

FOUNDATION FOR EUROPEAN
PROGRESSIVE STUDIES
FONDATION EUROPÉENNE
D'ÉTUDES PROGRESSISTES

Annual Activity **REPORT 2019**





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MESSAGE BY THE FEPS PRESIDENT



The year 2019 was to define the starting point and the direction of new legislature in the European Union and was expected to see crucial political battles on how to govern the EU: the growth strategy for the next 10 years, its translation into a multiannual financial programme, the new EU Global strategy, the way to deal with the implications of Brexit or no Brexit, the choices on enlargement, the partnership with Africa, the European migration policy, the ways to deepen European integration regarding defence, the Eurozone, taxation or the social dimension.

The EU needs to assert itself not only as a single market or monetary zone, but also as a geo-political entity, based on a strong democratic power and with economic, social and cultural dimensions. The scale of the EU and its weight are indispensable to protect European values and its way of life, to influence global standards and governance and to correct internal inequalities. But this kind of European project can only have a future if it overcomes the status quo imposed by conservatives and neo-liberals and if it refuses the trap set by national-populists. Social Democratic and Progressive forces should regain initiative.

This was the mood in 2019, which brought these political forces to higher responsibilities after the European elections. An intensive preparation of a progressive alternative for the European roadmap took place all over this year, including a five years programme for the next European Commission.

The role of FEPS and of the national foundations was to inspire possible choices and solutions in the light of an in-depth assessments of the current long-term challenges. All over 2019, some priority topics deserved a particular attention in activities of FEPS in terms of research, support to policymaking, training, publishing and political debate:

- Making Europe the leading player of a green and just transition in line with Sustainable Development Goals
- Defining the European way to drive the digital revolution
- Developing the European Social Pillar to fight old and new social inequalities and to raise social investment
- Reshaping the financial and tax systems to support this grand transformation
- Defining a European budget to promote upward economic and social cohesion, including in the Eurozone
- Establishing a European migration policy
- Organising a long-term partnership with Africa for cooperation and development
- Addressing the changing global order with the EU Global Strategy
- Re-assessing the European political system after the European elections
- Promoting gender equality as a game changer in all levels of the political system: local, regional, national, and European
- Identifying the aspirations of the young generations

2019 was also a period of intensive internal reorganisation of FEPS under the direction of the new Secretary-General, Laszlo Andor. FEPS is being brought to the next level with higher political relevance, more intellectual creativity, attractive training, larger presence in European debate and counting on more professional management. This should also benefit all the partner organisations working with us!

Maria João Rodrigues
President

FEPS IS THE EUROPEAN PROGRESSIVE POLITICAL FOUNDATION

At the European Progressive Annual Autumn Academy 2019

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

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

FEPS bridges between policymakers and experts on relevant issues from a progressive viewpoint. It plays a vital role in the European progressive family as a provider of innovative solutions on a given set of priorities.

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

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

Background

FEPS was created in 2008 as the European-level political foundation associated with – but independent from – the Party of European Socialists (PES) and the Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament (S&D). Since its creation, FEPS has mainly been funded by the European Parliament.

FEPS was set up to “serve as a framework for national political foundations, academics, and other relevant actors to work together at the European level” (art. 1.4 of Regulation (EC) 1524-2007).

These credentials have made FEPS into an important stakeholder, recognised by foundations and international think tank-rankings such as the Pennsylvania Global Think Tank Index. In 2019, FEPS was ranked fourth best think tank with a political party affiliation therein.

In August 2017, FEPS was officially registered as a European political foundation (number: EUPF 4BE0896.230.213).

In 2019, FEPS was honoured to be granted a Special Consultative Status to the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), the highest status granted by the UN to non-governmental organisations, thus allowing it to participate in the work of the UN.



FOREWORD BY THE FEPS SECRETARY GENERAL



FEPS is a young organisation entering the age of maturity. In the first decade of its existence, it developed a great capacity to create and implement research projects and stage significant events stimulating debate and policy development among the progressive political family. FEPS became an internationally acclaimed think tank with a potential to further improve its performance.

Taking stock of all the activities of 2019 is not an easy task, since arguably this was one of the strongest years in terms of the volume of projects launched by FEPS. The quantitative ambition put our team to the test, and all colleagues deserve appreciation for their work.

In 2019, FEPS delivered another successful Call to Europe event, but also introduced an innovative Autumn Academy. Without rivalry, climate justice stands out as the top issue for FEPS in the past year, defining the subjects of the largest events but also various other engagements and publications. The investment in projects in the fields of youth (millennials) as well as migration was bearing fruits in 2019, while FEPS also stood out with cutting edge research on digital policy, social investment as well as gender equality, and with a balanced analysis of state of social democracy.

Our close relationship with EU-level policymaking was symbolised by the fact that two departing EU commissioners, Federica Mogherini and Pierre Moscovici, chose FEPS to deliver their legacy speeches, and not without a reason. Indeed, rewriting the rules of the European economy, and developing a progressive EU foreign policy agenda for the future, became emblematic FEPS activities.

This Activity Report was produced at the time of the coronavirus crisis, when the events of 2019 already seemed rather distant. But it is exactly the developments of 2019, and most importantly the European Parliament elections,

that helped outlining not only an annual perspective but also the medium-term objectives of the organisation.

In the medium run, the success of FEPS will not be judged by its capacity to deliver projects in cooperation with member foundations following past patterns. The question will be whether FEPS can achieve:

- better coordination with political stakeholders and thus contributes to a **Social Democratic revival in Europe;**
- bringing novelty, innovation, and in particular **new ideas** both on the political narrative and policy analysis and design;
- **raising academic standards** in research and publications;
- more systematic approach to training on the basis of a new **training strategy;**
- effective involvement in EU level **policy making and consultancy;**
- **balancing FEPS involvement** among EU countries and member foundations (cohesion).

In order to be able to deliver on these medium-term objectives, FEPS leadership launched important changes and reviews. As a result, the year 2019 was also a start of a transition, aiming at a further improved functioning.

FEPS is proud of its 2019 performance, with confidence about the capacity to move to a higher level.

László Andor
Secretary General

CORE MISSION FOR 2019

“Regaining initiative in a challenging context” was the core mission assigned by FEPS to its 2019 activities. In the context of the unprecedented COVID-19 crisis and the finalisation of this 2019 Activity Report in June 2020, this objective has never been so concrete and

What was formulated as long-term challenges appears much more urgent now: the need to protect and re-empower people with a strong and strategic State. Democratic and fair, this state should be able to correct social injustice.

In the same approach, the short-term challenges listed at autumn 2018 are also more than ever relevant in terms of delivering on a better architecture for the European economic governance, addressing the quality of job creation, achieving equality between men and women, pushing forward the implementation of the Paris Agreement, reinforcing the Europe global engagement and providing comprehensive and long-term answers to migration.

As a traditional centre-left think tank, FEPS, together with its robust network of members and experts, and with its long-term research in key policy areas, needs to support the Progressive movement to regain the initiative. This was translated in the FEPS 2019 activity plan, by a clear need for reflection on how to modernise the values and to respond to citizens’ disenchantment and Euro scepticism with the new ways to make politics.



KEY FACTS AND FIGURES 2019

Six thematic blocs have been translated into concrete projects (including research, debate, publications, policy advice or training activities) conducted in cooperation with FEPS members and partners:

- **Democratic Empowerment**
- **Next Left – Renewal of Social Democracy**
- **Progressive and Sustainable Economy**
- **Next Social Europe**
- **Migration, Asylum, and Integration**
- **Global Solidarities**

In each of these six thematic programmes, it was decided to put a focus on a short list of eight priority topics:

- The current digital revolution and the European Social Pillar – implications for the labour market, education, and social protection
- Climate change and growth strategy driven by SDGs for all EU regions
- New financial solutions for investment and convergence in the EU: EU Budget, European Monetary Union reform and the role of tax policy
- Managing migration in the EU: internal and external implications
- The EU trade policy and the Sustainable Development Goals
- The multipolar world order, the EU and the multilateral system
- New instruments to deepen EU democracy and the fight against populism
- Mainstreaming gender equality in all dimensions

