT 2015

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FOREWORD FROM THE PRESIDENT



2015 will firstly be very much remembered for the horrific terrorist attacks in Paris. Not only were they an attack on innocent people, they were an attack on European democracy, its values, religions, of which Islam is also in Europe and our society and way of life. The nature of these attacks goes to the very heart of Progressive concerns. If we are going to fight terrorism at its core, we have to allow a more open, fairer and more equal society develop. This can only be done by strengthening our democratic, social and economic inclusion, yet we also have to address the role of religion in European societies.

Consequently FEPS annual Brussels **Call to Europe V** conference was on the topic of **'Islam in Europe'**. Without doubt the issues were very sensitive but we also felt there was a need not to shy away from these questions but to address them in an intellectually-stimulating, transparent, inclusive and interactive manner. With great success we brought together various religious leaders from across Europe with academics, politicians and civil society. The focus of the discussions was on the role of politics and religion in European society. It reached out to a direct audience of around 600 people. The detailed reports of the discussion alongside video interviews and various

animations helped form the foundations of a much wider debate which is growing in sentiment ever since.

Nevertheless these incidents did not get in the way of securing a successful and conclusive international agreement on climate change at the **COP21**, also in Paris. FEPS prepared a lot towards this through the **'Progressives for Climate Initiative'** where several missions were carried out with the Fondation Jean-Jaurès and a dialogue was constructed with key countries. A large, international conference in April brought together experts from those countries and Europe and published five key proposals towards the Paris climate summit. This complemented further studies FEPS published on Energy Union and the climate change narrative.

Going into the eighth year since the financial and economic crisis, generations of young people continue to be deeply affected by the consequences. There also seems to be a growing gap between these young people and traditional party politics. Established parties are failing to attract younger voters and there is a gap in the broader understanding of this demographic among political practitioners and a need to re-engage. Some assume that there is a lack of interest in politics among young

people however our research through **Millennial Dialogue** is proving this wrong. Analysing the concerns of young people surveys have been carried out across most of Europe and the initiative is growing. The results are surprising and are providing the backbone of our further research work on this initiative to continue into a larger dialogue in 2016.

The notion of economic inclusion also became more apparent during the summer of 2015 regarding the situation in Greece. In October FEPS therefore brought together its economic and social strands of work to hold a seminar with its Greek partners in Athens to offer progressive economic, welfare and political solutions. Much of the debate was of course related to our ongoing research work on **finance and inequality** and the **state of the welfare state**.

Furthermore in our core research work on **Next Social Europe** the focus continues to identify new ideas, policies and political narratives to meet the upcoming social and economic challenges of progressive governance in fragmented times.

On the international level, in a year where the EU's ability to respond to challenges was intrinsic FEPS international activities

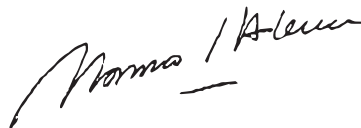
expanded to work on issues ranging from EU foreign and security policy and the situation in Libya and Turkey, to the global battle against inequalities. This always together with aiming to strengthen our network of Progressive movements internationally.

Our work continues to go hand in hand with that of the **PES, the S&D group and, the PES in the Committee of the regions, Young European Socialists and PES women**. Also from across Europe with our member political foundations, think tanks and close network.

As always I would like to express my gratitude to the whole of the **FEPS team** for their outstanding hard work and commitment. In particular **Ernst Stetter**, Secretary General, who has been committed as ever to furthering a Progressive Europe.

This document provides a short summary of our work programme, it does not demonstrate the full magnitude of our reflections, nor the true expertise of our ever-growing network.

A more inclusive Europe will strengthen and uphold our values of democracy.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Massimo D'Alema". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Massimo D'ALEMA
President of FEPS

GENERAL AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The Foundation for European Progressive Studies is the progressive, European, political Foundation.

Enclosed is the report of activities 2015 of FEPS. The work programme can be presented in three main themes for activities.

1. **Democratic Empowerment**
2. **Sustainable Economy**
3. **Global Solidarities**

The overall title and main objective of the existence of FEPS is **“Working Together for a Progressive Europe”**. The themes are used as a way of showcasing our work but they are not separate elements, rather they all interlace very much with an omnipresent focus on *progressive* Europe.

The activities are detailed according to this working plan throughout this activity report. More information on our ongoing projects can be found on our website www.feps-europe.eu.

FEPS has continued its close cooperation with its member national political foundations and think tanks. This exchange and strong relationship really helps build on our work and to bridge the gap. A **multi-way connection** has been established and FEPS aims to foster this. Many discussions are taking place in different parts of our network on similar themes and there are many European progressive values that run through these which we as a progressive movement will harness wherever possible. FEPS often acts as a **platform for**

debate and serves **mutual understanding** and development of ideas at a **transnational** level.

This post-European election year has really illustrated the significance of having a stable and solid **European political foundation** in order to be a platform for debate and a tool for bridging the divide between institutions and citizens. The results of FEPS work and long-term policy proposals, particularly from the Next Left and Sustainable economy activities have helped directly serve our progressive partners is elaborating on their campaign agendas.

Our activities are realised with the direct support of our members. And this year we are pleased that we have done ever-more activities. Joint projects have seen fruitful results at local, national and European level in terms of policy reflection and discussion. We have also extended a lot of our work to associated organisations and universities which is very rewarding when we see the magnitude of people we are able to reach out to.

Indeed FEPS always participates and is involved in its member activities of its Brussels partners as much as possible also, PES, its member parties and their network meetings, conferences and meetings in the European Parliament with the S&D group or the Committee of the Regions with the PES group. Similarly the work of FEPS helps contribute to the reflections within these bodies and more widespread of the progressive movement.

Queries magazine is becoming more recognised and the level of contributions is exceptional. We have received input from high-level international politicians and we have also been able to promote and engage our larger network through the magazine. FEPS team and established networks regularly contribute too. It is available predominantly as an online magazine of FEPS aiming to reach out to a wider audience and it is now beginning to be sold in newsagents.

Due to the political nature of our activities, in particular this year as it was election year, there are often changes to the original work plan. This year the terrorist attacks set the political orientation of our work but also affected the manner of many of our activities. Some large conferences had to be cancelled, some of them postponed and held in 2016.

President of FEPS, Massimo D'ALEMA, former Prime Minister of Italy, continues to be very engaged in FEPS work and has been very committed to many of the activities as always.

DEMOCRATIC EMPOWERMENT

- **Next Social Europe**
- **Democratic malaise & Governance**
- **Gender equality**
- **Partisanship and Europarties**

The FEPS Next Left Research Programme has continued to develop and transform, becoming a reference point for politicians, academics, experts and activists engaged in diverse projects focused on renewal of social democracy in Europe. Efforts to accelerate continue in terms of quality of research, allowed ensuring academic credentials and expand, involving different universities and scholars in the debate. It is chaired by Dr. Alfred Gusenbauer, former Chancellor of Austria.

NEXT SOCIAL EUROPE

NOTABLE ACTIVITY IN THIS SECTION

3rd Annual Oxford Seminar

Symposiums: 5 – 7 July, Oxford, UK

Also: 9th December (London) – launch of the book resulting from Oxford 2014:

“The Pre-distribution Agenda. Tackling Inequality and Supporting Sustainable Growth.”

With Policy Network and Renner Institut



Since the first event held in the Nuffield College in 2012, the “Oxford seminar” has become an annual flagship event. The herewith-established series envisaged high-level symposiums, which arranged in a round table format engage for a length of two days a group of 50 distinguished academics, think tank’s spokespersons and politicians. The surroundings of Oxford University and in particular the hospitable premises of St. Catherine College

(where the event eventually migrated to) ensure a unique atmosphere. In this exceptional ambiance, there is an overwhelming sense of obligation to place things in a broader context and consequently seize a further horizon, even if at the same time among the outcomes are the recommendations for what to do about the pressing matters of today. While the 2014 event was focused on the distributional conflicts and potential that the idea of *predistribution* may have for social democrats in re-thinking their socio-economic agenda (the book resulting from this exchange was launched in London on 9th December) The 2015 seminar was devoted to the question of the future of social democracy, and more precisely its' political and organizational challenges in the era labelled as the "time of the crisis of the traditional political parties". Therefore much attention has been given to the issues connected with mobilization and representation, the electoral behaviour of the respective social groups, the electoral case studies (especially with the recent votes that had taken place in the UK, Denmark and Poland), the ways to move beyond the traditional understanding of the electorate and the question of positioning progressive movement in the times of growing social divides. The main questions that were tackled are summarized in the FEPS Policy Brief "*Progressive Politics in Fragmented Times. 10 Core Guidelines*" by Ania Skrzypek.

FURTHER ACTIVITIES IN THE NEXT SOCIAL EUROPE SECTION

Les Socialistes à L'Epreuve de L'Europe

Two seminars on 30 January and 13 March, in Paris, France

With the Fondation Jean-Jaurès

Cultivating the knowledge about the history of Europe and the unprecedented legacy of the social democratic movement within that this activity enabled reflection on the evolution of the European Idea amongst Socialist Parties and constructing and retrieving the internationalist spirit to act more united on a global level. Among the experts, who contributed to the debate there were: Luciano. Bardi, David S. Bell, Pervenche Berès, Enrico Calossi, Elisabeth. Guigou. Coordinated with Alain Bergounioux.

The People's Party: 2015 and Beyond - Annual New Year's Conference

17 January, London, UK

With the Fabian Society

With keynote speech from leader of the Labour Party Ed Miliband a day full of plenaries, workshops, conference debates and networking with around 500 participants and the main political figures of Progressives in the UK. The main debates of the day were on rising inequalities and migration, and the upcoming general elections where the debate over Britain's membership in the EU has been gathering more attention. A special workshop was devoted to this and speaking were Ivana Bartoletti, Theresa Griffin, Mark Leonard, Roger Liddle and Ania Skrzypek.

Should European digital protectionism be defended?

Digital data conference

10 June, Paris, France

With the Fondation Jean Jaurès

Taking place again in French National Assembly, with the aim of creating a privileged space of exchange from Europe and North America around political leaders this conference continues the series begun in 2014. It sought how to balance the protection of innovation against privacy and liberties?

FEPS at the PES Congress

11 - 13 June

In cooperation with the PES and

S&D Group in the European Parliament

FEPS took a very active part in the Budapest PES Congress. FEPS President Massimo D'Alema addressed all the delegates in the plenary. At the PES Women Annual Conference "Power to Women", there was a launch of the FEPS - PES Women publication "*20 Years of PES Women. Half the sky, half the Earth, half the power*". This was followed by yet another publication presentation, that realized jointly by FEPS, PES Women and Friedrich Ebert Stiftung Budapest was published under the title "*Gender as Symbolic Glue*". It was attended by Andrea Peto, Anniko Felix, Eszter Kováts, Maari Põim and Zita Gurnai. Thirdly, remaining in the theme - but taking an economic angle instead, FEPS organized a debate "*Beyond income, societal inequalities*" - which featured Francis Stewart, Camille Landais, Ozlem Onaran, Juan Gabriel Rodriguez, Eckhard Hein and

Ernst Stetter. Fourthly, FEPS was also invited to contribute to the S&D Group seminar on Future of Social Democracy – where in different panels Maria Freitas, Ania Skrzypek and Ernst Stetter provided inputs. Last but not least, FEPS was proud to hold a stand – which attracted a lot of attention and which promoted the latest publications. These were, next to the ones mentioned already, also the newest issue of “*Queries*” and vol. 9 of the FEPS Next Left Books “*For a Connecting Progressive Agenda*” (eds.: Ernst Stetter, Karl Duffek, Ania Skrzypek).

Social State of Europe

Publication and launch debates on 15 June in Brussels,
1 September Amsterdam, 5 October London, 8 December Stockholm
With Policy Network

The pamphlet “*The Social Reality of Europe after the Crisis. Trends, Challenges and Responses*” resulted from a half a year-long research, which had been completed by Patrick Diamond, Roger Liddle and Daniel Sage. The authors set to investigate and evaluate the impact that the crash of 2008 (and the subsequent policies) had on Europe and its Member States in 4 fields: *economies and labour markets; inequality and poverty; education and health; politics and culture*. The rich material and the initial recommendations served as an invitation to take the discussion to the next level and try to imagine what new trajectories could be chosen in order to keep up to the promise of Social Europe, which has always been about a sustainable growth that would translate into improvement of living and working conditions for all. The subsequent launch events organised across the EU have seen the participation of over 500 people and featured the following distinguished speakers: Anton Hemerijck, Bernadette Segol, Maria J. Rodrigues, André Krouwel, Ernst Stetter, Sara Hagemann, Jonathan Hopkin, Catelene Passchier, René Cuperus. The series continued in spring 2016.