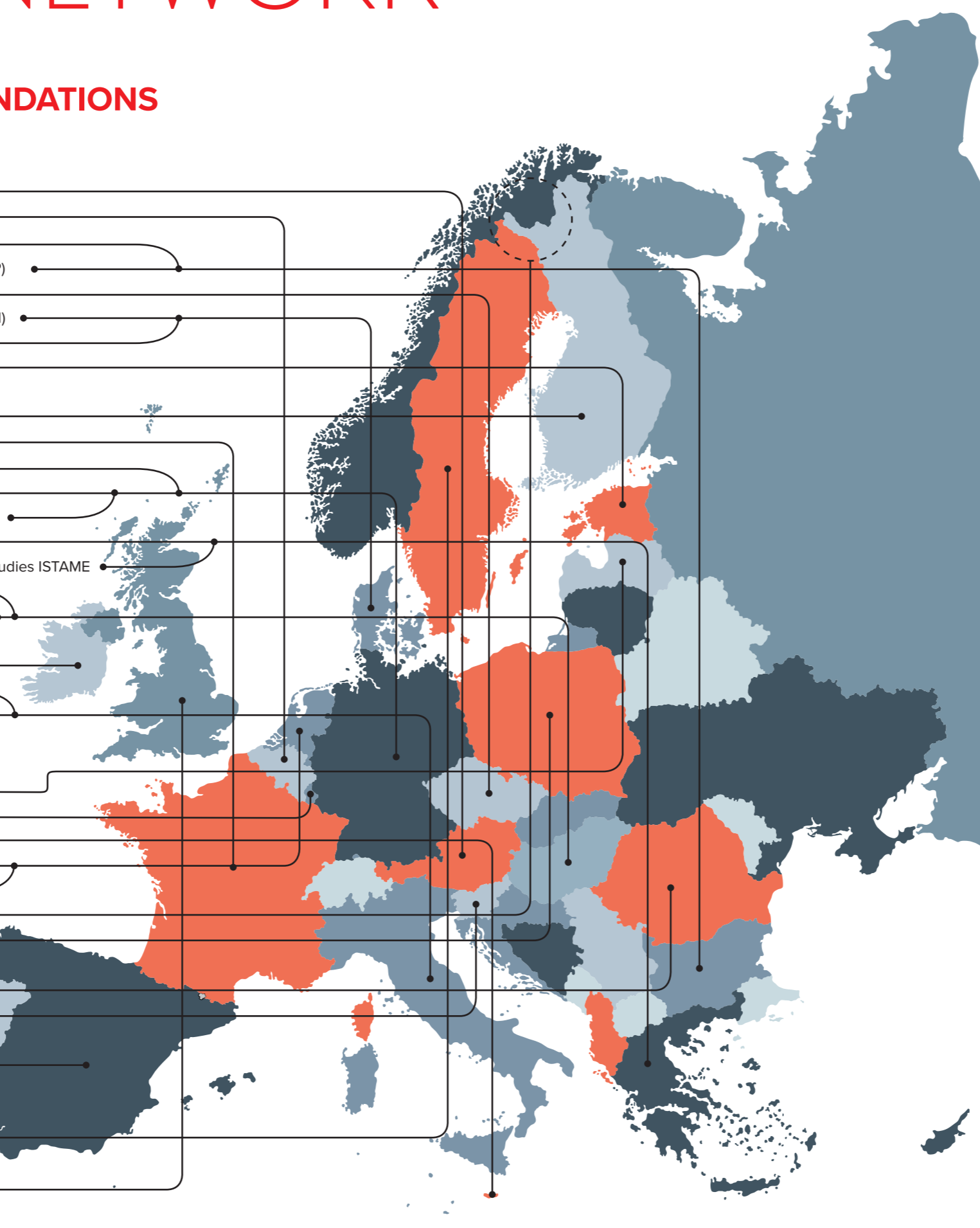




FEPS NETWORK

NATIONAL POLITICAL FOUNDATIONS AND THINK TANKS

- AUSTRIA** Karl Renner Institut
- BELGIUM** Institut Emile Vandervelde
- BULGARIA** Institute for Social Integration
- BULGARIA** Institute for New Economic Progress (INEP)
- CZECH REPUBLIC** Masarykova Demokraticka Akademie
- DENMARK** Arbejderbevaegelsens Erhvervsrad (ECLM)
- DENMARK** Cevea
- ESTONIA** Johannes Mihkelson Centre
- EU** Solidar
- FINLAND** Kalevi Sorsa Säätio
- FRANCE** Fondation Jean-Jaurès
- GERMANY** Friedrich Ebert Stiftung
- GERMANY** DPZ (Das Progressive Zentrum)
- GERMANY** Humboldt Viadrina Governance Platform
- GREECE** TO DIKTIO
- GREECE** Institute for Strategic and Development Studies ISTATEM
- HUNGARY** Policy Solutions
- HUNGARY** Tancsics Mihaly Alapitvany
- HUNGARY** ISD Institute for Social Democracy
- IRELAND** TASC
- ITALY** Fondazione Socialismo
- ITALY** Fondazione Gramsci
- ITALY** Fondazione Italiani Europei
- ITALY** Fondazione Pietro Nenni
- LATVIA** Freedom and Solidarity Foundation
- LUXEMBOURG** Fondation Robert Krieps
- MALTA** Fondazzjoni Ideat
- NETHERLANDS** Foundation Max Van Der Stoel
- NETHERLANDS** Wiardi Beckman Stichting
- NORDIC COUNCIL** SAMAK
- POLAND** Centrum im. Ignacego Daszyńskiego
- PORTUGAL** ResPublica
- ROMANIA** Foundation for a Democratic Left
- SLOVENIA** Progresiva
- SPAIN** Fundación Felipe González
- SPAIN** Fundació Rafael Campalans
- SPAIN** Fundación Pablo Iglesias
- SWEDEN** Tankesmedja Tiden
- SWEDEN** Olof Palme International Centre
- UNITED KINGDOM** Mutuo
- UNITED KINGDOM** Policy Network
- UNITED KINGDOM** The Fabian Society



OBSERVER NATIONAL FOUNDATIONS

- ALBANIA** / Foundation Qemal Stafa
- AUSTRALIA** / Chifley Research Centre
- CANADA** / Broadbent Institute
- CHILE** / Salvador Allende
- CROATIA** / Novo Društvo
- CROATIA** / CEE Network for Gender Issues
- ISRAEL** / The Macro Center for Political Economics
- ITALY** / Instituto Affari Internazionali
- ITALY** / Centro Studi di Politica Internazionale
- NETHERLANDS** / European Forum
- NORTH MACEDONIA** / Progress Institute
- MEXICO** / Foundation of Progressive Political, Economic and Social Studies
- SERBIA** / Center for Democracy Foundation
- SWITZERLAND** / Anny Klawa Morf Stiftung
- SWITZERLAND** / Social Democratic Party (SP) (Observer member of PES)
- TURKEY** / SODEV Sosyal Demokrasi Vakfi**
- TURKEY** / Progressive Thought Institute
- UNITED KINGDOM** / SPERI, University of Sheffield
- UNITED KINGDOM** / Greenwich Political Economy Research Centre (GPERC)
- UNITED KINGDOM** / Institute for Public Policy Research (IPPR)
- UNITED STATES** / Centre for American Progress

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

- EU** / Party of European Socialists
- EU** / S&D Group in the European Parliament
- EU** / PES Group in the Committee of the Regions
- EU** / PES Women
- EU** / YES - Young European Socialists



FEPS AT WORK: RESEARCH AND STUDIES

MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS/ DEMOCRATIC EMPOWERMENT

Ambition

FEPS' intention was to consolidate existing mechanisms and to introduce new ones for a regular assessment of the changing political landscape that will bring about a deeper understanding of the challenges and possibilities at hand.

This ambitions was implemented alongside three dimensions: (1) understanding of the political narrative and ideological features of new political contenders; (2) highlighting their political arguments and communication strategies, (3) observations of the elections and drawing conclusions within the broader European context.

Results

Ahead of the European Elections, the FEPS signature annual conference 'Call to Europe' was declined at national level around key topics in order to collect the best ideas and most innovative actions which could strengthen European democracy across the continent.

- Call to Europe **Ireland**
Thinking Outside the Ballot Box
- Call to Europe **Slovenia**
Vote @ 16 "See case 2"
- Call to Europe **Barcelona**
Working Together for a Progressive Social Europe
- Call to Europe **Poland**
Social Europe, a medicine against right-wing populism?
- Call to Europe **Madrid**
Urban ecosystem and gender equality
- Call to Europe **Czech Republic**
European Monetary Union
- Call to Europe **Paris**
The meaning of Europe
- Call to Europe **Budapest**
Equal pay of equal work

The past few years have seen a surge in public support of populist, Eurosceptic and radical parties throughout almost the entire European Union. In several Member States, their popularity matches or even exceeds the level of public support of the centre-left. The long-term project of FEPS and Policy Solutions, Populism Tracker, launched in 2016, investigated in 2019 again the trends of populism in all countries of the European Union. The rise of populism and authoritarianism, in the EU as well as worldwide, calls for a progressive response which became the topic of a project launched in 2019 with the Center of American Progress (CAP) through a so-called Transatlantic Dialogue.

FEPS closely observed the elections in the European Union, as well as outside. Offered by newsletters and op-eds through different perspectives, these analyses covered 13 countries in 2019: Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Greece, India, Israel, Poland, Romania, Spain, Switzerland, Turkey and the UK.

These observations are always an opportunity to take stock of the balance of power between the different political families, starting by the progressives, but also of the balance between the pro and anti-European parties, as the EU politics are increasingly discussed in national election debates.

Millennials have been central in FEPS' work in 2019 again with the Millennial Dialogue report and approach disseminated during the year "See case 1". A research project has also been launched with Fundación Felipe González to investigate the use of social networks among young Spaniards, their habits and political attitudes. More specifically, the study aimed to understand the relationship that the use of these new technologies has with the identification of young people with institutions and the evaluation they make of them, as well as their sympathy for the values of representative democracy. Finally, with Policy Solutions, we launched a project called "What is the EU dream?" The results of the project was finally communicated, on Europe Day 2020 (9 May 2020), was to better understand how EU citizens see the future of the continent, what their expectations are, and what kind of European Union they dream of.

CASE 1 // THE VOICE MILLENNIAL DIALOGUE ON EUROPE EDITION

Inspired by the well-known TV programme "The Voice", FEPS's Millennial Dialogue on Europe engaged a panel of five Millennial reviewers during the 2019 New Year's reception. They voiced the key policies, priority action areas, hopes and dreams for the Future of Europe and interacted with FEPS' special guest Frans Timmermans, First Vice President of the European Commission and PES lead candidate for the 2019 EU elections. The debate was inspired by the Millennial Dialogue on Europe report that showcases insights into the EU that Millennials dream about. The interactive debate was followed by a voting battle with the audience, more than 200 participants.



CASE 2 // CALL TO EUROPE SLOVENIA – VOTE @ 16

FEPS, Društvo Progresiva and the Karl Renner Institut organised a series of workshops and an international conference in Slovenia to debate the positive and negative aspects of lowering the voting age to 16 as a potential measure to increase the political and electoral participation of young people in politics. The proposal was already on the agenda of several civil society organisations, particularly presented by the National Youth Council of Slovenia. Subsequently, "the goal of lowering the age limit to acquire the right to vote at 16 into the secondary school curriculum" was part of the Social Democrats' programme for the 2018 legislative elections. Unfortunately, it didn't make it into the coalition agreement.



FEPS AT WORK: RESEARCH AND STUDIES

MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS/ NEXT LEFT - RENEWAL OF SOCIAL DEMOCRACY

Ambition

At the beginning of 2019, a few months before the European Elections, the Progressives presented a vision of a better, fairer world and society. While the political context had been profoundly changing, Progressives also faced to maintain the lead on agenda and arguments within the broader spectrum of the centre-left. This prompted a further reflection on how movements were established, how parties were defined nowadays, with an analysis of how leaders positioned themselves, into coalitions.

The longest standing FEPS initiative, the FEPS Next Left Research Programme, continued in 2019, reaffirming that guiding idea should be the commitment to values and moral principles, a position particularly relevant in times of political fragmentation and the dominance of identity politics.

Results

If FEPS, as a European political foundation was not allowed to take part in the European electoral campaign, it has nevertheless followed the debates. Along with the Review Meeting on the Political Union, a closed seminar on EU Electoral Trends and Strategic Polling was organised. This internal expert meeting took place just three months before the vote, when many headlines were speaking about the death of Social Democracy and some were even predicting that progressives will not even manage to secure their position as the second biggest political force in the European Parliament! Against this backdrop, political and academic experts assessed how the political landscape of the EU would look like after the EU elections and most importantly, what position Social Democrats would achieve in the elections.

Brexit was a centre-stage issue in 2019. FEPS took part to the EU-UK debate, thanks to its fruitful partnership with the Fabians Society. Together, a New Year Conference was organised *See case 1*, as well as the Summer conference and some workshops during the Labour Congress.

Finally, in line with the 2017 book “The Portuguese government solution: the fourth way to social democratic politics?”, FEPS published in 2019 “To Inspire Europe: insights from the success story of Social Democracy in Spain” *See case 2*. While the first one had analysed how Portugal succeeded in breaking the prevailing ‘grand style of governance’ through an unprecedented left-wing governing arch, the so called “contraption” (in Portuguese “geringonça”), the second focused on the great results of the Spanish Socialists Workers Party at the last EU Elections - under the charismatic leadership of Pedro Sanchez - which have made PSOE the largest delegation within the S&D Group in the European Parliament. Behind figures, FEPS offered an in-depth analysis of this success. Finally, both national cases clearly show that a political alternative is possible in Europe.

CASE 1 // FEPS-FABIAN NEW YEAR CONFERENCE: BREXIT AND BEYOND

The 2019 FEPS-Fabian New Year Conference took place on 19th January 2019, just two months before the UK was due to leave the European Union, in the week of the postponed vote on Theresa May’s Brexit deal. Attended by 400 people, the conference focused on the next stages of the Brexit negotiations and what a Labour government could do to transform the country. FEPS and Fabian Society welcomed three senior keynote speakers. Among them, the new Leader of the Labour Party Keir Starmer who was, at that time, Shadow Brexit Secretary.

With so much of the Brexit process still uncertain in the beginning of 2019, the FEPS-Fabian conference was an essential opportunity for attendees, politicians, experts and commentators to discuss the next steps for the left in the UK and in Europe. The conference looked also beyond Brexit, to consider the UK and EU post-Brexit and a new left agenda, from defence and policing to the economy, mental health and much more. For the left to successfully transform the country, a strong Brexit deal must come alongside a compelling vision for the future and a radical social and economic programme.



CASE 2 // TO INSPIRE EUROPE: INSIGHTS FROM THE SUCCESS STORY OF SOCIAL DEMOCRACY IN SPAIN



political scenes were favourable to PSOE and which were the priorities and electoral programme that delivered the successful campaign. At the same time, the project identifies some lessons that can be applied at a broader European level (the importance of the leadership for example, or how a progressive narrative can stop far right movements).

The publication was presented in Prague, Madrid and Brussels and opened a broader discussion with policy makers and academics. Even if the project was focused on drawing lessons from the Spanish case in the European Elections, the presentation and discussions around the analysis opened a debate about the situation of Social Democratic parties in every EU member State and their results in the European Elections. Thanks to the participation of Professor André Krouwel in the three events related to this project, the debates were also a reflection of the future of Social Democracy and what could be the evolution at European and national level in the next five years.

After the victory of the Spanish Socialist Workers Party (PSOE) in the 2019 European Elections, other progressive parties across Europe were looking to the Spanish case as a source of inspiration. FEPS, and two members foundations, Fundación Pablo Iglesias and Masaryk Democratic Academy, asked Jorge Galindo, PhD in sociology, to analyse why the EU and national

FEPS AT WORK: RESEARCH AND STUDIES

MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS/ PROGRESSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY

Ambition

Considered as one of the pivotal areas of FEPS's activities, the thematic programme on a Progressive and Sustainable Economy aimed, in 2019, to identify the best policy options for a solid and forward-looking economic governance of the EU. At the same time, the overarching objective was to further develop alternative thinking around the construction of more socially and environmentally sustainable models of economic growth and to help transform these ideas into a solid paradigm which should serve as a basis to instruct policies.

As highlighted in the past, success will come if Progressives manage to deliver a strong European Monetary Union (EMU), to impose a comprehensive Investment Strategy for Europe and to reassess taxes on corporations and capital, on labour and consumption.

Results

The collaboration between FEPS and the Initiative for Policy Dialogue at Columbia University materialised in 2019 in the publication of the "Rewriting the Rules of the European Economy" report by Professor Stiglitz and other co-authors. Launched a couple of weeks before the European Election in Brussels, and later in Vienna with the Renner Institute, the book outlines a new set of rules for economic, political, and social governance in Europe that would help to recast a prosperous and equitable EU marked by peace and solidarity within the context of globalisation.. The diagnosis contrasts sharply with what EU leaders promised decades ago as European integration proceeded apace. Our conclusions were clear: incremental policy change will not solve the problems. To improve economic performance and create shared prosperity, the rules of the European economy – broadly understood as including the fundamental policies governing the EU – must be rewritten.

In 2019, FEPS with Das Progressive Zentrum and the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung initiated a Europe-wide debate to create an inclusive growth model that seeks to combine progressive economic policy making with the protection

and strengthening of social justice on inclusive growth. Even though first steps in the right direction have been taken, seen for instance during the EU's Social Summit for Fair Jobs and Growth in Gothenburg, no real trans-European links and exchange of best practices on how to cope with global and European challenges in terms of economic growth and social inclusion emerged. This research project was built on interviews with innovative academics, leading progressive politicians, economists, and political thinkers.

With the new European Commission that took office in autumn 2019, the work towards reforming the Economic and Monetary Union was likely to be revived. FEPS initiated another debate on how solidarity can be brought forward in the reform of the EMU and of macro-financial architecture in Europe. With four papers and four policy briefs, FEPS, in partnership with the University of the West of England in Bristol, the Roskilde University and the Financial Markets Group at the London School of Economics (LSE), gathered experts at LSE in September 2019 with a keynote speech by Vitor Constâncio, Former Vice President of the ECB.

The year was marked also by the co-organisation of large public conferences: the Progressive Governance Symposiums in April, in Berlin; the annual conference of the European Association of Young Economists in April in Brussels and the Velvet Capitalism Conference in October in Prague "see case 1". Some other projects were also launched or finalised in 2019 covering other issues. The "Who owns Europe" research project "see case 2", the "Rise of Promotional/Development Banks in Contemporary Europe: Potentials and Pitfalls" and the "Top 10%", a comparative research project on the composition of and views on economic inequality of the top 10% of income earners in Ireland, Spain, Sweden, and the UK through in-depth interviews and survey analysis.

CASE 1 // VELVET CAPITALISM



The aim of the Conference was to take a critical perspective of the 30 years since the collapse of Communist regime in former Czechoslovakia and beyond. The ambition of the organisers was twofold. First, to avoid any sort of Central European or even Czech particularism discussing the 30-years anniversary in a broader context of contemporary global and European challenges. Second, and closely related to the first ambition, to challenge the predominant discourse on the Velvet Revolution celebrations marked by a mixture of nostalgic remembering of those old glorious days (Václav Havel's legacy, etc.) and current critique of the glorious Velvet Revolution ideals (Babiš, Zeman).

30 years after the Velvet Revolution, FEPS, in partnership with the Masarykova Demokratická Akademie, the Czech office of the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung and the Academy of Science Institute of State and Law, organised in October 2019 a Conference in Prague to reflect about populist and bottom up movements aiming at changing the power structure of a political system.

The panelists discussed issues like communicative capitalism, post-democracy, climate crisis, wealth and income inequality, identity and identarian politics, rise of nationalism, crisis of representative democracy and its liberal institutions, etc. Special attention was paid to the role of internationalism in tackling these problems with a particular focus on the exploitive nature of capitalism.

CASE 2 // "WHO OWNS EUROPE" AND WHY IT MATTERS FOR PROGRESSIVE

Ownership matters. Owners of businesses set their strategic direction, purpose, and the terms of employment. Owners of land decide what should be done with it and who can access it. Owners of property decide how it is deployed and who can enjoy its benefits.

This project seeks to examine ownership across the EU, it considers how Europe's businesses are owned and where the benefits of business flow. It looks closely at different types of ownership models, for example the joint-stock company, the private business, the partnership model and the mutually-owned enterprise. At the same time, it is concerned with ownership more widely. Who owns the land on which our produce is grown, the apartment blocks in which we live and the institutions in which we store our earnings?