Setting an Ambition for the Next Social Europe

Seminar, 18 – 19 October, LO Trade Union Headquarters, Copenhagen, Denmark
With Renner Institut and Cevea

Opened by President of the LO Lizette Risgaard, the round following included A. Gusenbauer, P. Nyrup Rasmussen and L. Andersen. Building towards the Next Social Europe phase of FEPS work the programme was divided into 4 sessions; *Good jobs,*

the Economy and the Social Europe; The future of welfare models in Europe; Insecurity in Europe: Changing labour markets, withering social safety nets and the new wave of populist parties; Picking fights and conflicts: how to make struggles over welfare and labour market politically relevant. The event saw heated debates about the principles and their translations into 'real' politics (especially when it concerns solidarity within more and more fragmented societies), the dispute about the actual appeal of the project labelled as "Social Europe" and nonetheless also the intense exchange on the issues regarding competitiveness, productivity and the public goods provision. The audience consisted of over 150 participants (academics, trade unionists and experts), and among the speakers there were MPs, trade unionists and numerous representatives of diverse FEPS-led projects, especially from within the research on the Next Left and Nordic Model. The list of speakers included: Henning Jørgensen, Carlo D'Ippoliti, Jens J. Steen; Jeppe Bruus, Steven Van Hecke, André Krouwel, Peter Hummelgaard Thomsen, Ivana Bartoletti, Julia Kubisa, Rune Baastrup, Kristian Weise, Ania Skrzypek.

The UK's EU referendum

Lunch debate, 3 December, Brussels
With Policy Network

FEPS organised a lunch debate which brought together Roger Liddle (as author of the pamphlet "The risk of Brexit. The Politics of a Referendum") and Jo Leinen MEP (as a member of AFCO Committee in the European Parliament). It focused on the ways populist parties and policies conducted by the Conservative Government in the run up to it on the EU level have already changed the nature of the decision making process within the Union. To that end, most of the questions related to the predictions that both the speakers would have ahead of the crucial summit in winter 2016 and that they would consider the impact of the entire process on the British party system would be.

Next Left / Next Social Europe Focus and Working Groups

13 and 14 December, Vienna, Austria
With Renner Institut

After a break, the FEPS Next Left Focus and Working Groups resumed their work under the leadership of the programme's Chair Dr. Alfred Gusenbauer, former Chancellor of Austria. The programme discussed the abstracts provided by the respective members, the discussion on the transition between the Next Left and the Next Social Europe, as also

the explanation of the new working methods and expected outcomes of the herewith launched new cycle. Following the submitted 24 research proposals, the peer review of these was organised into 7 thematic blocks (corresponding to the FEPS internal outline for the Next Social Europe Programme for 2016): *Seeking an ideal – values, arguments and narrative for the Next Social Europe, Defining rights and standards; Understanding the change: trajectory and impact of transformation within the Labour Market; Means to build in Macro-Europe – resources, investments and revenues for New Social Europe; Targets and ambitions: convergence, sustainability and solidarity; Power of appeal and the democratic mandate – translation of policies.* The meeting concluded with the set of recommendations for the authors, alongside a roadmap composed of dates and guidelines towards 2016.

Event on Dutch EU Presidency Priorities

Seminar on 8 December, Brussels

With the Clingendael Institut

The date for the event was settled according to the time which the European Commission should have disclosed the “Mobility Package” regarding the European Labour market and ahead of the Dutch Presidency of the European Union with ambitious priorities. This long awaited set of new rules had been expected to be controversial, especially that the earlier rounds focused on related Posting of Workers caused many divides and conflicts. While the “Package” was finally postponed, the seminar took place nevertheless – and became instead an opportunity to address the question of growing distributional conflicts and political instability within the EU. The points of references instead were the European Commission Work Plan, the September declaration of the European Parliament and the “5 Presidents Report”. The seminar gathered around the table MEPs, academics, trade unionists and experts.

Greece Forward: Progressive Solutions for Today and Tomorrow

International Conference

14-15 October 2016

Athens, Greece

With 'To Diktyo'

This international conference brought together high-level academics and policy makers from Greece and the EU in a discussion about progressive solutions for Greece. It was the first FEPS activity to be undertaken in Greece and was carried out in collaboration with the

local policy think tank 'To Diktyo'. The leaders of the two progressive parties with Greece, Fofi Yennimata, President of PASOK, and Stavros Theodorakis, Leader of To Potami, both addressed the conference with keynote speeches. Other speakers included: Anni Podimata, former Vice President of the European Parliament, George Pagoulatos, Professor of European Politics and Economy at the Athens University of Economics, and Spyros Pengas, Deputy Mayor of Tourism, International Relations and e-Governance of the City of Thessaloniki. The conference, which was attended by Kostas Simitis and Panagiotis Pikrammenos, two former Greek Prime Ministers, concluded with a very important discussion on the state of progressive movement in Greece and in Europe between Massimo D' Alema, President of FEPS and Anna Diamantopoulou, President of 'To Diktyo', former European Commissioner for Employment and Social Affairs.



Social Europe & Migration

With SOLIDAR Foundation

Study visits, and seminars

Visiting CSV Volunteering Matters in London on 9-10 March a social enterprise set up in Hackney, London after the riots in 2011. The aim is to encourage and help bring people together, participate in their community and at the same time address some of the other leading problems in that area such as crime, obesity, child poverty and low educational attainment, through participation in the community.

Movimiento por la Paz in Madrid on 22 June was a seminar gathering NGO representatives, academics with civil society and sought to analyse patterns and reasons for migration in the last 10 years or so. In Spain, the problem is two-fold with high levels of immigration from Northern Africa and emigration towards Northern Europe. The session tried to offer solutions how to deal in a positive manner with this phenomenon.

EU Training Academy on Social Europe

On 6-7 July at International Training Centre of the ILO

– International Labour Organisation in Turin

Topics covered were related to the labour market, unemployment and the effects of austerity measures. It was held between working groups and experts to exchange best practices and share knowledge to provide input into the wider research on Social Europe through sessions over two days.



PUBLICATIONS IN NEXT LEFT

For A Connecting Progressive Agenda

Next Left Book Volume 9

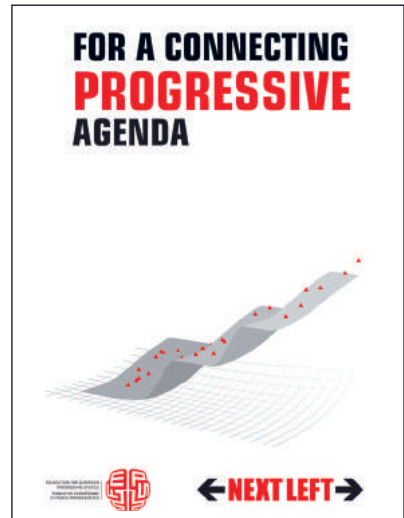
With Renner Institute

Edited by Ernst Stetter, Karl Duffek and Ania Skrzypek.

Foreword by Alfred Gusenbauer

ISBN 978-3-85464-041-7 and 978-83-7545-593-9

Gathers 18 articles and 19 expert contributors from across Europe and the US from the people who participated in the Next Left Focus Group and Working Groups in the last few years. Proving that despite the long-term political effects of the crisis, there is very much an abundance of ideas to be put forward from the left. The articles aspire to identify where and how new bridges can be established between the historical mission and future ambitions of the Progressive movement. Its aim is to outline a comprehensive path in which Social Democracy can lead in the 21st Century.



The Social Reality of Europe after the Crisis. Trends, Challenges and Responses

Pamphlet

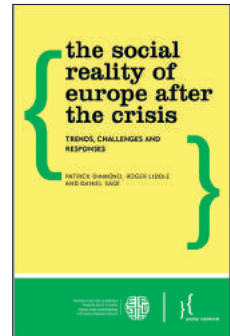
With Policy Network

Patrick Diamond, Roger Liddle and Daniel Sage

Published June 2015

ISBN 9781783485383

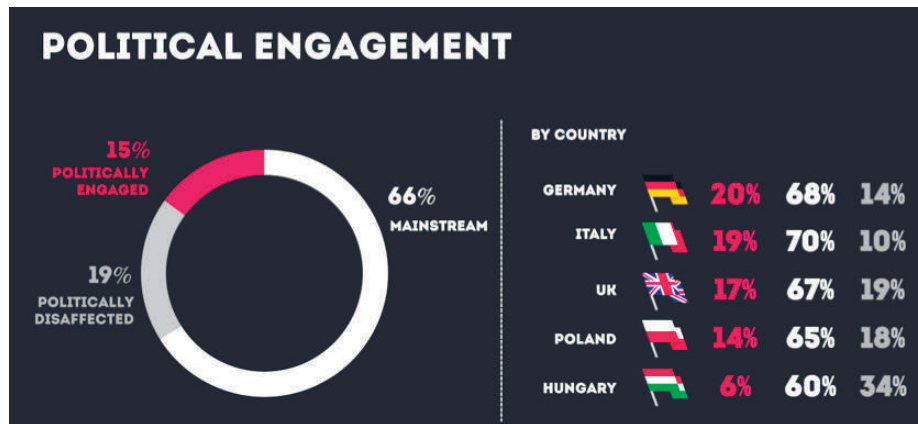
The economic crisis of recent years continues to have a profound effect on the lives of European citizens. Economically, politically and socially, the crisis has led to fundamental change for many people's lives. As well as creating new concerns, the crisis has simultaneously exacerbated existing ones, raising profound challenges to the sustainability and success of the European model. This pamphlet seeks to examine this new 'social reality' of post-crisis Europe, exploring what both the EU and national governments can do to restore its strength, sustainability, cohesion and competitiveness.



DEMOCRATIC MALAISE & GOVERNANCE



Millennial Dialogue



A long-term, Transatlantic research and polling project, launched with the Center for American Progress in 2014 that aims to engage with and better understand the priorities and values narrative of those aged between 15 and 34, the so called Millennial Generation, or Generation Y.

As established parties fail to attract younger voters, some assume that there is a lack



“Politicians can win the trust of the young generation when they start to **listen to them and keep their promises**”

TURKISH MILLENNIAL

of interest in politics among young people. However, FEPS and its partners refused to give in to this negative outlook towards today's youth and engaged in a global discussion with young people, academics and politicians to demystify the Millennial Generation by offering them a platform to express their views and to be heard.

The Project abides by the 3 P rule: it is to be participatory, positive and progressive. Participatory as it is about giving the floor to Millennials themselves, Positive as it is about finding jointly a solution on how to re-engage young people into politics. And finally, Progressive as the new agenda aims at bridging the gap between social democracy and young people.

Surveys completed in 2015: Italy, UK, Poland, Germany, Hungary, Austria, Bulgaria, Canada, USA, Chile and Norway.

Forthcoming surveys in 2016: Turkey, Romania, France, Ireland, South Africa, Senegal, Mozambique, Spain, Israel, Australia and the Netherlands.

Millennial Dialogue country-specific report launches

FEPS together with its partners organised a series of national report launches as part of the Millennial Dialogue project. These events gathered young progressive leaders, academics and experts to flesh out the findings of the country-specific reports.

- **Youth Employment Conference**
– **Presentation of the Millennial Dialogue Research**

22-23 January 2015

Rome, Italy

Partner: ItaliaLavoro

- **FEPS-Global Progress “Millennial Dialogue”**
– **Seminar**

24 February

Washington DC, USA

Partner: Centre for American Progress

- **Progress Summit**
– **Presentation of the Millennial Dialogue Research**

25 March

Ottawa, Canada

Partner: Broadbent Institute

- **Krisen-Kinder? Politische Einstellungen junger Europäer_innen**
– **Report launch Germany**

5 May

Berlin, Germany

Partner: FES Berlin

- **Fighting Youth Abstention**
– **Presentation of the Millennial Dialogue Pilot Report**

12 June

Brussels, Belgium

Partner: PES

- **Make Progress National Summit 2015**
– **Presentation of the global Millennial Dialogue Research**

16-18 July

Washington DC, USA

Partner: Centre for American Progress and Generation Progress

- **Millennial Dialogue report launch Austria**

5 November

Vienna, Austria

Partner: Renner Institute

- **Millennial Dialogue report launch Norway**

6 November

Oslo, Norway

Partner: Labor Party Norway

- **Millennial Dialogue report launch Bulgaria**

9 November

Sofia, Bulgaria

Partner: INEP

- **Millennial Dialogue report launch USA**

13 November

Washington DC, USA

Partner: Centre for American Progress and Generation Progress

The role of social democracy in the era of democratic malaise

16 April 2015

Barcelona, Spain

Partner: Rafael Campalans Foundation

The joint seminar aimed at assessing the role of social democratic ideas in the unease times of low democratic participation citizens and how progressives should address populist parties as well as the emergence of the new voices of the Left in Europe.



Confronting Anti-Minority Populism – a roundtable debate as a follow-up to the Seminar for Leaders of PES Parties in Central Europe

22 April 2015

Brussels, Belgium

With European Values

The roundtable debate paved way for progressive politicians to address the issues around the integration of minorities in Central Western Europe as well in which ways progressive parties should address the rise of populism in Europe.