This report makes a series of recommendations which seek to ensure strong economies which are purposeful and successful, but which also benefit the wider public good.



FEPS AT WORK: RESEARCH AND STUDIES

MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS/ NEXT SOCIAL EUROPE

Ambition

Following the Gothenburg Summit, the concern was to keep everyone to their pleas and furthermore to use the momentum to accelerate efforts to bring about the Next Social Europe. In that spirit, the FEPS-led lighthouse initiative “From Promise to Practice: The implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights (EPSR)” has the objective to monitor the implementation of the EPSR, with an ambition to map the potential new avenues through which the EPSR could make the Next Social Europe happen faster.

Consequently, with the EPSR at the heart and the eight priority topics in mind, FEPS decided to re-orientate the work in the thematic programme “Next Social Europe” categorising the remaining (both ongoing and new) initiatives within six building blocks, which are: implementing the EPSR, fighting inequalities; future of work and digitalisation; future of welfare state(s); gender equality; and education, learning and training.

Results

Based on the principle that social justice and gender equality are two inseparable values lying at the core of a progressive Europe, FEPS strongly committed in 2019 to continue its work towards the achievement of gender equality and the fight against gender-based violence. We were bolstered by the EPSR which gives an opportunity for the EU to design and implement sustainable and effective policies that benefit all – women and men, starting by the pay gap which is still 16,2% in the EU! In this perspective, FEPS participated in several projects like the one on the #MeToo effects and potentials for change in Europe “see case 1”. The International Women’s Day was an opportunity to ask again the question “What is the status of gender equality across Europe in 2019?”. For the sixth consecutive year, FEPS and Fondation Jean-Jaurès participated also to the UN session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW63), in New York, by organising five side events focusing on social protection systems, access to public services and infrastructure for gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls. Following a first survey on Sexual Harassment and Sexism in public spaces, FEPS, together with tgeh same French partner, provided in 2019 a new EU Survey, this time on Sexual Harassment and Sexism in professional environments.

Inequalities was another regular topic all year long at FEPS. Our Irish Partner the Think tank for Action on Social Change (TASC) launched with us a project on Health inequalities “See case 2” which is particularly relevant today in the context of the Coronavirus pandemic crisis. Again, with TASC, we published in February 2019, the fourth in our series of annual reports on economic inequality. As explains in the introduction to this report, growing economic inequality is now understood to be one of the defining issues of our time. The gendered impact of economic inequality has been examined as well as the way in which it impacts on children and housing. Some chapters are also devoted to an analysis of rising inequalities in incomes and wealth.

The third main issue in 2019 concerned the digital revolution and its impacts for workers. Launched in 2016 by FEPS with UNI Europa, the European Service Workers Union, and the University of Hertfordshire, the research project on the platformisation of work in Europe was concluded by new surveys, a publication showing the highlights from 13 countries and public events in countries such as Spain, Finland, Czech Republic, Slovenia, and Belgium to promote quality jobs. Surveys showed that platform work forms part of a broader trend of precarious and informal work. People flock to platforms in search of additional income. To address the issue, we should look for ways to increase peoples’ income from their main job, which reinforces the proposal for a fair minimum wage for every worker in the EU. And for those conducting platform work, we need to ensure they have access to social protection. On the same issue, FEPS joined for the first time, Masarykova Demokratická Akademie and the Czech office of the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung in the organisation of the Prague Social Europe Conference on 28 February and 1 March 2019. The topic of the conference is in line with FEPS’s priority topic #1: social rights and cohesion in a world that is increasingly dominated by digital and automated solutions. The speakers brought in by FEPS showcased the relevance of the EPSR as a valid agenda to update welfare systems and EU coordination to ensure higher protection and an educational system that is more fit for the current labour market.

CASE 1 // THE #METOO SOCIAL MEDIA EFFECT AND ITS POTENTIALS FOR SOCIAL CHANGE IN EUROPE



This compilation of figures is the result of a research project entitled “Minerva Project on Gender, Equality and Diversity” designed and implemented by FEPS, in partnership with Fondazione Socialismo, with the support of the European Parliament and MetooEP. #MeToo has been an unprecedented historic moment not necessarily for its achievements, but for the debates it has triggered. The publication suggests that in order to move beyond debates, to contribute meaningfully to gender equity and to eliminate gender-based discriminations, the post- #MeToo era now needs to focus on the strengthening of weak and insufficient legislative frameworks against harassment at the workplace.

By providing a mapping of the complexities of sexual harassment in Europe with a focus on the hashtag #MeToo, collecting contributions from gender experts and activists, this compilation seeks to contribute to the realisation that it is high time for progressive actors to seize the current momentum to push for women’s rights to live in a Europe free from old, sexist and patriarchal structures.

CASE 2 // REDUCING HEALTH INEQUALITIES: THE ROLE OF CIVIL SOCIETY



While health is included under the social protection and inclusion chapter of the EPSR, in 2019, it was a marginal issue among the responsibilities of the EU. Some even questioned if the European Commission needed a health portfolio at all, since this policy field, under the concept of subsidiarity, was seen as Member States’s responsibility.

Pretty-much visionary, when we look at the management of the COVID-19 crisis, this FEPS-TASC report examines the inequalities in access to healthcare services and explores the role that civil society organisations (CSOs) play in reducing these health inequalities. The role of CSOs is emphasised in the report as it serves as an indicator of where the state is failing in relation to healthcare. Using a case study approach, the report provides a comparative analysis of access to diagnostic services in Ireland, Germany and Spain – three European countries with different health systems. The three case study conditions are autism spectrum disorder, lung cancer and brain tumours. The focus on diagnostic services was selected because access to diagnosis is crucial to surviving life threatening illnesses (lung cancer and brain tumours) and essential for improving life trajectories for those with developmental conditions (autism spectrum disorder).

FEPS AT WORK: RESEARCH AND STUDIES

MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS/ MIGRATION, ASYLUM AND INTEGRATION

Ambition

Like in the previous years, the ambition in 2019 was to focus on the question of the global governance of migration, which was reaching a remarkable turning point with the adoption in December 2018 of the first multilateral agreements tackling transnational human mobility: the Global Compact for Migration and the Global Compact on Refugees. On the external dimension, FEPS wanted to continue its work on the motives and dynamics that lead people to leave their home countries in search for refuge and opportunities, and in critically assessing the goals and results of the instruments and strategies adopted by the Europe Union to curb numbers of arrivals and protect the borders.

As for the internal dimension of migration, FEPS continues to focus on attitude towards migration and migrants in political parties and public opinions, in order to better understand political and decision-making dynamics and formulate policy recommendations for progressive policymakers that are to tackle the issue of migration in internal as well as European fora and campaigns. Finally, on the national and local level, FEPS' analysis of best practices aims at formulating progressive guidelines to foster national governments' and local authorities' capabilities to address the challenges posed by increasingly multicultural societies, to support communities' resilience and to empower newcomers.

Results

The FEPS Global Migration Group continued its work in 2019 with the aim of making concrete policy proposals concerning primarily the establishment of more channels for legal migration from Africa, a very controversial topic in many EU Member States. Some progressive guidelines for the reception and inclusion of migrants in Italy and Europe, focusing particularly on the need to preserve the social cohesion of the hosting communities, were also formulated in a book, only available for the moment in Italian under the title "Di muri e di ponti. Linee guida di una politica per l'accoglienza dei migranti". Social cohesion was also tackled by a research project of FEPS, TASC and the EU Office of the FES, on low skill work and social integration.

Focusing on four EU countries (Germany, Greece, Ireland and Spain), researchers tried to understand the obstacles to their participation in society faced by migrant workers employed in low-skilled sectors (agriculture and care) and who often work in precarious and exploitative conditions.

Once again in 2019, Africa was on the agenda with the Africa Days in Amsterdam – "see case 1". We led also, with the Foundation Max van der Stoel, a project which aimed at investigating the motives that can lead African people to make the radical decision to leave their countries and to try to reach Europe. The research was carried out by study visits in two African countries (Ghana and Tunisia), expert seminars and the drafting of a paper.

The refugee and migration crisis of the last few years has exposed the fact that migration remains a very sensitive issue for European public opinions. Its political implications have been so wide-ranging that the European project seemed in jeopardy by deepening cleavages among Member States. Aware that migration "See case 2" is far from being a temporary phenomenon, FEPS, the Budapest Office of the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, the Fondation Jean Jaurès and the Fondazione Nenni carried out a wide study project aiming at analysing the available material on European public opinions' attitude towards migration. The book, which have been drawn from the study, allows to understand the dynamics that concur to shape European citizens' opinions on migration. The impact of the refugee and migration crisis is also analysed by FEPS with the Fondazione Gramsci, in a book which addresses the transformation of the political discourse.

CASE 1 // AFRICA DAY

On 13 April 2019, FEPS, in cooperation with the Foundation Max van der Stoel (FMS) organised the yearly Afrikadag at the Royal Tropical Institute in Amsterdam. The Afrikadag is the biggest event in the Netherlands on Africa and international cooperation. 800 people participated in the 2019 edition. The main objective of the Afrikadag is to strengthen support for international cooperation and development in Africa. This is essential, because without broad social support for international cooperation, political support is unthinkable. And it is precisely this political support which is needed to achieve real changes.

The overarching theme of the 2019 edition was "Migration: African Perspectives", focusing on questions like: What are the political alternatives for the current Dutch and European commitment to close the borders? And where is the voice of the young Africans travelling to Europe while risking their own lives? What does the life of migrants in the Netherlands look like, considering their positive contribution to our society?

The keynote speakers this year were the Nigerian author Lola Shoneyin, the Zimbabwean trade union leader Peter Mutasa and the Liberian-Dutch writer Vamba Sherif.



CASE 2 // POPULISM AND THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE POLITICAL DISCOURSE: THE CASE OF ITALY

The transformation of the language of politics and the impact of exclusionary anti-establishment messages affect most EU countries and represent crucial challenges for all European democracies and for European progressive forces.

The objectives of this project launched by FEPS in collaboration with the Fondazione Gramsci were: examining the language and communication strategies of anti-establishment parties as well as understanding and gauging the attraction of their nationalist and populist discourses. The analysis focuses particularly on three broad areas, democracy, migration and foreign policy, and highlights both the divide between "people" and "elites" and that between citizens and migrants, national communities and foreign powers.

Finally, the book, that will be published in 2020, stressed the key role that national traditions and national responses to globalisation play in shaping different framings of nationalist and populist discourses. Centring around Italy, analyses and results from this book speak to broader European concerns.



FEPS AT WORK: RESEARCH AND STUDIES

MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS/ GLOBAL SOLIDARITIES

Ambition

Whatever the policy domain, Europe needs to demonstrate its willingness to act as a constructive, progressive leader. As outlined in the FEPS priorities number five and six, FEPS wanted to undertake research that looks at how Europe can meet its great potential in influencing global multi-lateral governance in our multipolar world. This means on the one hand, in the frame of the EU Global Strategy, the cooperation within international organisations and with other regional organisations or institutions, and the strategic dialogue between Europe and its neighbourhood, particularly the Western Balkans. On the other hand, this means boosting the European citizens' sense of safety, fostering state and societal resilience, and enhancing the EU's capacity at conflict and crisis resolution.

Results

FEPS initiated a so-called EU Global Strategy watch to offer a regular and comprehensive assessment of the Strategy's performance. It was materialised in 12 papers and a final report entitled 'Walking the Strategic Talk', presented and discussed in a public debate last autumn, with the former High Representative of the EU for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice President of the European Commission (HR/VP) Federica Mogherini, as well as with experts, European and national institutional representatives, members of the European Parliament and decision-makers.

In 2019, FEPS paid particularly attention to strategic regions in the world like Israel, Turkey, the Sahel *See box 1 & 2* and Iran and how they interact with the EU. All these projects, carried out in close cooperation with different FEPS partners, contributed to the reflection launched already in 2018 by Pascal Lamy's group about a new Agenda for Europe and the World, which has continued also thanks to successful annual collaborations such as the State of the Union conference. Organised with the German Marshall Fund of the United States in November 2019, just one year before to 2020 Presidential Election, this conference helped to decode US politics and the impact on transatlantic relations in times of uncertainty.

Global solidarities also concern the climate emergency and it is becoming clearer than ever that environmental injustice stems from social and economic injustices within our societies. Based on defending social rights, fighting inequalities, caring for our common environment and well-being, progressive values can help providing the answers to the climate change challenge. *See p.26* the details of the project UNited for Climate Justice, led by the Spanish environment minister Teresa Ribeira.

EU Enlargement was a major issue in 2019. The celebration of the 15th anniversary of the last major European enlargement was the right moment to assess the results and to open the doors to new countries. Additionally, the establishment of a new European Parliament and a new European Commission offers a unique opportunity to revitalise the process of enlargement towards the Western Balkans.

CASE 1 // GOVERNANCE AND SECURITY IN THE SAHEL: TACKLING MOBILITY, DEMOGRAPHY AND CLIMATE CHANGE

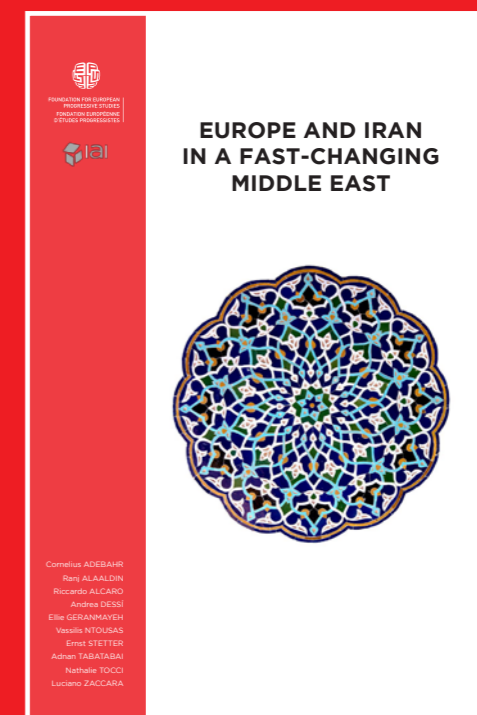
Following a research project focused on the nexus between security, migration and development across the Sahel conducted in 2017, FEPS, in collaboration with the Istituto Affari Internazionali (IAI) and the US National Democratic Institute (NDI), continued its research on the quality of democratic governance and its consequences on a number of trends across the region, an area of huge importance for Europe. This project looked at the interplay of mobility, demography, and climate change in terms of governance. The results of this research were presented and discussed in a concluding conference in Rome.



CASE 2 // EUROPE AND IRAN IN A FAST-CHANGING MIDDLE EAST: CONFIDENCE-BUILDING MEASURES, SECURITY DIALOGUE AND REGIONAL COOPERATION

FEPS and IAI launched a one-year research and public diplomacy project aimed at exploring and discussing potential areas for cooperation between Europe and Iran in the Middle East. Moving from existing bilateral and multilateral relations and from the historical and current trajectories of the two parties, the project assesses the potential for a multi-faceted relationship between Europe and Iran including geopolitical, security and economic cooperation in the context of a changing Middle East. In this light, the key goal of the project was to test the extent to which and through which means Europe and Iran could foster trust and dialogue at the regional level.

The project was composed of a research and a public diplomacy component, consisting of three events. A delegation of the Institute for Political and International Studies (IPIS) of Tehran came to Rome in mid-May 2018. In January 2019, a delegation from IAI and FEPS travelled to Tehran for meetings with their Iranian counterparts. Finally, a book launch was organised on 21st June 2019 in Brussels with the participation of Dr. Seyed Mohammad Kazem Sajjadpour, Deputy Foreign Minister of Iran and President of IPIS.



FEPS AT WORK: OUTREACH

CALL TO EUROPE

Brief Description

The 8th edition of Call To Europe – entitled “Time for Progress” – took place on 13-14th June 2019, right after the European elections, a perfect moment to take stock of the election results. The title way.

This edition of the Call to Europe conference focused on four strategic priorities that we believe will be important for Social Democrats to influence the next European Commission and consequently to pursue a progressive agenda that can improve the life of its citizens and re-build trust in the European Union as a political project.

1. Deepen our democracies and promote a new European citizenship. Citizens should be able to genuinely influence the circumstances in which they live together
2. Take action to achieve gender equality and empower women. A century after women first gained the right to vote, they are still under-represented in politics and public life
3. Shape our digital future. Instead of accepting technologies and visions pushed by others, we can take conscious decisions to create a fair digital future, in which citizens are autonomous, prosperous, and happy.
4. Defend Climate Justice. The fight against global warming can only be won if the transition is just and addresses social, economic, and environmental inequalities together

Partners

S&D Group, Društvo Progresiva, FJJ, Pietro Nenni, Fundacion Pablo Iglesias, Fabian Society, Think Young, YES

Milestones

- For FEPS Member Foundations and Partners: an opportunity to connect and network with EU-level stakeholders and also a platform to raise national issues
- For PES: an input to its Work Programme for the next European Commission
- For YES: a stage to voice the issues of concern of the younger generations
- For the S&D Group and its MEPs: a source of the hopes and aspirations European citizens and hence the expectations that they should meet in their missions
- For Academics, experts, and commentators: a vibrant and unprecedented conversation in its scope, innovative in approach and inventive in recommendation source
- For Participants: a platform through which they can express themselves freely

Key figures

2-day debate / More than 60 speakers / 4 thematic sessions

- What next for Progressives after the EU Elections
- Time for feminist Europe
- Time for a fair digital future
- Time for climate justice

13th June: 21 Tweets (from FEPS), 18.728 Organic impressions, 518 engagements (engagement = retweets, clicks, comments)

14th June: 42 Tweets, 57.518 Impressions, 1107 engagements



FEPS AT WORK: OUTREACH

UNITED FOR CLIMATE JUSTICE – SIDE EVENT OF THE UN CLIMATE ACTION SUMMIT

Briefing

Defending social justice, fighting inequalities, and caring for our common well-being are traditional progressive values. Inspired by Greta Thunberg, 2018 and 2019 saw youth across the world, together with other actors, hold protests and school strikes calling for “climate justice now!”

In preparation of the 2019 UN Climate Action summit, FEPS established an international climate justice steering committee, chaired by Teresa Ribera, Minister for the Ecological Transition in Spain, bringing together 40 people from all over the world who work on this topic. The group met twice for high-level, rich debates before the event itself in New York. As a result of the discussions a policy paper was produced with guiding proposals. Also, a background paper on climate justice was delivered as well as an executive summary.

Partners

IUSY, YES, FJJ, FMS, FES, EDRC

Milestones

The event was an achievement for FEPS to bring together renowned experts on this topic and discuss in the framework of UN

Among the speakers: Mary Robinson, Former President of Ireland and President of the Mary Robinson Climate Justice Foundation, Teresa Ribera, Minister for Ecological Transition, Spain and Chair of the FEPS Climate Justice Steering Committee, Luis Alfonso de Alba, Special UN Envoy for the 2019 Climate Summit and Sharan Burrow, ITUC General Secretary, Ahmed Abdel-Latif, Permanent Observer to the UN for the International Renewable Energy Agency, Laurence Tubiana, CEO, European Climate

Foundation, Andrea Horwath, Leader of the Official Opposition, Ontario, Canada, Dan Jørgensen, Minister for Climate, Energy and Utilities, Denmark, Keriako Tobiko, Cabinet Secretary for Environment and Forestry, Kenya, George Heyman, Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy, Vancouver-Fairview, Canada, together with the members of FEPS United for Climate Justice steering committee and many others.