Radical Left

29 – 30 October, Rome, Italy

With Centre for Reform of the State and FES Rome

Following the desk research completed within the FEPS – CSR project by a scholar of CSR Nicola Genga, the two partners with the support of the FES Rome office organised an event to discuss the main outcomes. The programme envisaged the introduction, which would in general terms address as the leading theme “*Radical Left in Europe: Potential Allies or Systemic Challengers for Social Democracy*” followed by 3 sessions devoted to analysing in details the change the radical left imprints in the electoral, democratic and the European dimensions. Massimo D’Alema, FEPS President held a keynote speech in the framework of the seminar, while the list of contributors included: Maria Louisa Boccia, Ania Skrzypek, Ernst Hillebrand, Maria Freitas, Nicola Genga, Maciej Konieczny, Marco Damiani, Michael Braun, Javi Lopez, Luke March, Brando Benifei, Loris Caruso, Oriol Bartomeus, Eleonora Poli, Walter Tocci, Paul Magnette. It was agreed that as a follow up the organisers will consider pursuing certain questions by further research that would feed into another event in 2016 and would also constitute the content of a publication in 2016.

Populist Watch

Research and information platform 2015-2016

With Policy Solutions

Online research portal that investigates the trends of populism in Europe and how it is affecting Progressive movements. The website will provide regular analysis of the trends and what lessons can be extracted for the European Left in a final publication in 2016 which currently has the working title “Populism in Europe”.

The Political Background of the Refugee Crisis in Central and Eastern Europe

Publication, with Policy Solutions

Research started in December 2015 and published in 2016. It takes stock of the state of European Populism. With the current refugee crisis being developed from tensions that have been simmering beneath the surface for a while now it seems to have exploded in 2015. Eastern Europe is witnessing a rise in new populism which has many links to a growing trend in the rest of Europe but the context is different to the issues being exposed in Western Europe.

GENDER EQUALITY

Book launch “Woman Up! 2”

Book launch

5 March, Brussels, Belgium

With the Fondation Jean Jaures and Boston University

The launching of the second volume of the Woman up! book took place in the framework of the International Women’s Day celebrations and in the context of the context of the FEPS-TASC-ECLM and SOAS roundtable debate “Recovery for whom? Austerity policies, gendered impacts and policy alternatives for Europe”, which put forward alternatives for the current neoliberal system, which has proven to be rather detrimental for women’s rights, advancing only some groups of women while leaving behind others. The launch was structured with an opening by Zita Gurmai, Vice-President of FEPS and President of PES Women, a chapter overview by Monique Halpern, President of the Council of Orientation, Institute Emilie du Châtelet in Paris, and closing remarks by Professor Andrea Petö from the Central European University.



Passing on the torch: The legacy of the Beijing Platform for Action and new, grassroots feminist movements

Seminar and video testimonies

20 October 2015

Brussels, Belgium

With the Fondation Jean Jaurès

The seminar was initiated on the finding that once heavily invested to the grassroots movement, Beijing no longer tends to be owned nor recognized by many activists and younger generation feminists. Hence in preparation to the seminar, FEPS launched a video campaign initiative asking young feminist all over to send video testimonies and let us know, what would be their demands to the global leaders meeting celebrating the 20th anniversary of the Beijing Platform for Action. The outcome of the testimonies gave the basis for discussion at the seminar, focusing on possibilities to politically re-engage with new, grassroots movements and start an inclusive dialogue.



Poverty has a woman's face, Extremism in the EU

Conference, 7 March, Budapest, Hungary

With the Tancsics Foundation

With research proving time and again that poverty affects women more than men this conference calls to urgently addressing this. This is a matter of justice and democracy but unfortunately extremist parties are too often seeking to depreciate women's contributions to the economy and society and their narrative is growing worryingly.

Addressing Social Challenges of Parenting – Fighting Labour market obstacles, social risks and high-level poverty

Forum, 16 October 2015

Riga, Latvia

With Freedom and Solidarity Foundation

Participants discussed ways and possibilities how to reduce social and economic risks for young parents, causes of problems and their solutions, as well as future prospects. The findings were that single parents are undoubtedly hit harder and giving sufficient support to parents in their child's younger years is highly important. It was discussed in more detail also how public and private spheres need to become open and flexible with regards to work environment, services and authorities.

PUBLICATIONS IN GENDER EQUALITY

Woman Up! 2

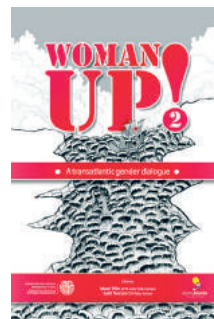
Book, edited by Maari Poim, Judit Tánczos

March 2015

With Fondation Jean Jaures and Boston University

ISBN 978-2-930769-19-6

This book highlights various aspects that need to be taken into consideration when developing a progressive transatlantic gender agenda. The various spheres touched upon in the publication vary from security to religion, from ICT to civil activism, and more. The publication highlights issues hindering progressive achievements and ways out of the deadlock.



Out of the deadlock

FEPS Gender Policy brief

March 2015

Written by Maari Põim

Europe is witnessing a new backlash against gender equality. This backlash rejects the term 'gender' itself, undermining the achievements of gender equality. This policy brief is offering five policy recommendations for the progressives to tackle the backlash of gender equality. The recommendations have been developed in the framework of the FEPS-FJJ-Boston University collaboration – the Transatlantic gender dialogue – with an outcome of a publication “Woman Up 2”.

Gender as Symbolic Glue

Book, Edited by Eszter Kováts, Maari Põim

Published May 2015

ISBN 978-2-930769-18-9

With Friedrich Eberth Stiftung Budapest office

This publication analyses on the example of five country case studies (France, Germany, Hungary, Poland, Slovakia) the European-wide phenomenon of anti-gender mobilizations by focusing on a specific context of the position and role of conservative and far right parties with regards to these mobilisations. This serves the purpose to comparatively examine the commonalities and divergences of this phenomenon, also offering a chronological overview. The aim is to critically analyse anti-gender discourses in European far right and conservative party programmes and the role of the respective parties in shaping the discourse and mobilisations. The publication comes up with transnational points that play a crucial role in these movements.



Beyond gender: Anti-gender mobilization and the lessons for progressives

FEPS Policy brief, written by Eszter Kováts, Maari Poim, Judit Tánczos

June 2015

With Friedrich Eberth Stiftung Budapest office

This policy brief addresses the root causes of the anti-gender mobilizations that progressives can take to address the debate. The policy brief looks at the examples of such mobilizations in the European public debate, the case of European Citizens' Initiative, and strategies that should be built. As a conclusion, it brings out that five key strategies to be implemented

Fresh approach for a maternity leave proposal?

FEPS Policy viewpoint, written by Judit Tánczos

August 2015

The European Commission proposed to present its roadmap on the initiative replacing the Maternity Leave Directive proposal by the end of July. This roadmap is supposed to set out ideas towards a broader initiative, including maternity and parental leave, work-life balance and the role of carers. But will this initiative go beyond the mere exchange and promotion of best practices? Expectations are high, and a forward-looking, inspiring legislative proposal would be necessary to finally show commitment for a structural change.

An occasion for (r)evolution: 20th anniversary of the Beijing Platform for Action

FEPS Policy brief, written by Judit Tánczos

October 2015

Anniversaries offer an occasion for remembrance and stocktaking. The 20th anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action is not an exception to that rule. So far, evaluation documents expressed mainly frustration with slow, uneven and limited achievements. But it should not be forgotten that The Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action is still a powerful and inspirational text. With its historical legacy, it can contribute to the reframing of the progressive ideological debate and turn this anniversary into a celebration. This policy brief analyses this unique historical opportunity.

PARTISANSHIP AND EUROPARTIES

Following the timetable of the vote of the European Parliament adopting the report on the “Reform of Electoral Law of the European Union”, this project came into full swing towards the end of the year with a series of roundtables foreseen in 2016, together with Jo Leinen MEP and Renner Institut.

The European Union at historical crossroads: Challenges and policy options

18 November 2015

Budapest, Hungary

With the Táncsics Mihály Foundation

During the event both the internal and external challenges of the EU were discussed, with a special focus on the unique challenge of migration. The debated topics included federalism or fragmentation, From crisis management to sustainable growth, Growing populism and anti-EU attitude, as well as the EU in global competition, TTIP, relations with China and Russia and the future of neighbourhood policy. Participants went beyond mere stock-taking and proposed alternative scenarios and policy options for more solidarity and social cohesion.

SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY

European is still suffering the effects of deep economic crisis and although there are some changes in policies, austerity is still prevailing in front as an answer to the problems caused by years of financial irresponsibility by the financial institutions. FEPS work in this section looks a lot of the effects of the crisis, especially towards gender issues and other inequalities. All FEPS research, articles and debates offer clear and realistic alternatives to the current economic policies on the table. We are regularly engaging with many high-level internationally renowned economists to promote our ideas.

SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY

NOTABLE ACTIVITY IN THIS SECTION:

ECONOMIC INEQUALITY: WHAT CAN BE DONE?

6th Annual FEPS-TASC Conference

19 June 2015

Dublin, Ireland

With TASC

For more than 30 years, economic inequality has been rising across advanced economies, with enormous social, political and economic consequences. Inequality is not inevitable, and policy options are available that will produce better outcomes for all. More than one hundred participants took part in TASC-FEPS 6th Annual Conference in Dublin, which was devoted to the theme 'Economic Inequality - What Can Be Done?'.



In the two sessions of the conference, speakers and participants tried to analyse the topics of how to tackle economic inequality in Ireland and beyond, and how to promote wage-led growth as a means to reduce inequalities in Europe. Keynote speakers were: **Professor Sir Anthony Atkinson**, Oxford University economist and author of the recent book 'Inequality - What Can Be Done?', **Joan Burton**, Ireland's Tánaiste (deputy Prime Minister) and Minister for Social Protection, and **Frances O'Grady**, General Secretary of the UK's Trade Union Congress. The academic leaders from FEPS wage-led growth project spoke at this conference too.

RESEARCH PROJECTS AND PUBLICATIONS

Finance and Inequality

Studies for academic journal and series of seminars

Three-year research project from 2013 to 2015.

With Foundation Jean Jaures, Macroeconomic Policy Institute IMK, and Leeds Business School.

The project presents the nexus between finance (financial structure) and inequality.



Activities carried out in 2015 in the framework of this project were:

- February, meeting Professor Gary Dimsky, MEP Elisa Ferreira and Jakob Von Weizsacker;
- 4 May, panel at the Capital Market Union seminar
- 9-11 September, stream panel at the “ International Initiative of Promoting Political Economy” conference;
- December, submission of FEPS studies (6-8); this will be submitted for a special issue in an academic journal in 2016

Beyond austerity, towards employment: a gender-aware framework

Book publication with Routledge

Two years research project: 2014-15; now extended to 2017

With TASC, ECLM, the Open University and SOAS.

The project investigates a change in position, role and pay of both women and men in Europe and how to create the conditions for a gender equitable and expansionary macroeconomic framework.

In March, dissemination of the work was done during a conference at the press club in Brussels with policy makers. There was also submission of studies and preparation of edited book submitted to Routledge publisher. Then throughout 2015 and beginning 2016, is the editing and review of book chapters for the book to be launched in autumn 2016.

Beyond financial regulation: industrial policies in the wake of the global financial crisis

Book publication

Two years research project: 2014-15

With International Institute of Social Science (ISS), the Netherlands

The project explores the dynamic relationship between finance and industrial policy. Looking at the role of finance and the financial sector in the restructuring of European industries 1970 – 2010, how current and proposed reforms of the financial sector may stabilise banking systems and support industrial policies that would create a sounder economic environment in which banks could operate.

The project will result in an edited volume by Oxford University Press and features **Mariana Mazzucato** amongst the authors. In February the edited book was submitted to Oxford

University Press and editing and review of the book chapters took place throughout the year. The book is due to be launched in May 2016 at Greenwich University together with GPERC and all the authors.

Wage-led growth in Europe

Policy briefs

ECONOMIC POLICY VIEWPOINT

The empirical case for a wage-led recovery

Author: **Professor Richard Onoram**, University of Greenwich and Kingston University
 Editor: **Professor Richard Onoram**, University of Greenwich and Kingston University
 Partner: **UKIP**, UK (London, United Kingdom)

Table 1: INDICATORS FOR EUROPEAN COUNTRIES AND EU AVERAGE

	2010-2015	2010-2016
A	0	1.75
B	0	0.27
C	0	0.27
DE	0	0.84
FR	0	1.89
IT	0	1.12
NL	0	0.72
PT	0	1.74
UK	0	1.74
EU	0	0.83
L	0	1.06
PL	0	0.81
SI	0	0.92
ES	0	2.71
GR	0	2.88
EU	0	0.96
EU GDP	0	1.01

Source: Onoram & Onoram (2015) 'Wages, the European Crisis and the European Recovery' in 'The European Crisis and the European Recovery' (Ed. Onoram & Onoram) (London: Routledge).
 Note: The indicators are calculated as the difference between the 2010-2015 and 2010-2016 periods. The indicators are calculated as the difference between the 2010-2015 and 2010-2016 periods.

Two years research project 2015-2016
 With TASC, University of Greenwich and Kingston University
 The project studies the effects of reduction in wages in Europe on aggregate demand. Since in the past decades profound changes in income distribution have occurred. Wages have fallen sharply as a share of national income in Europe and a new class of super rich has emerged. This projects seeks to determine What the effects of this are on aggregate demand, how does it stimulate demand and does it lead to greater economic stability.

In May a first module of research reports by Professor Onoram, including a policy viewpoint were delivered. In June, project leaders participated at FEPS-TASC conference. In December 2015 and March 2016 second and third modules are being delivered and published.

After the crisis: recovery and good jobs in Ireland

One year project (2015-2016)

With TASC

The project investigates how jobs have been changing in Ireland. from the boom through the crisis and into a possible recovery. Understanding past and present trends requires systematic comparison with selected EU countries, but also consideration of the EU level itself. This will help to identify the scope for change: what the possible policy options are at national and Union level, what the strategies for progressive actors are and its impact for the trade union movement. In June and initial workshop was held and in December a, synthesis report was published online. Further results and activities are planned for 2016.

Diverging capitalisms? Britain, the City of London and Europe

Two-year research project: 2015-17

With Policy Network and University of Sheffield Political Economic Research Institute (SPERI)

The project considers the changing nature of the British economy, its place within the European economy and the consequences of a possible Brexit. In September 2015, a kick-off meeting was held in London at Policy Network; and the research focus set and begun to work on. Further seminars planned for 2016 with work to be published.

Capital Markets Union

Two-year project: 2015-16

With University of West of England, Alternativas Foundation, Spain, Danish Institute for International Studies (DIIS) Denmark.

The project looks at the challenges and risks of the capital market union building on the observation that as its core, the Capital Markets Union seeks to address a paradox: a world structurally awash in excess capital that does not make its way into long-term productive investment.

The project will provide a careful, multi-layers analysis of the Capital Markets Union agendas, focusing on three distinctive areas:

1. The capacity of market-based finance to channel long-term investment;
2. The potential synergies and conflicts between financial markets integration and financial stability,
3. The reform of shadow banking

Activities carried out in 2015 included:

- February, kick-off meeting at FEPS - Italiani Europei event
- Participation of project leaders to the FEPSItalianiEuropei on "*Light and shade of the banking union and the new financial architecture*"
- May, Capital Market Union round-table debate with policy makers in Brussels and submission of policy briefs

- - 8 June, Professor Daniela Gabor participating at hearing of the Commission on Capital Market Union;
- 22 September, Professor Daniela Gabor invited to a joint FEPS-Progressive Economy event at the European Parliament;
- October, Publication of viewpoint (blog) on capital market union;



Further activities are planned for 2016.

Progressive Economic Policies for Europe

One year research project: 2015-16

With Economic council of the Labour Movement (ECLM), and collaboration of Professor Terry McKinley and Dr. Jo Michell from the Centre for Development Policy and Research – CDPR (SOAS University of London)



The project focuses on three large themes: 1) the role of Nordic countries within Europe; 2) European alternative economic policy strategies; 3) the role of Europe within the global economy.

These cover also future demographic change in Europe, debt deflation and quantitative easing. Energy and oil prices impact on Europe and education and inequalities. Within this project we have developed three policy briefs; nine policy viewpoints on various economic issues using CAM and Heimdall models. Further work will be published in 2016 in correspondence with this.

Heimdal Economic Modelling

One year project: 2015-16

With Economic council of the Labour Movement (ECLM), Denmark

Development and progress of the Heimdal economic model helps to carry out reliable forecasts of macroeconomic developments and give stable indications on the economic status of growth, employment and investment in the European economy. FEPS has been using this for eight years and helps develop alternative economic policies for our research.

Political and economic reflections on the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) - Phase 2 of FEPS project

Two year project 2014-2015 with Fondation Jean-Jaurès, Solidar, Renner Institut, GPF and Policy Network

With TTIP set to be a profound turning point for both European Union and United States economies, the deal is very contentious for many groups and undoubtedly the issues are very complex. With the aim of searching for a more holistic approach the key issues explored were Just and equitable international policies for a New Global Deal; A new geostrategic EU-US partnership to regulate global financial capitalism; Common inclusive and sustainable growth based on stable and decent jobs creation; The costs, benefits and opportunities of further trade in goods and services; and A new understanding of transatlantic progressivism; a new social contract. A collection of 11 papers on several issues related to TTIP were researched in 2015 and published in 2016.

Digital Economy project

Book in honour of Werner Wobbe

The recent, explosive growth of the 'sharing economy' and of new forms of work and the impacts of digitisation on labour markets have created new challenges for statistics producers and users. The aim being to assess how data on this phenomenon is sourced and used. This project was being led by FEPS good friend, Werner Wobbe. It began in 2015 with a collection of chapters from various authors with the aim to produce a book in 2016 and have various thought-provoking seminars around this. To our great sadness Werner Wobbe passed away suddenly and unfortunately will not witness the end of this work. FEPS decided to go ahead and publish the book in 2016 in his honour.

The Digital footprint project

A one-year project with UNIEuropa

Looking at the digital economy and how this is progressing we carried out a survey on new types of work and how this affects social welfare, access to the Labour market and types of work being done with the new era of digitalisation. Surveys were carried out in the UK and Sweden and published in 2016 with further dissemination methods. Further surveys also expected in 2016 are in Germany, Austria, the Netherlands, Belgium and France;

Service policy workshop

Seminar

FEPS office, Brussels, Belgium

6 May 2015

With UNI Europa

This was a closed expert meeting, attended by ten experts with an aim to analyse the shifts and the challenges posed to progressive political and social movements towards service economy and working conditions in Europe. Also, expert discussion aimed at defining proposals fostering economic and social progress under the conditions of a services-centred European economic and social model. The meeting included openings by FEPS, brainstorming session, and presentation by UNI Europe. As an outcome, key questions were identified: 1) Has the Juncker plan brought new jobs and investment? 2) Does the shift toward the service economy create jobs in particular quality jobs, growth and an EU social model – under which conditions? 3) Which alternatives to the current structural reform demand (smart specialisation)? In addition, an expanded workshop was agreed to be prepared, to be taking place on October 20th in Brussels together with MEP Jutta Steinrück.

European Growth Initiative

29 May, Berlin, Germany

With Humboldt-Viadrina Governance Platform

The initiative aimed to discuss the best means for investors to leverage the advantages of Commissioner President Juncker's investment plan to enable European social integration but also sustainable investment projects at the local level the focus on the need to reform the energy sector soon became apparent as a key issue for this group to address. Further workshops took place in 2016 and this built on a wider initiative of the Humboldt-Viadrina Governance Platform which FEPS contributed to throughout.

The People's Business: How Cooperatives and mutuals can contribute to the policy agenda of European Progressives

May 2015 – end 2016

With Mutuo

Much of the disillusionment with politics that is shared across the European Union stems from our politicians' inability to propose economic and political systems that work for ordinary people, rather than the vested interests of business, the wealthy and the powerful. This project looks at concrete examples of coops and mutual businesses that; 1) Work in the interests of their customers, 2) Share widely the rewards of enterprise and 3) Actively engage and involve their workers.

This research project seeks to establish the social democratic foundation of mutualism, describe the contribution of co-operatives to economies and societies across the EU and identify the potential for mutualism to further the progressive agenda. The desk research combined with holding a series of symposium in order to meet different representatives and academics working in this field. Further meetings planned in Rome and Sofia and the findings will be published in 2016.



Symposium held in 2015 were:

- **Brussels**, 23 September, gathering representatives from the EU coop level, Belgium, UK, France, Netherlands and Ireland.
- **Berlin**, 28th October, gathering Germany, Poland and Czech Republic, With Das Progressive Zentrum

- **Copenhagen**, 20 November, gathering Denmark, Sweden, Finland, Norway, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, with Kooperationen
- **Barcelona**, 27 November, gathering Spanish participants representing the national, Catalan and Basque regions. With the **Foundation Rafael Campalans**, this was also included as FEPS annual economy conference with them and featured Esther Niubó speaking as Director of the Foundation and also member of the Catalan Parliament, former President of Mondragon International, Jesús Mari Herrasti, Sara Berbel, Director of Empowerment Hub a social economy initiative and Santiago Diaz de Sarralde, coordinator of European and International economy ant Foundation Alternativas.

Economic policy briefs

With the Centre for Development Policy and Research (CDPR) at SOAS University, London
Written by Terry McKinley and Jo Michell

Series of policy briefs

Built on multi-annual project, completed in 2015 the briefs serve as a way of publishing also some of the findings from the Cambridge-Alphametrics Model (CAM) economic modelling forecasts. Comparing austerity measures with investment and employment-led policies and the economic situations defers greatly. The topics cover an alternative model for the Eurozone, or addressing global and European economic imbalances for instance.

CONFERENCES IN SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY

Light and shade of the banking union and the new financial architecture with Piercarlo Padoan

6 February, Rome

With ItalianiEuropei

Photo 2.1 A BankingUnionRome

Investment-led strategy for growth and jobs in Europe

26 March, Helsinki, Finland

With Kalevi Sorsa Conference

Economic Inequality and Societal Risk

FEPS-TASC Annual economic conference

19 June

Rethinking economics: pluralism, interdisciplinary and activism

9-11 September, University of Leeds Business School, UK

IIPPE conference - International Initiative for Promoting Political Economy

GLOBAL SOLIDARITIES

- **New Social Global Deal**
- **Sustainable World**
- **Asylum and migration**
- **Strengthening Progressive movements internationally**
- **Redefining the neighbourhood**

FEPS continued its work on enhancing global solidarities and building a stronger and more active network of strategic partnerships in order to best promote a progressive agenda internationally, covering a wide thematic and geographical range.

Our response to fighting climate change remains one of the fundamental challenges for international cooperation this century. The EU with its reputation as a world leader on this issue has a lot to offer. Addressing climate change means changing our policies notably in energy, transport, agriculture and development policies. Conversely this can have positive implications on our growth and industrial patterns, well-being and health. Therefore COP21 was a major step in all countries agreeing to follow a route to decarbonisation. Our 'Progressives for Climate' initiative helped bring together consensus on key issues.

In further international affairs, the underlying theme was on strengthening progressive movements and policies in key regions. Regarding the European Union, emphasis was placed on examining and analysing the emerging foreign and security policy landscape.

GLOBAL SOLIDARITIES

NOTABLE ACTIVITY IN THIS SECTION:

PROGRESSIVES FOR CLIMATE



With the Fondation Jean-Jaurès

This initiative was established looking towards the climate summit in Paris in December at the COP21 to seek to awaken the Progressive conscience and provide further momentum and engage in an international dialogue amongst progressives in order to articulate a common vision. It began at the end of 2014 with missions to some key countries such as USA, Canada, Chile, and India and in 2015 to South Africa, Niger and Mali in order to try to find where consensus can be developed. During the missions we met with key stakeholders involved in the negotiations. We also gathered many of the partners from these key countries we have been having dialogue with, including China and Australia in a large conference held in Paris in April. At the COP itself we ran a workshop on the topic of Just Transition. The idea was

The output in 2015 saw 2 large international conferences, published a thorough report offering 5 progressive proposals for the COP21 had a workshop during the negotiations, regular articles on a special dedicated website, twitter account and also a regular column in the Huffington Post (France) Newspaper. With contributions from various experts and stakeholders this served as a discussion platform for promoting progressive ideas and trying to secure a deal at the COP21.

Progressives for Climate, International conference on climate change

10 April, Paris

The momentum of this initiative intensified at this event which gathered former heads of state, policy-makers, climate experts and different stakeholders involved in the climate negotiations to speak to an audience of around 300 participants. The aim of the Conference was to advance a progressive vision of the fight against climate change well ahead of the COP21, and to formulate proposals to respond to the challenges of climate change in connection to human development and the fight against poverty. Alongside **Laurent FABIUS**, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International development there were around 20 high-level experts and politicians invited from around the world who have been involved in our dialogue, amongst them we have video interviews also from; Ian Goldin, John Kufour, Jean-Pascal Van Ypersele, Ricardo Lagos, Jairesh Ramesh, Qi Ye, Karl Offmann and Toudjani Saratou Malam Goni.

Progressives for Climate – COP21: Last Chance for a Real Deal!

21 October, Paris, France

Together with the PES, Parti Socialiste France, S&D group, YES and Fondation Jean-Jaures. A few weeks before the COP21 itself the initiative also assembled a large number of Progressive, European leaders for a public conference and ceremony of the signing of the 21 PES commitments and recommendations for the COP21 in the presence of a keen audience of around 400 people. The discussion featured Pervenche Berès MEP, Theresa Ribera, Director of IDDRI and Michel Aglietta Economist. Jo Leinen MEP and Laura Slimani, President of YES. Followed by keynote speeches from Jean-Christophe Cambadélis, First Secretary of Parti Socialiste, and Manuel Valls, Prime Minister of France.

The Sustainable Transition we want!

Workshop, 2 December, at Le Bourget, Paris site of the UNFCCC COP21 negotiations

With the Fondation Jean-Jaurès

Unfortunately due to the terrorist attacks one of the planned workshops was cancelled however the subjects are intrinsically linked so it did not affect our discussion too much. Namely, the path to decarbonisation is connected to addressing, peace, democracy, facing economic and social challenges, the fight against inequalities as these greatly influence our capacity to address climate change. Chandra Bhushan, Sanjeev Kumar and Anabella Rosemberg spoke. President of FEPS Massimo D'Alema delivered an opening speech which also offered the audience at COP a outline of our project.