(TV interviews, Comics viral campaign, Tweets)

Figures

More than 300 participants in total

20th September: 22 Tweets from FEPS, 28.825 Organic Impressions

21st September: 22 Tweets from FEPS, 33.097 Organic Impressions



FEPS AT WORK: OUTREACH

FEPS ANNUAL AUTUMN ACADEMY

Brief Description

The FEPS Annual Autumn Academy (AAA) took place for the first time between the 7th and 9th of October 2019. The idea was to establish a new event at the begin of the academic and political year which gathers, in Brussels, progressive politicians from across Europe. The ambition then was to provide them with crucial insights, knowledge and learning opportunities that derive from being submerged into an intense, multilateral European policy experience powered by FEPS and its network of experts.

Partners

PES, S&D, PES Women, PES Group at the European Committee of the Regions, YES

Milestones

Two legacy speeches from Pierre Moscovici and Federica Mogherini

Opportunity for participants to interact with newly elected Members of the European Parliament as also political representatives of the European Progressive family such as PES President Sergei Stanishev

Key figures

Attendance of 60 elected representatives from all EU Member States, in total 130 participants

Three intensive days and three building blocks of political debates and learning opportunities:

- The EU after the elections and the political panorama of today
- The key strategic priorities of the S&D Group for the next mandate
- Three country-specific case studies, EU policy fields and EU institutions

7th October: 5 tweets, 7365 Organic Impressions, 14036 Promoted Impressions

8th October: 23 tweets, 48.364 Organic Impressions, 4264 Promoted Impressions

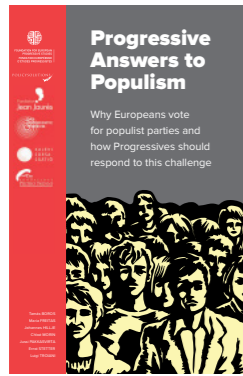
9th October: 9 Tweets, 18283 Impressions



FEPS AT WORK: OUTREACH

Democratic Empowerment

Progressive Answers to Populism



The central objective of this book was to offer potential and effective answers to NGOs, politicians or anyone who wants to counter populism. We hope that the proposed country-specific and European progressive answers of this publication can be useful for wider parts of society, as we also believe that they provide insights for Progressives to better respond to the problems and fears of those social groups that are most susceptible to the allure of populism.

FEPS Partners – Policy Solutions, Fondation Jean Jaurès, Das Progressive Zentrum, Kalevi Sorsa Säätiö, Fondazione Pietro Nenni

Next Left – Renewal of Social Democracy

To inspire Europe: insights from the success story of Social Democracy in Spain



The last European and National Elections saw PSOE – the Spanish Socialist Workers Party – winning and becoming the largest among the progressive delegations in the S&D Group in the European Parliament and in the Spanish National Parliament. Comrades from across the continent have been looking at Spain as a place where new politics is taking place. The initiative “To inspire Europe: insights from the success story

of social democracy in Spain” is to respond to that need for a greater understanding on the European level. It is to offer inspiration, as well as pointing out some of the most instructive lessons that can be drawn.

FEPS Partners – Masarykova demokratická akademie, Fundación Pablo Iglesias

Progressive and Sustainable Economy

Rewriting the Rules of the European Economy



‘Rewriting the Rules of the European Economy’ is a comprehensive assessment of what ails Europe and what can be done to restore steady, inclusive economic growth and revitalise the European Project. Written by Joseph Stiglitz and a team of high-level scholars and politicians from all over Europe, this bold plan tackles the doctrine of market fundamentalism that has char-

acterised much of European economic and social policy for the last quarter century. It explicitly rejects the doctrine of austerity that defined the European Union’s response to the 2008 financial crisis and recession in favour of supporting aggregate demand, pro-growth monetary policy, and public investment in the infrastructure and industries of the future.

Next Social Europe

The platformisation of work in Europe



This publication contains the highlights of the three-year surveys carried in 13 European countries on the size and nature of platform work in Europe. After three years of, research, it is clear that platform work is here to stay, and even growing at a rapid pace. It has become a way to gain additional income for many people across Europe, with particularly high-levels in

European countries where salaries are low. At the same time, we see digital management practices we often associate with platform work, such as rating systems and the online logging of work hours, spreading to conventional forms of employment. At the end of the book, the authors stimulate thinking about platform applications that do not exploit workers and support public policy goals.

FEPS Partners – UNI Europa, University of Hertfordshire

Migration, Asylum and Integration

European public opinion and migration: Achieving common progressive narratives

Attitudes towards migrants are difficult to grasp. Nevertheless, an increasing number of Europeans feel uneasy about people who escape poverty and violence in search of a decent and safe life far away from their home. This European uneasiness is expressed in fears that range from unfair competition in the labour market and reduced access to social services in the host countries to the perceived threat posed by migrants to national identities, ethnic homogeneity and security. The aim of this book is to shed light on the paradox that the disadvantaged and marginalised represent an imminent threat to our societies and to offer an alternative positive and progressive narrative on migration.

FEPS Partners - Fondation Jean Jaurès, Fondazione Pietro Nenni, Friedrich Ebert Stiftung

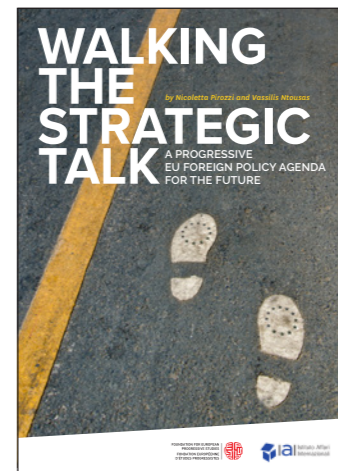


Global Solidarities

Walking the strategic talk: A progressive EU foreign policy agenda for the future

For years, the pace and extend of external change outstripped the steps that were taken towards enhancing and strengthening the EU’s capacity to respond effectively to the (f)actors affecting its principles and interests. The EU’s external action all too often proved despondent, fragmented and out-of-sync with the realities that Europe was facing. The unveiling of the EU Global Strategy (EUGS) in 2016 by Federica Mogherini, the Union’s High Representative, constituted a significant effort to rectify this. Following three years of the Strategy’s implementation, and ahead of the 2019 institutional renewal of the EU, this publications covers the areas of both substantial progress and considerable disappointment when assessing the performance of the EU’s external action under the influence of the EUGS are becoming clearer.

FEPS Partners – Istituto Affari Internazionali



FEPS AT WORK: OUTREACH

PROGRESSIVE POST FAMILY

2019 was a transition year between the Progressive Post – a printed bilingual flagship publication, accompanied by online newsletters – as FEPS audience knew it for several years and the new ‘Progressive Post Family’, which ambitions to have a more close connection with the research activities supported by FEPS.

The Progressive Publication Family (PPF) will be offered in the future through five tools:

Progressive Page:

Already launched in the autumn of 2019: a short weekly opinion page (600–800 words), published every Friday by FEPS authors on a rotating basis (President, Secretary General, Senior Fellow, Research Director) but also FEPS guests authors like, for example, Members of the European Parliament.



Progressive Post:

Reflection has been initiated during the last quarter of the year on the costs. In 2019, the magazine was published in its traditional format

- Winter Edition 2018-19: Digital Revolution for the many, not for the few
- Spring Edition 2019: Date Science vs Democracy
- Summer Edition 2019: Social, Fiscal & Climate Justice, the right-left cleavage is still alive!



Progressive Podcast:

Launched in Autumn 2019, this new tool of 20-25 min has been produced internally by advisers with support of the communications team. It promotes key political issues with prominent politicians, academics, or other experts.



Progressive Observatory:

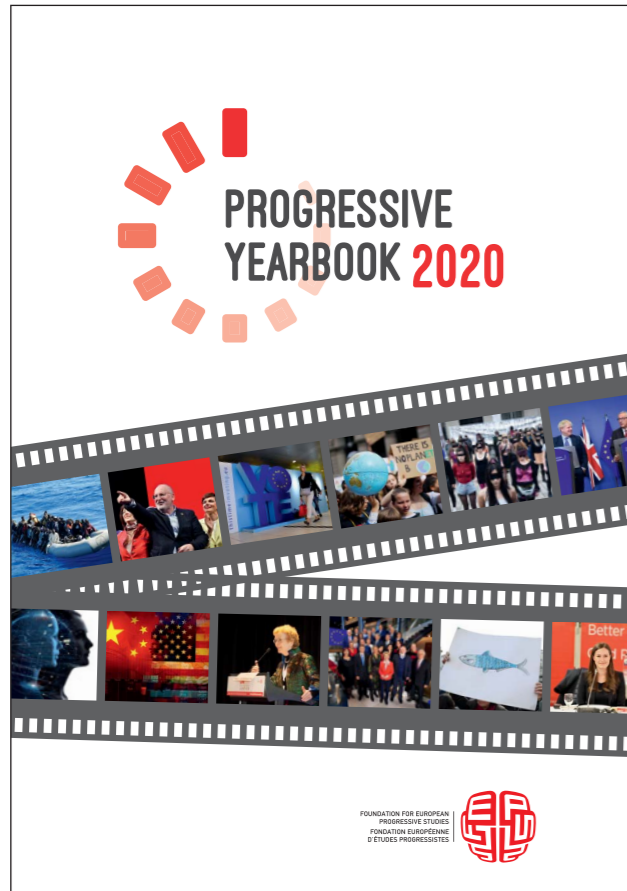
Already offered online for several years now, this observatory has continued in 2019 to cover elections results and political developments in Europe but also worldwide with brief and timely analyses.