NEW SOCIAL GLOBAL DEAL

New developments of the EU international security policy

International Expert Seminar, 24 March 2015

Brussels, Belgium

European Institute for Security and Justice (EISJ), University of Dundee

Rebuilding the Welfare State in Multicultural Societies

International Seminar, 25-26 May 2015

Tel Aviv, Israel

With Fondation Jean Jaurès, Renner Institute, MACRO Centre for Political Economy
In light of modern debates about the future of the welfare state both within and outside Europe, and the impact of the politics and policies of multiculturalism on these debates, an important seminar was organized by FEPS focusing precisely on these issues, in partnership with the Fondation Jean Jaurès, the Renner Institute and the MACRO Center for Political Economy.

This international seminar, which took place in Tel Aviv, Israel, 25th -26th May 2015, aimed at providing answers to the wider discussions focusing on the interplay between the concepts of multiculturalism and the welfare state. A total of approximately 30 high-level politicians, academics, think-tank and civil society representatives participated in the seminar and contributed to a series of very interesting discussions. The event also featured the participation of **Alfred Gusenbauer**, former Chancellor of Austria, members of Knesset, the Israeli parliament, and a speech by **Hilik Bar**, Secretary General of the Israeli Labor Party.



Transparency in the Global Garment Sector

First Garment Industries Transparency Initiative Regional Conference

8-9 September, Yangon, Myanmar

With Humbolt - Viadrina Governance Platform

Recognising the tremendous need for stronger, more credible and more concrete steps taken towards greater transparency in the garment sector, the first Garment Industries Transparency Initiative Regional Conference on Transparency in the Global Garment Sector brought together more than 85 stakeholders committed to the improvement of labour rights from Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, Myanmar, Philippines, Sri Lanka, and Vietnam as well as from Europe and the USA. Invited stakeholders, which included representatives from governments, garment producers, buying companies, civil society, trade unions as well as international experts, all shared their insights about how transparency in the global garment sector can be best and more efficiently achieved. Speakers included **Peter Eigen**, Founder of the Garment Industries Transparency Initiative (GITI), H.E. **U Aye Myint**, Union Minister for Labour, Employment and Social Security, Myanmar, and **Heidemarie Wieczorek-Zeul**, Former German Minister of Economic Cooperation and Development, GITI Program Director.



Fostering Stability and Development in Sub Saharan Africa: How to foster cooperation between public and private sectors

Research project / Throughout the year

With Istituto Affari Internazionali

Africa is experiencing one of the greatest transformations of its history. Today, sub-Saharan Africa is still marked by enduring instability and is alimeted by ongoing conflicts and crises, but is also characterised by positive developments, including efforts at fostering continental and regional integration through the African Union, and the increasing presence of international stakeholders such as the European Union. Continuing a project that started in 2014, research was conducted throughout the year on the issue of how it is possible to foster cooperation between the public and private sectors in Africa. Focusing on four country case studies (Ethiopia, Mozambique, Nigeria and South Africa) as illustrative of the inherent diversity in the continent, experts provided analyses of the status, challenges, and opportunities of partnerships between the two sectors in fostering sustainable development, good governance and democracy, peace and security in the wider region. An event where the publication with all these analyses would have been presented was scheduled to take place in the end of the year, but had to be postponed due to the terrorist attacks in Paris.

SUSTAINABLE WORLD

Progressives for climate

2014-2015 project building political momentum for COP21, December 2015

Missions to key countries for dialogue in 2015, USA, Canada, Niger, Mali

Website with regular written contributions and videos

See notable activity in this section for more information.

Just Transition: How to Manage the social and economic aspects towards more sustainability

Seminar and field trip, 9-10 July, Riga, Latvia

With the Freedom and Solidarity Foundation and Change Partnership

On the eve of the European Commission's Energy Union summer package announcement the main issues of the seminar were looking at how to challenge negative public opinion, provide good information and a shared goal in order to encourage more participation and ownership of this issue. Alongside the knowledge-sharing seminar we met with representatives from the Trade Union's separately and visited several housing estates to look at examples of how renovation and energy saving can bring about huge improvements.

Transition to sustainability

With Change partnership NGO

Research began in 2015. Report to be published in 2016. The project looks at how effective leadership, ownership and participation in the issue, accountability and keen management are essential ingredients to a successful transition. This project will examine how to attain successful governance on this issue and seek to develop a toolkit that can be translated and used for communities and local governments.

PUBLICATIONS IN SUSTAINABLE WORLD

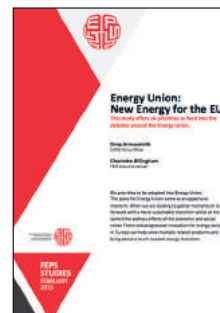
Six priorities for Energy Union

Publication and policy brief

February

Written by Greg Arrowsmith of EUREC and Charlotte Billingham from FEPS.

At the announcement of the European Commission's Energy Union package FEPS offers key Progressive priorities to be fundamental to the overall affect these policies can have also on addressing climate change at such a crucial time.



Five Proposals for COP21

Progressives for Climate

Launched at the conference on 10 April in Paris, in English and French versions.

With the Fondation Jean-Jaurès

Five fundamental objectives addressed towards the COP21 gathered to serve as a common, global progressive vision. It was written after the missions to the key countries and included the research obtained from the dialogues within the Progressives for Climate initiative.

Bringing it home: Making a global deal on climate change a reality

Publication



With the Fabian Society

Published end March

ISBN 978-0-7163-4123-9

Foreword by Anthony Giddens, Edited by Ed Wallis, with chapters from Charlotte Billingham, Marc Brightman, Adam Corner, Ruth Davies, Gerard Fuchs; Therese Kieve, Nick Mabey, Kerry McCarthy. In an attempt to bring this issue higher on the political agenda during this crucial year, momentum is key. And with weak political leadership public pressure is essential to keeping up the momentum in order to secure a deal at the COP21.

ASYLUM, MIGRATION AND INTEGRATION

Working Group on migration meeting and S&D 40 working lunch, meetings with MEPs

Seminar, 3-5 February Brussels, FEPS office

The objective of the Working Group on Migration meeting was to discuss concrete follow-up proposals for the research FEPS was carrying out concerning asylum and migration and this as one of the political momentums this year.

Participation at the Global Forum on Migration and Development and its Civil Society Days

12-16 October 2015

Istanbul, Turkey

FEPS was selected to participate at the Global Forum on Migration and Development for the first time in 2015. Among the five focus topics, FEPS was concentrating its participation and attention to the ones on establishing a decent work agenda and on forced migration, including the integration of forced migrants. With its commitment to and engagement with GFMD, FEPS would like to underline the importance to discuss the issue of migration government in a global context.

From Europe to local: Migrating solidarity

Research programme from September 2015

With SOLIDAR

The objectives of the research organized by FEPS and SOLIDAR are to prepare a mapping and analysis of the cooperation models between civil society actors and national, regional and local policymakers, to identify legal and policy shortcomings and to identify discrepancy between various level of decision makers and formulating recommendations. Through a call for papers, we would like to gather information on best practices and positive examples, as well as current challenges on the field. Selected papers will be gathered in a

publication, to be launched in autumn 2016, which will be used as an advocacy document towards European policy makers.

The political background of the refugee crisis

Research programme from November 2015

With Policy Solutions

Undoubtedly, practically overnight the refugee crisis has emerged as the most important political and public policy challenge facing Europe today. Despite the warnings, what we observe now is an EU that was ill-prepared for the currently experienced magnitude of the problem, and member states that lack the capacity to take decisive action. The countries that have taken the brunt of the humanitarian pressure urge a rapid and coordinated response to distribute the burden more equally, while many of the rest - the Central and Eastern European countries among them - are wary of the proposed joint solutions. The FEPS - Policy Solutions research, expanding to 2016, investigates the political roots of the current crisis; the characteristic national responses in the Central European region; and the impact the crisis is likely to have on the already substantial populist movement across Europe.

How western Europeans face the migrant crisis?

Survey carried out September -November

With the Fondation Jean-Jaurès and Ifop polling Institute

Cited in Le Monde and other newspapers. It examines public opinion in seven West European Member States and reveals that Europe is not only divided between East and West, North & South but also amongst Western Members. Indeed, French, German, British, Dutch, Spanish, Italians and Danish are not sharing the same attitudes toward the migrant flows and the economic capacity for their own country to welcome them. Survey

Migration and integration in Europe – Annual Research & Policy Days conference

23 November 2015

With the Kalevi Sorsa Foundation

The aim of this year's conference was to discuss the ongoing refugee crisis in Europe and its Neighbourhood. How have different countries dealt with the refugee situation? What should the European policy solutions be? What is the role Turkey in managing the crisis? Next to presenting several country case studies, the conference also tackled the issue of integration, the next challenge which is ahead of us.

PUBLICATIONS IN ASYLUM, MIGRATION AND INTEGRATION

Migrants are not "problems at sea": From corpse-free gates towards a comprehensive system of human protection

May 2015

FEPS Policy brief, written by Dr. Ernst Stetter

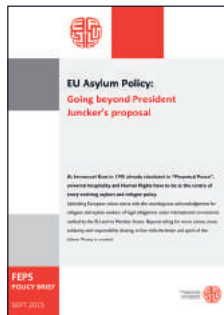
The paper argues that a compulsory resettlement scheme based on a quota system should be launched and EU external representation offices installed with a capacity to issue humanitarian visas. Calls for solidarity-based responsibility sharing have not answered; there is the need of more efficient and more advanced systems with clear legal frameworks put in place.

European Migration agenda: Quo Vadis?

July 2015

FEPS Policy brief, written by Sönke Schmidt

The presentation of the European Migration Agenda was followed closely by all stakeholders and by the European media. However, while producing a moderate contribution to the current issues concerning the Mediterranean migration flows, the Council conclusions undermine the EU's ability to match up to global challenges which may require more permanent solidarity and burden sharing commitments inside the EU, and an increased ability to support, shape and encourage multilateral responses. This policy brief analyses the European Commission's Communication and the European Council Conclusions, and sheds light on their positive and negative points, as well as their underlying objectives.



EU asylum policy: Going beyond President Juncker's proposal

September 2015

FEPS Policy brief, written by Dr. Ernst Stetter

As Immanuel Kant in 1795 already stipulated in "Perpetual Peace", universal hospitality and Human Rights have to be at the centre of every evolving asylum and refugee policy. Upholding European values starts with the unambiguous acknowledgement for refugees and asylum seekers of legal obligations under international conventions ratified by the EU and its Member States. Beyond calling for more

Union, more solidarity and responsibility sharing, in line with the letter and spirit of the Lisbon Treaty is needed.

Clash of values: The political background of the refugee crisis in Hungary

September 2015

FEPS Policy brief, written by Tamás Boros, Policy Solutions

In late summer 2015, the Hungarian refugee crisis was the breaking news. The images were of Central and Eastern Europe being confronted with the arrival of tens of thousands of (mainly) Syrian people. En route to further destinations Budapest is deeply affected but having to deal with the large number of people, reaching Hungary as the first the first safe Schengen-country on their migration route, whilst dealing with and awaiting their registration process they have become targets of the Hungarian government's anti-immigration campaign.

Migration & Fundamental Rights: Will the EU live up to its values ?

Publication, December

With SOLIDAR Foundation

With the horrific amount of tragedies unrelenting, this book offers an alternative approach to migration, asylum and integration policies based on solidarity and the respect of human rights. Whilst the plight of more people trying to search protection and a better life, due to worsening conditions in their countries of origin is the largest migration crisis since the EU was formed, European leaders have rolled out a new migration initiative which only deals with further security and border controls and completely ignores the humanitarian crisis and provides no effective instruments in this sense.

STRENGTHENING PROGRESSIVE MOVEMENTS INTERNATIONALLY

Conceptual divergences within the CHP, Turkey: A Study of the Prevailing Perceptual Dichotomies of the CHP Electorate

With Progressive Thought Institute

December, Istanbul

Prepared and executed by Aydin Cingi.

A focus group discussions-based research project to identify and understand the current ideological stance of Republican People Party in Turkey (CHP) through the analysis of the conceptual dichotomies that prevail in the party organization at present. By holding interviews in 8 different cities across Turkey, with party members and supporters in different regions in the country a careful country-wide mapping is achieved. The interviews and discussions together with analysing data from election results sets the overview which is to be used for determining future political direction and patterns of the party and its electorate.

Meeting with delegation of Libyan mayors

Meeting, 4 June 2015

Rome, Italy

With Fondazione Italianieuropei

At a time when Libya found itself in a critical juncture and the country's government structures had been in disarray, FEPS in cooperation with Fondazione Italianieuropei, organised a very important meeting with a number of Libyan mayors in Rome. The dual objective of the seminar, which was conducted under Chatham House rules and featured an intervention by Massimo D'Alema, President of FEPS, was to analyse and assess both the current landscape in the county but also the future dynamics regarding Libya's

path towards stability and democracy. The meeting attracted a number of mayors from important Libyan cities. Discussions evolved around three main axes: the internal schism between the Tobruk and the Tripoli governments, the rise of Daesh and the severe security and governance ramifications of this, and the immigration flows from Libya to Europe.