PROGRESSIVE POST FAMILY

Progressive Yearbook:

This new publication was finally launched at the beginning of 2020, but work has already been begun during autumn 2019. It is an annual publication of 140-160 pages, analysing the key political developments of the year, also including an introduction of the key progressive themes of the coming year.



Progressive Guide:

Discussed in 2019, it is planned as a 30-50 page educational booklet (primer), but has not yet come to live. The idea is to tackle specific themes (pivotal policy fields or other key topics) and to publish them along major FEPS events.

Milestones

- Progressive Post partnership with <http://denikreferendum.cz>: 28 articles have been translated and promoted in Czech, from 28 authors on different topics, with The Progressive Post logo and partners visible on each page
- Progressive Post insert in Fabian Review – printing and distribution of a 28 page shortened edition of the Spring 2019 Progressive Post with the March 2019 mailing to the Fabian Review subscribers (7000 people) located everywhere in UK
- Progressive Post partnership with Kontext – Dissemination of Progressive Post articles to an Austrian audience twice a month with FEPS copyright and visibility for our authors
- Progressive Post partnership with Letras International - insert of 12 articles of the Progressive Post 11 & 12 into their new edition, sent to 1500 people in Spain and soon, in 2020, online.

Key Figures

More than 150 op-eds published in 2019

More than 1250 Progressive Post subscribers (contributors, politics, friends of FEPS) of the printed edition, plus copies sent to the Members of the European Parliament, Members of the Committee of the Region and displays have been negotiated at the Free University of Brussels, PES, the College of Europe and the Press Club Brussels Europe for each new issue.

YOUNG ACADEMICS NETWORK ‘FEPS YAN’

Brief

The Young Academics Network (YAN) is a Europe-wide network, established by FEPS in 2010. The sixth cycle was launched for 2 years with a call for papers in 2017.

The call for New Members of the FEPS Young Academics Network (YAN) in the 6th cycle was addressed to outstanding, young, European, progressive academics holding a status of either PhD candidates or post-doctoral researchers, who are eager to get involved in the debate about the future of Europe, who would like to contribute to progressive exchanges and who are characterised by the high degree of social competence allowing them to function well in a diverse environment. In 2019, FEPS closed the 6th cycle and opened the 7th one. Leading themes of research and debates (which are currently being defined) remained inseparably connected with the leading theme of the FEPS Working Programmes

If selected as a new member, the candidate will be expected to:

- Remain committed to fulfilment of the goals for which FEPS YAN was established (according to the mission statements and the guidelines in the FEPS Framework Activity Plan 2020)
- Actively contribute to achievement of the objectives set up by FEPS YAN within the long and short term work plans, helping accelerate the value and output by the Network
- Participate in the FEPS YAN Seminars, as also in their preparations and debriefings
- Remain engaged in the times between the seminars with FEPS and with FEPS YAN network
- Act as a responsible member of a thematic FEPS YAN working group established at the beginning of the cycle, providing inputs within the agreed deadlines in the course of the respective group’s work
- Contribute to overall strengthening of FEPS, via work within the FEPS YAN and through its representation

within other FEPS and third parties’ research and activities.

who had submitted the most innovative research proposals in the field broadly labelled as “Past, present and future of Europe”. The network met several times a year, and depending on their respective expertise, their representatives became also involved in other FEPS initiatives and activities.

Partner

Renner Institut

Milestones

The expected outcomes include the jointly elaborated, peer reviewed research papers – which are all abiding by the standards of academic excellence and also need to be “European, interdisciplinary, innovative”.

Whilst the output is important and undoubtedly enhances FEPS intellectual range of studies incredibly, the process leading to it also remains relevant.

Key Figures

More than 340 young researchers (pre-PhD and post-doctoral scholars) from across Europe have already participated.

Seven papers have been published on the following issues: Democracy, Social Europe, EU Identity, Religion, Migration, Economic Democracy, Transnational Governance



FEPS AT WORK: LOOKING INTO 2020

FEPS IN TRANSITION

In the Summer of 2019, following changes in leadership, a comprehensive review process was launched in order to see what works well and what does not in FEPS, and to adopt new models if necessary.

FEPS is a new organisation, only a decade old, and in 2019, following the European Parliament elections, found itself in a new situation. The number of members of our political family at the European Parliament dropped, while our environment in terms of communication became increasingly competitive, and in terms of budgetary issues much more severe and rigorous.

FEPS reviews have covered office functioning, finance and budget, communication, project management as well as human resources. Wherever possible, review steps were developed and implemented after and through dialogue, while FEPS did not stop delivering a robust project portfolio.

Establishing a level of directors from September 2019 was a strategic step of management reform, introducing collective leadership, in order to ensure that decisions take into account all necessary aspects, and that transparent and accountable implementation is better guaranteed.

The financial review had to create a detailed and accurate picture of the situation in 2019 and clarify the budgetary room for manoeuvre for 2020. Tools and standards for sound and rigorous financial management were introduced, also providing guarantees for functioning with transparency and without irregularities.

A critical element of the review process is about project design, decision, and implementation. The growth of FEPS' network and thematic agenda in recent years resulted in a constantly increasing demand, which of course cannot be matched by constantly increasing resources. Greater selectivity between project ideas and proposals is a logical consequence, and this highlights the importance of the guiding documents (most importantly: the annual Framework Activity Programme), and also the method that can ensure that FEPS-supported projects deliver clear added value with a European perspective.

In the field of communication, where the review was launched with the involvement of external experts, some new tools were introduced already after the first phase of the review (FEPS Talks podcast series presented by our policy advisers, Progressive Page weekly opinion articles online, and the printed Progressive Yearbook).

The Human Resources review, which was just about prepared at the end of 2019, is aiming at developing better HR policies, and point to better definition of roles and further fine tuning of the organisation. With the establishment of the "project officer" job profile, including through two new hirings, FEPS already started to move towards an organisational model with a more clarified internal division of labour.

As part of the review process, FEPS leadership also decided, in agreement with the member foundations, to move to a new headquarters in Brussels. This will allow for better working conditions for our team, higher standards of conference and training facilities, and a more modernised infrastructure to connect with the rest of the world. The move has also been justified by the possibility to make economies by reducing the need to rent conference venues for future activities in Brussels.



FEPS AT WORK: WHO WE ARE

NATIONAL POLITICAL FOUNDATIONS AND THINK TANKS (43)

Austria	Karl Renner Institut - http://www.renner-institut.at/
Belgium	Institut Emile Vandervelde - https://www.iev.be/#/
Bulgaria	Institute for Social Integration - http://www.isi-bg.org/
Bulgaria	Institute for New Economic Progress (INEP)
Czech Republic	Masarykova Demokraticka Akademie - http://www.masarykovaakademie.cz/
Denmark	Arbejderbevaegelsens Erhvervsrad (ECLM) - http://www.ae.dk/english
Denmark	Cevea - http://cevea.dk/
Estonia	Johannes Mihkelson Centre - http://www.jmk.ee/
EU	Solidar - http://www.solidar.org/
Finland	Kalevi Sorsa Säätiö - http://www.sorsaoundation.fi/
France	Fondation Jean-Jaurès - http://www.jean-jaures.org/
Germany	Friedrich Ebert Stiftung - http://www.fes.de/
Germany	DPZ (Das Progressive Zentrum) - http://www.progressives-zentrum.org
Germany	Humboldt Viadrina Governance Platform - http://www.governance-platform.org/
Greece	TO DIKTIO - http://todiktio.eu/
Greece	Institute for Strategic and Development Studies ISTATEM - http://www.istame.gr/
Hungary	Policy Solutions - http://www.policysolutions.hu/en
Hungary	Tancsics Mihaly Alapitvány - http://www.tancsicalapitvany.hu/
Hungary	ISD Institute for Social Democracy
Ireland	TASC - http://www.tasc.ie/
Italy	Fondazione Socialismo - www.fondazione-socialismo.it
Italy	Fondazione Gramsci - http://www.fondazione-gramsci.org/
Italy	Fondazione Italiani Europei - https://www.italianieuropei.it/
Italy	Fondazione Pietro Nenni - www.fondazione-nenni.it/
Latvia	Freedom and Solidarity Foundation - http://www.bsf-latvija.lv
Luxembourg	Fondation Robert Krieps - http://www.fondation-robert-krieps.lu/
Malta	Fondazzjoni Ideat - http://www.ideat.org.mt/
Netherlands	Foundation Max Van Der Stoel - http://www.foundationmaxvanderstoel.nl/
Netherlands	Wiardi Beckman Stichting - http://www.wbs.nl/
Nordic Council	SAMAK - http://www.smak.info/
Poland	Centrum im. Ignacego Daszyńskiego - http://cid.org.pl/
Portugal	ResPublica - http://www.fundacao-respublica.pt/
Romania	Foundation for a Democratic Left - http://stangademocratica.ro/
Slovenia	Progresiva - http://www.progresiva.si/
Spain	Fundación Felipe González - http://www.fundacionfelipegonzalez.org/
Spain	Fundació Rafael Campalans - http://www.fcampalans.cat/
Spain	Fundación Pablo Iglesias - http://www.fpabloiglesias.es/
Sweden	Tankesmedja Tiden - http://www.arbetarorelsen-tankesmedja.se/
Sweden	Olof Palme International Centre - http://www.palmecenter.se/
UK	Mutuo - http://www.mutuo.co.uk/
UK	Policy Network - http://www.policy-network.net/
UK	The Fabian Society - http://www.fabians.org.uk/

OBSERVER NATIONAL FOUNDATIONS (20)

Albania	Foundation Qemal Stafa
Australia	Chifley Research Centre - http://www.chifley.org.au/
Canada	Broadbent Institute - http://www.broadbentinstitute.ca/
Chile	Salvador Allende - http://www.fundacionsalvadorallende.cl/
Croatia	Novo Drustvo - http://www.novodrustvo.net/
Croatia	CEE Network for Gender Issues - https://ceegendernetwork.wordpress.com/
Israel	The Macro Center for Political Economics - http://www.macro.org.il/english.html
Italy	Instituto Affari Internazionali - http://www.iai.it/en
Italy	Fondazione Di Vittorio
Italy	Centro Studi di Politica Internazionale
Netherlands	European Forum - http://www.europeanforum.net/
North Macedonia	Progress Institute - http://www.progres.org.mk/
Mexico	Foundation of Progressive Political, Economic and Social Studies - http://www.fepesp.org/
Serbia	Center for Democracy Foundation - http://www.centaronline.org
Switzerland	Anny Klawa Morf Stiftung
Turkey	SODEV Sosyal Demokrasi Vakfi** - http://www.sodev.org.tr/
Turkey	Progressive Thought Institute - http://www.toplumcudusunceenstitusu.org/ / English version
UK	SPERI, University of Sheffield - http://speri.dept.shef.ac.uk/
UK	Greenwich Political Economy Research Centre (GPERC) http://www.gre.ac.uk/business/research/centres/gperc
UK	Institute for Public Policy Research (IPPR) - https://www.ippr.org/
US	Centre for American Progress - https://www.americanprogress.org/
Switzerland	Social Democratic Party (SP) (Observer member of PES)

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

EU	Party of European Socialists - https://www.pes.eu/en/
EU	S&D Group in the European Parliament - http://www.socialistsanddemocrats.eu/
EU	PES Group in the Committee of the Regions - http://www.pes.cor.europa.eu/
EU	PES Women - https://www.pes.eu/en/pes-women/
EU	YES - Young European Socialists - http://www.youngsocialists.eu/

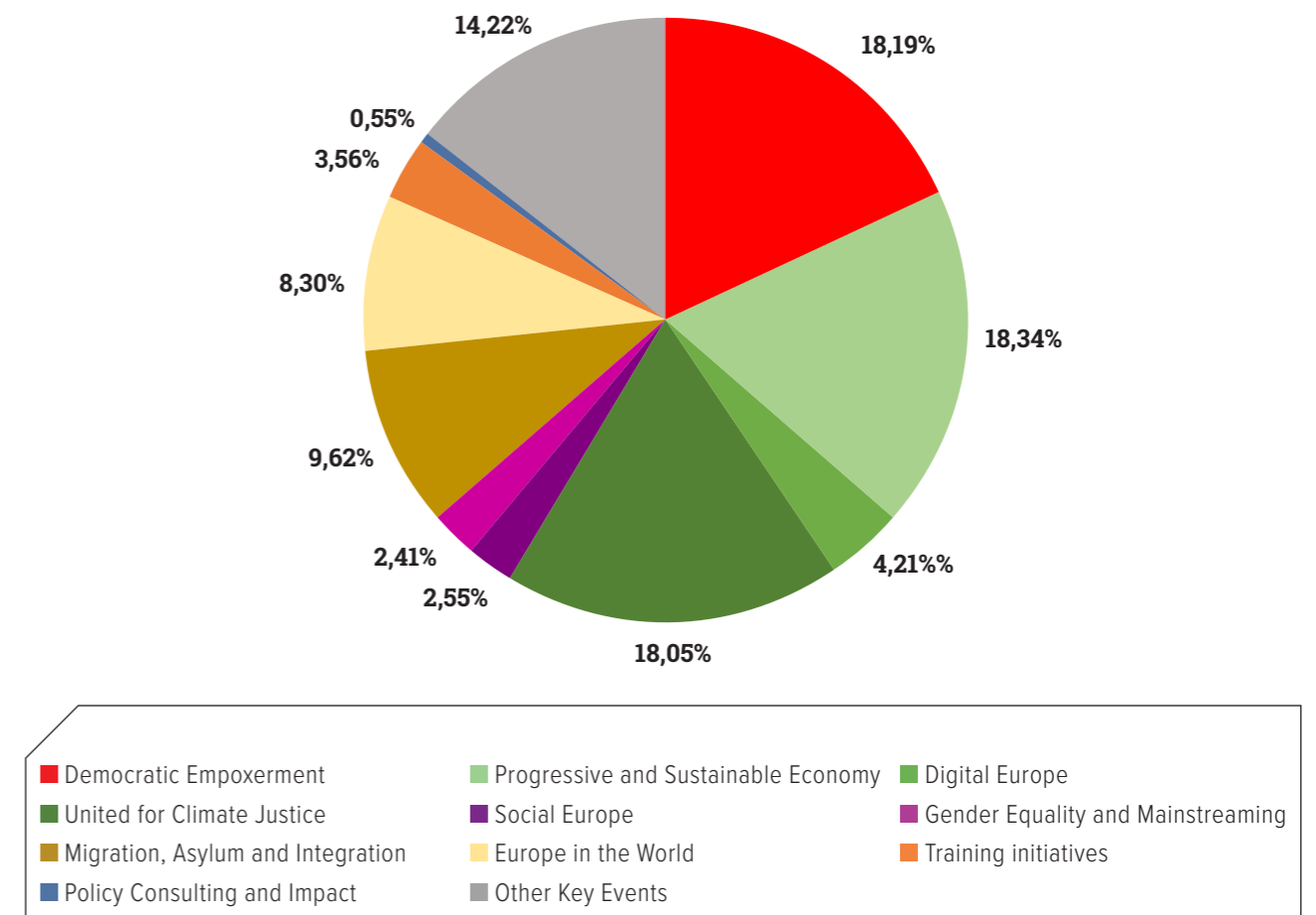


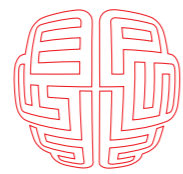
FEPS AT WORK: FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

COSTS		
Reimbursable costs	Budget	Actual
A.1: Personnel costs	1 770 000,00	1 842 645,00
1. Salaries	1 600 000,00	1 626 945,59
2. Contributions	70 000,00	158 766,63
3. Professional training	50 000,00	13 720,13
4. Staff missions expenses	0,00	0,00
5. Other personnel costs	50 000,00	43 212,65
A.2: Infrastructure and operating costs	400 000,00	385 453,48
1. Rent, charges and maintenance costs	195 000,00	228 656,54
2. Costs relating to installation, operation and maintenance of equipment	50 000,00	40 301,58
3. Depreciation of movable and immovable property	83 000,00	31 289,10
4. Stationery and office supplies	15 000,00	25 670,34
5. Postal and telecommunications charges	30 000,00	44 131,41
6. Printing, translation and reproduction costs	2 000,00	0,00
7. Other infrastructure costs	25 000,00	15 404,51
A.3: Administrative costs	1 300 000,00	884 010,83
1. Documentation costs (newspapers, press agencies, databases)	7 500,00	14 299,22
2. Costs of studies and research	1 205 000,00	796 689,49
3. Legal costs	22 500,00	35 705,72
4. Accounting and audit costs	5 000,00	37 316,40
5. Support to third parties	0,00	0,00
6. Miscellaneous administrative costs	60 000,00	0,00
A.4: Meetings and representation costs	1 512 940,20	2 236 664,87
1. Costs of meetings	1 423 940,20	2 151 104,99
2. Participation in seminars and conferences	85 000,00	84 435,26
3. Representation costs	2 000,00	0,00
4. Costs of invitations	2 000,00	1 124,62
5. Other meeting-related costs	0,00	0,00
A.5: Information and publication costs	430 000,00	313 983,06
1. Publication costs	280 000,00	259 830,30
2. Creation and operation of Internet sites	20 000,00	983,51
3. Publicity costs	7 500,00	0,00
4. Communications equipment (gadgets)	0,00	53 169,25
5. Seminar and exhibitions	122 500,00	0,00
6. Other information-related costs	0,00	0,00
A.6. Allocation to "Provision to cover eligible costs of the first quarter of year N"		0,00
A. TOTAL ELIGIBLE COSTS	5 412 940,20	5 662 757,24
Ineligible costs		
1. Provisions		
2. Exchange losses		366,88
3. Doubtful claims on third parties		64 918,92
4. Contributions in kind		0,00
5.1 Expenditure from previous years		30 267,09
5.2 Financial charges		158 496,84
B. TOTAL INELIGIBLE COSTS		254 049,73
C. TOTAL COSTS	5 412 940,20	5 916 806,97

REVENUE		
	Budget	Actual
D.1. Dissolution of "Provision to cover eligible costs of the first quarter of year N"	n/a	101798,91
D.2. European Parliament funding	5 142 293,19	5 220 851,81
D.3. Membership fees	35 000,00	24 000,00
3.1 from member foundations	35 000,00	24 000,00
3.2 from individual members		
D.4 Donations		4 711,68
4.1 above 500 EUR		4 711,68
D.5 Other own resources	235 647,01	633 734,02
Support from members of FEPS towards activities	235 647,01	563 967,65
Non-operating revenue		69 766,37
Reserve accumulated in the previous years		
D.6. Interest from pre-financing		
D.7. Contributions in kind		
D. TOTAL REVENUE	5 412 940,20	5 906 537,80
E. profit/loss (D-C)	0,00	-78 571,06
F. Allocation of own resources to the reserve account		-78 571,06
G. Profit/loss for verifying compliance with the no-profit rule (E-F)		0,00

Activities by thematic blocks





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