Reception of Chinese Delegation from the China Centre for Contemporary World Studies (CCCWS)

Working lunch, 22 June 2015

Brussels, Belgium

In March 2015, China issued the “Vision and Actions on Jointly Building Silk Road Economic Belt and 21st-Century Maritime Silk Road” document, delineating in detail the background, principles and content of the Silk Road Economic Belt and 21st-Century Maritime Silk Road Initiative (hereinafter referred to as the Belt and Road Initiative). Continuing the very important partnership with the China Centre for Contemporary World Studies, a working lunch was organised during the visit of a Chinese Delegation to Brussels, focusing on this issue. The Chinese delegation was led by **Hu Hao**, Deputy Director General of CCCWS, and **Wang Yiwei**, Professor at the Renming University. The working lunch provided an excellent opportunity for a very open and frank discussion on the ‘The One Belt, One Road’ initiative and the creation of a new network of think-tanks, but also touched upon other important topics such as the effects of populism and apathy on modern democratic party politics, and China’s geostrategic situation in the wider region.

Breakfast Meeting with Kemal Kılıçdaroğlu, President of the CHP

24 September 2015

Brussels, Belgium

With the CHP European Union Representation - Brussels

Ahead of the general elections in Turkey taking place on 1st November 2015, the Foundation of European Progressive Studies organised a breakfast meeting with **Kemal Kılıçdaroğlu**, President of the CHP, Turkey’s largest social democratic party, and main opposition leader. The meeting, which was organised in cooperation with the CHP European Union Representation - Brussels, featured introductory remarks by Kılıçdaroğlu, and **Kati Piri**, Member of the European Parliament and Rapporteur on Turkey. It provided an excellent opportunity to address the key developments in the country’s domestic and international landscape, in particular ahead of the upcoming election. Discussions focused on a wide

range of pertinent aspects regarding Turkey's domestic and international developments in addition to the EU's role in light of these developments.

The meeting was well attended, attracting a wide range of representatives from the European institutions, including several interested MEPs, European Commission and European External Action Service members of cabinet and policy officers, as well as civil society representatives.



REDEFINING THE NEIGHBOURHOOD

Book launch “Problems of representative democracy in Europe” with European Commission Vice-President, Frans Timmermans



Book launch
FEPS office, Brussels, Belgium
24 April 2015
with European Forum for Democracy and Solidarity,
and the Karl-Renner Institut
This event was of major popularity and filled the FEPS
conference room entirely. Co-Editors of the book with
Ernst Stetter (FEPS) and Jan Marius Wiersma, former
MEP and Vice President of the European Forum for
Democracy and Solidarity, opened the discussion to
give the floor to European Commission Vice-President,
Frans Timmermans who gave an inspiring speech
on the topic of the publication. Entitled *Problems of
representative Democracy in Europe – A challenge
for Progressives*, the book presented belongs to a
research project called *Enhancing democracy pre and
post EU enlargement*.

Iran Nuclear Agreement - The politics of attainability and the implications for Iran and the world

Policy Brief written by Vassilis Ntousas, FEPS
August 2015

The Iranian nuclear deal constitutes one of the most important post-Cold War diplomatic accords, putting an end to a long and, at times, arduous process of negotiations that lasted almost two years. This policy brief explored the various aspects of the deal, while shedding

light on its technical details and its strategic, long-term implications. It found the agreement to be a robust yet imperfect diplomatic compromise that nonetheless represents a concrete step in the right direction, both for Iran and the international community.

Back to Home conference on youth unemployment and the impacts of emigration

3 July, Budapest, Hungary

With the Tancsics Foundation

With European programmes such as the youth Guarantee established, many are still awaiting a change in situation. Unfortunately many people, and especially young people are leaving Central and Eastern Europe because of the unfavourable current economic situation. This conference gathers the situation especially in Hungary, a country largely affected by emigration. It seeks to provide reasons, solutions and also a progressive reaction to this.

The European Union at historical crossroads: Challenges and policy options

International conference

18 November, Budapest, Hungary

With the Tancsics Foundation

Assessing the external and internal challenges of the EU. Sustainable growth, federalism or fragmentation of the European project, growing populism and searching for a modern European identity: cohesion and solidarity were topics for the first session. The external challenges looked at addressing migration its political, legal, economic and social implications. Christian Deubner spoke on behalf of FEPS Scientific Council together with Zita Gurmai, József Tobias, Peter Balázs, László Kovács and other notable personalities from Hungary and elsewhere.

Resisting state propaganda in the new information environment: The case of EU member states and EU eastern partnership states vis-à-vis the Russian Federation

Research end 2015 - end 2016, Latvia

With Freedom and Solidarity Foundation

A new research project exploring responses to foreign propaganda undermining the

principles of democracy was initiated at the end of 2015. The project, which is expected to be concluded in the fall of 2016, focuses on the initiatives the EU as a whole, individual EU member states and the Eastern Partnership states have already undertaken or should undertake in order to minimise the consequences of foreign propaganda. Using the case study of Russian propaganda, this project has a particular focus on Latvia, whereby an analysis will be conducted on the issue of media literacy, aiming at assessing how better state-level policies in the area can increase resilience against foreign propaganda.

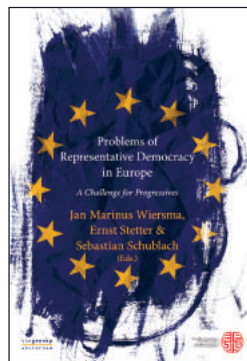
Daesh and the Terrorist Threat: From the Middle East to Europe

Book, various contributors

ItalianiEuropei

Islamic terrorist attacks showed a dramatic escalation in 2015. Targeting increasingly European countries and objectives, they represent a phenomenon that we must confront and better understand. FEPS with its Italian partner decided to develop a book which includes a collection of essays aiming to provide insight into the origins, evolution, principal characteristics, and unique means of recruitment and financing of Islamic terrorist organisations. Moreover, it examines the diffusion of Islamic radicalisation among young Europeans and of the foreign fighters, who, in growing numbers, leave their home countries to join Daesh. Prepared in 2015 and launched in January 2016.

PUBLICATIONS IN REDEFINING THE NEIGHBOURHOOD



Problems of representative democracy in Europe

Book

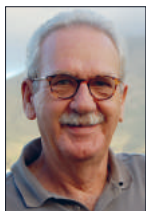
Edited by Jan Marinus Wiersma, Ernst Stetter, Sebastian Schublach
With European Forum for Democracy and Solidarity, and the Karl-Renner Institut
ISBN 9789461643148

There are growing concerns about the state of representative democracy in both Eastern and Western Europe. Whether it is the rise of populism, the increase of illiberal tendencies or the expression of outright antidemocratic sentiments, the number of threats is growing. This is all the more alarming since the origins

of democracy can be found in our continent. The changes have an (negative) impact on the European integration process as such and on support for EU enlargement. The articles of this book, written by young progressive academics, offer a broad perspective on democratic shortcomings and potential solutions. They make clear that although the post communist countries have followed a different trajectory, their (disillusioned) electorates have much in common. Contributions from an impressive array of researchers.

PUBLICATIONS IN GLOBAL SOLIDARITIES

FEPS Correspondents in **India and South Africa**, Klaus Voll and Arnold Wehmhoerner respectively write regular articles on South East Asia and Southern African political situations and relates it to European and international affairs.



From India and the region

by Klaus Voll

India and South Asia Dossier

Monthly analysis and collection of articles
Throughout the year

In 2015, FEPS South Asia Correspondent, Klaus Voll continued to release a monthly analysis on a range of domestic and foreign policy developments in India as well as in the wider region. A number of complementary articles by distinguished authors provided the reader with a much wider and deeper understanding of the politics in India, South Asia and across the wider region, through an Indian-centred perspective.

From South Africa and the region

by Arnold Wehmhoerner

Migrants in South Africa - February 2015

A recent growth in xenophobic attacks on migrants marks a worrying trend in post-Apartheid South Africa. Yet there has been a mixed history, with South Africa exhibiting one of the most liberal immigration regimes in developed economies and bringing significant benefit to some neighbouring states. Still, the government's support for despotic regimes like in Zimbabwe possibly contributes significantly to the need for asylum among Zimbabweans.

Darkness falls on South Africa - May 2015

With analysts blaming the continuous electricity blackouts that have taken place in the country since 2008 for the lower than expected economic growth rate, this paper explored how South Africa continues to suffer from a deep energy crisis.

Africa dumps the International Criminal Court - June 2015

Ahead of the 25th Summit of the African Union taking place in South Africa, the country's government promised immunity to all attending officials. Despite an order by the High Court to the government to prevent Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir, who was wanted by the International Criminal Court (ICC) for war crimes and genocide, from leaving the country, he was allowed to leave after the meeting. This paper explored the reasons and ramifications behind such a decision, as well as the deteriorating state of legality and accountability in South Africa.

Correcting the past, Losing the future - July 2015

Focusing on the very important issue of policies promoting black economic empowerment in South Africa following the advent of power of the African National Congress and the abolition of the apartheid, the paper looked at the level of success of such policies in correcting past injustices over the last 20 years.

1968 in South Africa - November 2015

Taking stock of the student demonstrations against the proposed hikes in university fees (#FeesMustFall), this paper analysed the potentially catalytic role young people can play in pointing out the failures and mistakes of government, the extent to which corruption has spread and how the policy of vested interests damages the well-being of the nation.



CORE PROJECTS

CALL TO EUROPE V: ISLAM IN EUROPE

Fifth edition of the annual FEPS Brussels conference
24-25 June

Brussels, Belgium

With Wiardi Beckman Stichting, Tancsics Mihaly Alapitvány, Fondation Jean-Jaurès, Olof Palme International Centre.

Bringing together 60 speakers, and around 400 participants, this timely event was the first of its kind in the way Progressives in Europe took the lead in preventing reactionary forces from encroaching on the mainstream of public opinion. It gathered different groups of society, together with Progressive leaders in addressing this highly-sensitive topic. The unique, interactive format established by FEPS specially for the Call to Europe conference brought together representatives of religious communities in Europe as well as the academics, policy-makers, civil society representatives.

It looked at the variety of influences - local, foreign as well as global - at play to better understand the dynamics we face. The question of social and economic empowerment is key to the understanding of communal marginalisation. If people cannot attain a decent standard of living, it is difficult to feel part of society.



The highlight was a keynote speech on day one by **Federica Mogherini** and the Progressive leaders debate at the closing of the two-day's discussions where current high-level politicians spoke in public on these issues in detail. Speakers were, **Sergei Stanishev, Pedro Sánchez, Diederik Samsom, József Tóbiás, Ouafa Hajji, Laura Slimani, Árni Páli Árnason, Charles Picqué, Jean-Christophe Cambadélis and Massimo D'Alema.**

The aim was to address developments in society which are increasingly challenging Europe's basic, fundamental values, such as mutual respect, tolerance, freedom of speech, equal rights between genders, the secular state and the protection of minorities.

There are more than 35 million Muslims living in Europe and Islam has been part of European societies for centuries. Yet in recent years, extremists have sought to breed discontent and division. Alienation, populism, xenophobia and disenchantment with our democracies have been festering for decades and reactionary right wing elements have emerged to target Muslims in particular and to create discord within European societies.

Call to Europe V: Islam in Europe therefore provided an opportunity to develop a truly intercultural narrative on:

- In what ways can we support the development of genuine understanding of Islam within European societies;
- How to restore and enhance tolerance between all groups in European society;
- What are the key policy measures and concrete actions that must be initiated to successfully address the fears of minority communities, to prevent radicalisation and to fight intolerance and discrimination, wherever it comes from?



FEPS YOUNG ACADEMICS NETWORK



With Renner Institut

Two seminars this year on 26 June in Brussels and 26-29 November in Vienna.

FEPS Website has a special section devoted to the FEPS YAN

The year 2015 saw the continuation of the 4th cycle, which had been initiated in July 2014 in the aftermath of the European Elections. The Network has grown to over 60 members, who are developing ideas and consequently academic papers within 9 thematic working groups working on; Class,

Migration, Labour Gender and Austerity, Anti-Gender Mobilisation, Renewable Democracy, Education, Europolitics and Eurogovernance.

The participants abide by a set of criteria: *interdisciplinary, innovative, politically relevant, progressive and European.*

The first meeting in 2015 evolved to become the first “Annual Conference”, which was held in Brussels on 26th June 2016 in the sequence of the events accompanying FEPS flagship activity “Call to Europe”. The programme was divided into three thematic segments, each of which saw the corresponding presentations from the side of the Working Groups and then their subsequent respective reviews. The feedback was both offered by *peers*, as also by the invited experts: MEPs and FEPS YAN Alumni (which group comprises now of more than 100 names). Among them were: Luciano Antonucci, Brando Benifei MEP, Isabelle Hertner, Marju Lauristin MEP, Victor Negrescu MEP, Julie Ward MEP.

Enriched with the comments, the FEPS YAN Members embarked on the final stage of the 4th cycle which required updating the respective papers and involving in the last round of the FEPS reviews; formulating the academic conclusions and pairing these with political recommendations; finalizing the executive summaries and reflecting on the dissemination strategies. These materials were the background documents for the following seminar.

The second meeting programme was constructed so that it enabled an exchange with Dr. Ernst Stetter, FEPS Secretary General – which was then followed by the final sessions in the Working Groups.

Afterwards the FEPS YAN members were invited to take part in the “Dragon’s Den” – for which each of the Groups had to choose 3 most important proposals that they would like to inspire the European Progressive Family with. These would be presented and then commented upon by members of the other working groups, alongside with the 3 ‘Dragons’ representing: National Politics (Torsten Engelage, Advisor to the President of the National Council of Austria), European Politics (Laura Slimani, President of the Young European Socialists) and Academia (Dimitris Tsarouhas, member of the FEPS Scientific Council and the FEPS Next Left Focus Group). The proposals were then subjected to a vote – following which 10 most popular would become a part of the final recommendation chart of the 4th Cycle.

PUBLICATIONS OF THE YOUNG ACADEMICS NETWORK

- Renewable democracy: towards full participation through representation and deliberation
- Why the Left needs Europolitics?
- From Class Struggle to Struggling with Class
- The right to live, learn and work in Europe: migration policy as an opportunity for civic inclusion
- Conservatives vs. The “Culture of Death”. How progressives handled the war on gender?
- What impact have post-crisis public policies on gender equality in the EU Member States?
- Capital and Labour in the post-crisis European Context: distributional, institutional and political considerations

- Promoting Labour Rights and Social Protection in the Post-Crisis Europe
- Are E-learning platforms a promising way forward for the future cohesion in Europe?
- Monetary vs. Economic Policy: A Bug in the Maastricht design?

The year ended with finalization of the 4th cycle and opening the call for new members that would join in the perspective of 2016, where the 18th seminar would inaugurate the subsequent round. The FEPS YAN Steering Team was composed of Elena Gil, Judit Tánczos, Ania Skrzypek in 2015.

FURTHER CORE ACTIVITIES

Putting gender and LGBT+ in a political context: Considerations for effective political action

FEPS YAN Contribution, written by Eszter Petronella Soós and Weronika Grzebalska
November 2015

Gender and LGBT+ rights are a cornerstone for progressive society and politics. The state of gender rights are, in fact, a litmus test one should run to explore and evaluate the human rights situation in a given country. Acquiring full equality is the latest big fight of the human rights' movement. It is difficult (nearly impossible) to come with a game plan that is suitable for all local contexts. Progressives should always analyse and understand their local contexts and come up with solutions that are suitable for that context. However, there are a few points and suggestions that might be useful for all progressives in Europe. The contribution lists these suggestions.

Labour and Immigration: Freedom of Movement in Europe

FEPS fringe workshop the UK Labour Party Conference, 28 September, Brighton, UK
With Policy Network

This very heated debate, became a core sensitive topic over the few days of conference. It focused on social rights and standards, alongside with trying to balance between the freedom of movement and the sustainability of so called 'welfare transfers'. Speaking were: Simon. Booth, Ruth Crawford, David Goodheart, Ania Skrzypek, John McTernan.

Europe Academy, Brussels intro tour

Meetings, seminars and training, - 4 June in Brussels

With the Dr-Karl-Renner-Institut

This has become an annual activity where the participants of the Austrian Renner Europe Academy visit Brussels to get an insight into how the European institutions function. FEPS runs the programme together and of course a presentation is given about what FEPS is and does, also an introduction to the other Progressive organisations present here in Brussels such as the PES, YES. They also meet MEPs, representatives from the European Commission and other key stakeholders here over the course of 2-3 days.

Égalité: The paths towards equality in a global world: Education and Democracy

Workshop, 5 June, Poitiers, France

With the Fondation Jean-Jaurès

On the fringe of the annual congress of Parti Socialiste France a discussion was held in the town hall of Poitiers where Jean-Christophe Cambadélis, First Secretary of the PS closed the discussions. It touched upon the question of growing inequalities leading to further instability and step backwards for democracy. The issue of education for women was a large focus of this combined issue. This discussion was continued with FEPS Scientific Council in December.

Where now for the Left? - Annual summer conference

6 June, London, UK

With the Fabian Society

Held just a month after the General elections in the UK that saw Labour defeated and consequently an EU referendum inevitable the conversations focused on this new phenomenon in a day-long conference which brought together around 300 participants and key political commentators.

With the recent resignation of party leader Ed Miliband the highlight of the day, alongside the plenaries and workshops where FEPS also presented was a hustings sessions with the 4 candidate party leaders. This was a turning political event because it was becoming apparent that Jeremy Corbyn was gaining tremendous support and popularity, he then went onto win.

Civil monitoring for fair elections in Bulgaria

Training, research, monitoring and reporting

July-December 2015

With the Institute for Social Integration in Bulgaria

This project has followed the Bulgarian elections since 2011. It involves a heavy programme across the country in monitoring the electoral process from campaigning, (especially media) to how the votes are carried out on the day. A large number of people are trained up to observe this process at all the polling stations with everything being meticulously noted down and a report is written and published publicly afterwards. Also Observation missions of PACE and OSCE takes place. ISI is invited to their meetings with main representatives of civil society and presents our experience, gained during the implementation of the Monitoring Project. This autumn it was one year after the Early parliamentary elections where local elections were conducted, furthermore a referendum on introducing electronic voting was held however the turnout was far below the threshold to make the result adequate.

European School of Democracy, Luciano Cafagna

Training and educational seminars

November, Italy

With Associazione Socialismo

A project of education and dissemination of skills on European issues at local level. The first seminar took place on 6-8 November in Matera and a second on 13 – 15 November in Naples. The first looked at the culture for development in Southern Europe, this, with the inherent example of the town of Matera which is very isolated and was very poor however has a very rich cultural heritage. The town and its people have been transformed in recent decades. The second session looked at the relation between Italy, Europe and the rest of the Mediterranean.

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WWW.FEPS-EUROPE.EU



QUERIES MAGAZINE

WWW.QUERIES-FEPS.EU

The only European Progressive magazine published by FEPS aims to reach out to a broader audience. It was established too to promote a more European thinking of the news. With many news portals still being very nationally focused, there is a lack in European news outlets and especially progressive ones. So from fresh thinking to out of the box reflection, its objective is to engage with a wider cross-section of the public.

The magazine is now in its third year and is successful in the way it is opening up FEPS to new networks and a much wider audience sees dialogues and our messages. Still predominantly online and some printed versions, it is also being sold in newsagents with the aim to have this in several large European capitals. For now, the magazine is only in English, but this is not to be restricted for the future.

It has regular features and interviews and each issue has a special focus on a particular varying issue and features contributions from prominent political spokespeople and leaders from different parts of Europe and around the world.

In order to capture the audience and build a strong relationship based in term of high level content, a newsletter dedicated for Queries will be sent regularly and will promote short analysis made by FEPS network and former contributors from the magazine.

Issue 6 - Free Trade agreements: Yes but not at all costs

Published spring

It would be a huge mistake to consider the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) as a mere economic and trade agreement stated Massimo D'Alema in the editorial. Thanks to the contributions of **Pascal Lamy, Cecilia Malmström, Sigmar Gabriel, Pierre Degraigne, Eveline Herfkens**, this spring issue tried to remind that free-trade agreements are fine by not al all costs.

Issue 7 - Inequalities

Published summer

Why some people are more equal than others and what Europe must do about it ? This fundamental question was at the heart of this new Queries magazine and has been extended because the discussion on inequality should not be confined to income and welfare. Among prestigious contributors to this issue : **Joseph Stiglitz, Camille Landais, Diane Perrons, Juan Somavía, Francis Stewart, Antonella Stirati. Richard Wilkinson.**

Issue 8 - Climate / EU referendum

Published autumn

Considering difficult to choose between two major topics, we divided our cover and the focus of this issue between the COP 21 and the EU referendum in the UK. We received a lot of very high contributions including among them papers from **Romano Prodi, Ellen MacArthur, Andrew Gamble, Theresa Ribera, Frans Timmermans, Stephany Griffith-Jones, Pierre Agthon.**



EUROPEAN PROGRESSIVE OBSERVATORY

Along with the Queries magazine and only available on the Queries website and by email, we decided to cover the most significant elections taking place in Europe, at national, regional or local levels. In 2015 these were elections in Sweden, Greece, UK, Turkey, Canada, Germany, Poland and Catalonia in the context of the referendum. Each time a newsletter is disseminated just after the election with a collection of articles from 3 -5 academics or politicians who have accepted to send us a op-ed right before or after the election targeted.

COMMUNICATION

Online communication is a key tool for FEPS in order to connect with its members and partners within the European Union and throughout the rest of the world. Through the website and the newsletter we are able to keep a daily dissemination of our academic research and policy proposals.

During 2015 FEPS continued its social media strategy to communicate our progressive thinking through different channels like Facebook and Twitter.

Following the survey made in 2014 on Communication FEPS developed new concepts and launched a Call for tender for a new communications agency.

Website

Website (<http://www.feps-europe.eu>):

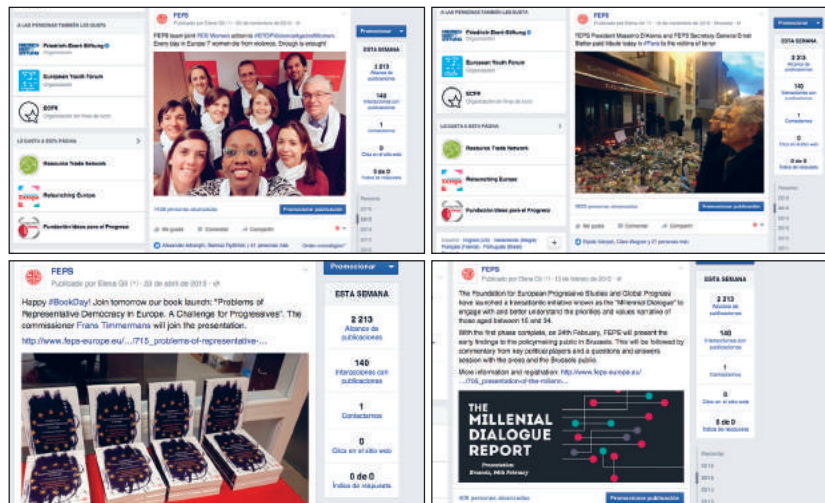
FEPS continued updating regularly its website with its latest publications, news, events and projects. With more than 100.000 visits in 2015, the website was checked not only by the audience from the EU Member States, also from Transatlantic public, as this country is in the 6th position on the list of regular visitors.

The main “political momentums” are highlighted in the homepage and they are regularly updated according to the main debates in the European Union. They gather FEPS research and activities on these crucial topics.

Social Media

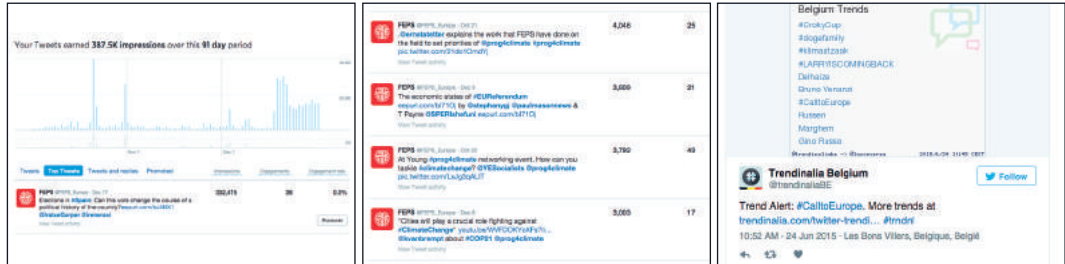
Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/pages/FEPS/178074824775?ref=hl>)

During 2015 FEPS Facebook account continued exchanging information and opinions with its followers, which increased not only in quality, also in quantity. Two Facebook campaigns were launched during 2015. One on the outcomes of Call to Europe IV (migration and asylum) and the other one on the presentation of the Millennial Dialogue project with the launching of the first three reports: Italy, Poland and Germany.



Twitter (@FEPS_Europe)

We have strengthened our engagement with our Twitter followers with live tweets from our conferences and seminars but also promoting our publications. The hashtag #CalltoEurope was once more trending topic during our 5th edition “Islam in Europe”.



Newsletter

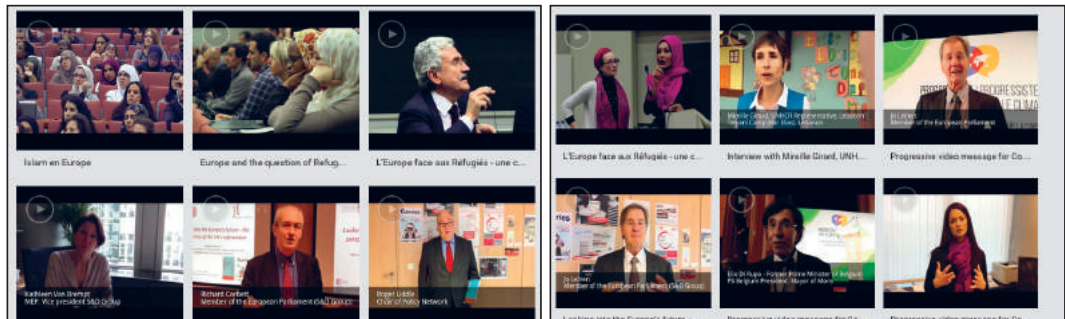
We kept in contact with our engaged audience (more than 12.000 readers) sending over 70 newsletters during 2015. Our regular invitations to our events and the dissemination of our new publications were the main topics of this regular mailing.

In 2015 we decided to have one main topic per newsletter.

You tube and Flickr:

FEPS has a Youtube Channel (<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCroB-bvfEQGE4DyJzqliVPg>) and a Flickr account to disseminate the audiovisual material produced by the Foundation.

Our channel in Youtube now has more than 31.000 views (increasing more than 20.000 views in comparison with last year). We have increased the use of audiovisual material in order to communicate through social media. During 2015 we fed our Youtube channel with interviews of our experts and politicians who participate in our events. The speeches of speakers at our main events were also recorded and shared in this platform.



Blog of Ernst Stetter, Secretary General

The regular blog on Euractiv of the Secretary General continues to receive wide readership and is often picked as the editor's favourite on Euractiv. It serves as another tool to reach a wider audience and in a different style of communication.

11 February - Greece: The blue sky seems far ahead

26 February - Energy and Climate: Can it be simply rethinking mainstream growth strategies? (Written with Charlotte Billingham)

30 June - Call to Europe for Greece

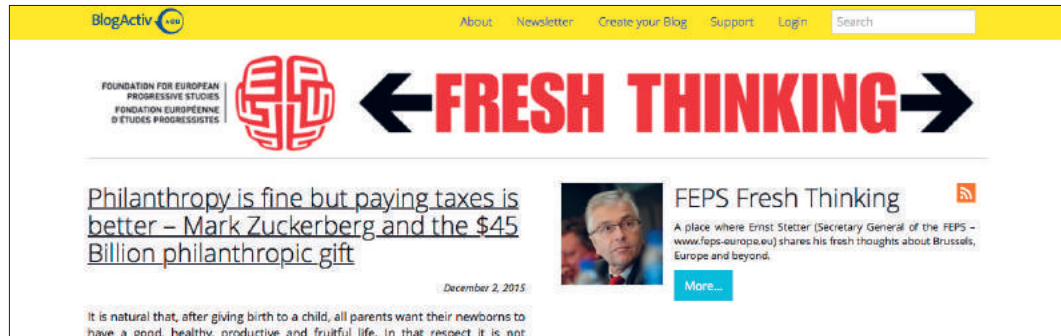
10 July - Give Greece a chance!

1 September Perilous journeys, hazardous discussions (written with Judit Tánczos)

11 September - EU Asylum Policy: Going beyond President Juncker's proposal

30 November - Put yourself in their shoes - Finding solutions to climate change and refugees (Written with Charlotte Billingham)

2 December - Philanthropy is fine but paying the taxes is better: Mark Zuckerberg and the \$45 billion gift.



The screenshot shows the top of a web page with a yellow navigation bar containing 'BlogActiv', 'About', 'Newsletter', 'Create your Blog', 'Support', 'Login', and a search box. Below the navigation bar is the FEPS logo (a red stylized 'E' and 'F' intertwined) and the text 'FOUNDATION FOR EUROPEAN PROGRESSIVE STUDIES' and 'FONDATION EUROPÉENNE D'ÉTUDES PROGRESSISTES'. To the right of the logo is the text '← FRESH THINKING →' in large red letters with black arrows. Below this is a blog post preview for 'Philanthropy is fine but paying taxes is better – Mark Zuckerberg and the \$45 Billion philanthropic gift' dated 'December 2, 2015'. The preview includes a small photo of Ernst Stetter and a 'More...' button. At the bottom of the preview, there is a quote: 'It is natural that, after giving birth to a child, all parents want their newborns to have a good, healthy, productive and fruitful life. In that respect it is not'.

INVITATIONS & PARTICIPATION

A brief insight into some activities where FEPS has been invited to speak, present our work or participate as delegates.

Inclusive Growth and decent work

Progressive Alliance meeting, Mexico City, 26-27 March

PES Congress and PES Women Congress

Budapest, 11-13 June

Participation at the Korcula School on gender equality

Invitation by the CEE Network for Gender Issues
Seminar, 28-30 August, Korcula, Croatia

Presentation at the Pan-Polish Congress of Political Sciences

22 – 24 September, Krakow, Poland

Ania Skrzypek delivered an academic presentation on the theme of “The phenomenon of Transitional Leadership in Contemporary Politics” and took part in a workshop on the European and national foundations.

Initiative for Policy Dialogue (IPD) conference on inequality

9-11 November, New York, Columbia University

Ernst Stetter, Secretary General delivered a presentation on the European Social Model to the high-level economic conference, led by Professor Joseph Stiglitz.

FEPS presentation to the S&D Group debate on the “Future of Social Democracy”

*S&D Group meeting of the Bureau and Heads of Delegations
8 December, Brussels, European Parliament*

This high level seminar addressed primarily the Bureau and the Heads of Delegation and was open to all the S&D MEPs. This debate was a very intense one – and FEPS Ania Skrzypek, presented the findings and recommendations deriving from the FEPS Next Left Research Programme. Also on the panel was Gianni Pitella, President of S&D Group; J. Moreno Sanchez, Secretary General of the S&D Group, Professor Marc Lazar of Science Po in Paris and Ernst Stetter, FEPS.

INSTITUTIONAL MATTERS

Scientific Council meetings

23 June, Brussels, FEPS office

On the eve of this year's Call to Europe conference the meeting was devoted to the topic of Islam in Europe

22 October, Brussels, FEPS office

On the topic of the crisis of the Union, with regards to Greece and the Eurozone and also the EU referendum in the UK and dealing with the migrant crisis. The meeting analysed the workplan of the European Commission in detail.



15 December, Brussels, FEPS office
The meeting took place in the framework of the FEPS and the Fondation Jean Jaurès research programme entitled “Égalité”. The meeting was called to focus on two main issues in particular: possible futures for the Eurozone governance - progressive perspectives - and the current situation in the Middle East.

Bureau meetings

23 April

23 June



General Assembly

23 June



MEMBERS:

Currently FEPS has 40 national political foundations and think tanks as full members, 5 Ex-officio members and 12 observer members from political foundations and think tanks.

See online for list <http://www.fepe-europe.eu/en/members-fepe>

BUREAU:

As at FEPS General Assembly June 2015.

President :

Massimo D'Alema (Italy)

Vice-Presidents:

Juan Moscoso Del Prado (Spain)

Karl Duffek (Austria)

Zita Gurmai (Hungary)

Pascal Lamy (France)

Sergei Stanishev (Bulgaria)

Secretary General :

Ernst Stetter (Germany)

Ex-Officio members:

Zita Gurmai - President of PES Women

Karl-Heinz Lambertz - President of the PES Group in the Committee of the Regions

Laura Slimani - President of YES, Young European Socialists

Gianni Pitella - President of the S&D Group in the European Parliament

Sergei Stanishev - President of PES

Representing the national political foundations and think tanks:

Juan Moscoso del Prado - Pablo Iglesias Foundation (Spain)

Katya Koleva - Institute for Social Integration (Bulgaria)

Andrew Harrop - The Fabian Society (United Kingdom)

Pascal Lamy - Fondation Jean-Jaurès (France)

Andrea Peruzi - ItalianiEuropei (Italy)

Jan-Erik Støstad - Joint Committee of the Nordic Social Democratic Labour Movement (SAMAK) including Norway, Sweden, Finland, Netherlands, Denmark and Iceland (Norway)

TEAM:

FEPS team throughout the year 2015:

Massimo D'Alema, President | **Ernst Stetter**, Secretary General | **Charlotte Billingham**, Executive Adviser | **Alain Bloëdt**, Communication Adviser | **Elva Bova**, Senior Economist | **Giovanni Cozzi**, Senior Economist | **Maria Freitas**, Political Adviser | **Elena GIL**, Social Media Adviser | **Kate Koc**, Events Organiser | **Marie-Astrid Mukankusi**, Administrative Assistant | **Vassilis Ntousas**, Policy Adviser | **Roberto Paredes**, Financial Adviser | **Maari Põim**, Junior Policy Adviser | **Ania Skrzypek**, Senior Research Fellow | **Judit Táncoz**, Policy Adviser





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BUDGET:

EXPENDITURE		
Eligible expenditure	Budget 2015	Actual
A.1: Personnel costs	1.435.000,00	1.254.733,08
1. Salaries	1.350.000,00	1.165.295,56
2. Contributions	55.000,00	62.640,68
3. Professional training	12.000,00	676,00
4. Staff mission expenses	3.000,00	0,00
5. Other personnel costs	15.000,00	26.120,84
A.2: Infrastructure and operating costs	330.000,00	325.017,71
1. Rent, charges and maintenance costs	194.500,00	202.998,73
2. Costs relating to the installation, operation and maintenance of equipment	25.000,00	31.666,12
3. Depreciation of movable and immovable property	60.000,00	39.449,27
4. Stationery and office supplies	11.000,00	23.118,15
5. Postal and telecommunications charges	32.500,00	25.419,12
6. Printing, translation and reproduction costs	2.000,00	0,00
7. Other infrastructure costs	5.000,00	2.366,32
A.3: Administrative expenditure	1.078.000,00	1.260.409,70
1. Documentation costs (newspapers, press agencies, databases)	10.000,00	8.748,98
2. Costs of studies and research	1.048.000,00	1.237.030,89
3. Legal costs	10.000,00	4.647,33
4. Accounting and audit costs	8.000,00	9.982,50
5. Support to affiliated organisations and subsidies to third parties	0,00	0,00
6. Miscellaneous administrative costs	2.000,00	0,00
A.4: Meetings and representation costs	1.457.000,00	1.301.665,32
1. Costs of meetings of the Foundation	1.400.000,00	1.234.325,88
2. Participation in seminars and conferences	50.000,00	61.291,16
3. Representation costs	2.000,00	2.737,66
4. Cost of invitations	2.000,00	766,34
5. Other meeting-related costs	3.000,00	2.544,28
A.5: Information and publication costs	395.664,55	291.546,75
1. Publication costs	325.184,55	264.041,51
2. Creation and operation of Internet sites	25.000,00	929,17
3. Publicity costs	30.000,00	1.456,31
4. Communications equipment	5.000,00	21.005,76
5. Seminars and exhibitions	5.000,00	0,00
6. Election campaigns		
7. Other information-related costs	5.480,00	4.114,00
A.6: Expenditure relating to contributions in kind	115.428,45	93.460,85
A.7: Allocation to "Provision to cover eligible expenditure to be incurred in the first quarter of N+1"		
A. TOTAL ELIGIBLE EXPENDITURE	4.811.093,00	4.526.833,41
B.1: Non-eligible expenditure	0,00	23.002,49
1. Allocations to other provisions		
2. Financial charges		4.460,43
3. Exchange losses		1.323,22
4. Doubtful claims on third parties		11.597,50
5. Others (to be specified). Re-invoicing of costs		0,00
6. Expenditure from previous years		5.621,34
B. TOTAL NON-ELIGIBLE EXPENDITURE	0,00	23.002,49
C. TOTAL EXPENDITURE	4.811.093,00	4.549.835,90

REVENUE		
Eligible expenditure	Budget 2015	Actual
D.1 Dissolution of "Provision to cover eligible costs to be incurred in the first quarter of N" ¹		
D.2 European Parliament grant	4.089.429,00	
D.3 Membership fees	25.000,00	
3.1 from member parties		
3.2. from individual members	25.000,00	37.000,00
D.4 Donations	0,00	12.000,00
4.1 above 500 EUR		12.000,00
4.2 below 500 EUR		
D.5 Other own resources (to cover eligible expenditure) (to be listed)	581.235,55	686.702,09
Support from members of FEPS towards activities	581.235,55	686.702,09
D.6 Contributions in kind	115.428,45	93.460,85
Support from members of FEPS towards activities	115.428,45	93.460,85
D. REVENUE (to cover eligible expenditure)	4.811.093,00	4.676.971,34
E.1 Additional other own resources (to cover non-eligible expenditure) (to be listed)	0,00	17.180,54
OTHER REVENUE		17.180,54
RE-INVOICING OF COSTS		
E. REVENUE (TO COVER NON-ELIGIBLE EXPENDITURE)	0,00	17.180,54
F. TOTAL REVENUE	4.811.093,00	4.694.151,88
G. PROFIT/LOSS (F-C)	0,00	144.315,98

H.1 Allocation of own resources to the specific reserve account¹

H. Profit/loss for verifying compliance with the no-profit rule (G-H.1)¹

0,00

144.315,98

0,00

FINANCIAL FRAMEWORK:

FEPS is co-funded by the European Parliament on an annual basis since September 2008, which means that 85% of its total yearly budget comes from an annual grant from the European Parliament. 15% of the budget must come from own resources, mainly brought in by the members and partners of FEPS supporting the activities implemented with their support. In 2014 FEPS did not receive any kind of membership fee from its members.

Provisional budget 2015

For the year 2014 FEPS was allocated a total provisional budget of 4.549.835,90 €, of which the European Parliament grant represents 3.847.808,40 €.





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ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT 2015



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