

25-26-27 MAY
VIRTUAL FESTIVAL

FEPS
FOUNDATION FOR EUROPEAN
PROGRESSIVE STUDIES



in partnership with:



DRAFT PROGRAMME

WHY ATTEND?

The FEPS Call to Europe conference celebrates its **10th Anniversary** in 2021. Over the past ten years, Call to Europe has evolved into a key progressive platform where experts, civil society representatives and policy-makers jointly contribute to a melting pot of progressive ideas. This incredible yearly gathering of Europe's greatest progressive hub seeks to provide joint solutions to address common European challenges under a 3P rule: a Progressive, Participatory and Positive debate which is FEPS's driving force to fulfil its mission: bridging the gap.

Don't miss out on Call to Europe Festival where the FEPS team promise is to deliver high-quality debates, inspire you to take action and offer you multiple networking opportunities.

Join us with for **three-day virtual programme**, where you will hear from progressive changemakers, politicians, experts and guests who will be engaging in lively discussions on how to bring about a Social Europe of Equality.

[Register NOW](#) and open the door to an incredible virtual festival and pan-European network that FEPS, its member foundations and sister organisations will be bringing directly to YOU on your screen.

INTRODUCTION TO THIS YEARS' TOPIC

Europe is slowly recovering from the great pandemic shock of 2020, but the aftermath is dramatic. This has not only been a major health crisis but also the **deepest economic recession in EU history and a brutal stress test for welfare systems in Europe and beyond**. Without progressive strategies we may end up with more divided societies, which would in turn endanger democratic politics.

The pandemic crisis highlighted important social gaps in Europe:





- **gender gap:** while more men die from the coronavirus than women, the burden on women has grown massively due to the need to combine wage labour with health and care services, making great efforts to improve the chances of survival
- **income gap:** low-income people having less opportunities to continue employment in home office but more likely to face precarious contracts and hazardous working conditions – a problem mere gestures to key workers would not solve
- **territorial gap:** disadvantaged regions experiencing higher mortality and falling further behind due to lack of adequate investment in health infrastructure as well as general economic opportunities through the neoliberal decades
- **intergenerational gap:** the growing realisation that Millennials and Z generations will not enjoy the same standard of living or of opportunities as previous generations, which in turn has led to the emergence of political discourses around the crisis of the social contract between generations

Today children in families that cannot afford high quality instruments are bound to fall behind when schooling goes online or hybrid. In the absence of strong safety nets, the lack of job and income security of parents can easily be transferred on the next generation. We have to turn around such trends of social polarisation and **design a welfare state for the 21st century.**

We knew that inequality was a grave and growing problem in Europe in the pre-pandemic years, now it is an even **greater task to pull together and turn towards an economic and social model that offers not only opportunities but also guarantees for closing the social gaps.**

Emerging from the lock-down and overcoming the economic hardships also means that we have to **recover Europe itself** – our community beyond nation states that can deliver policy coordination and solidarity. **With a stronger social dimension, the European Union must become the driver of progressive transformation.**



Day 1, Tuesday, 25th May 2021
Ten Years of Call to Europe – A decade of Progressive Thinking

OPENING SESSION

Video screening Call to Europe

16:00 – 16:10

PechaKucha 10x21 - Looking back, looking ahead

10 years, 10 topics, 10 Call to Europe calls.

László ANDOR, FEPS Secretary General, Hungary

16:10 - 16:30

10 Years of Progressive Calls

A decade of Call to Europe equals a legacy of important discussions on the critical issues that shaped Europe and the world. Reflecting on a decade filled with crises, challenges but also concrete positive steps taken, where do we stand now? Marking the 10th edition of Call to Europe, this session will look back in order to look ahead after a decade of progressive calls for change.

In our previous editions of Call to Europe we called for certain things – where are we, after a decade of Call to Europe?

Fatima ELATIK, former Chairwoman of Amsterdam-East district for PvdA, The Netherlands *took part in Call to Europe 2015 ‘Islam in Europe’*

Eugenio AMBROSI, Chief of Staff, IOM Chief, Italy *took part in Call to Europe 2014 ‘Building solidarity in Asylum Policy’*

Julia HERR, SPÖ Member of Parliament, Austria *took part in Call to Europe 2017 ‘Millennials and Politics’*

Recalling memories as a springboard to action **Zita GURMAI**, PES Women President, FEPS Vice President, Hungary

16:30 – 16:55

Call to Europe X Talk, followed by Q&A

Reacts to the Progressive Calls – reflection on the setbacks and hopes for the future.

At the helm of EU external action for 5 years on behalf of the 500 million European citizens, Federica Mogherini reflects on the Union’s journey towards assuming a more meaningful and impactful global role. What were some of the main setbacks along the way and what are her hopes for the future? The EU’s former High Representative offers her personal Call to Europe, in a conversation with

László ANDOR, FEPS Secretary General, Hungary and **Vassilis NTOUSAS**, FEPS Senior Policy Advisor for International Relations, Greece

Federica MOGHERINI, College of Europe Rector, former High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, Italy



16:55 - 17:00

Competition - What is your Progressive Call?

Introduced by **Maria FREITAS**, FEPS Engagement and Programme Coordinator, Portugal

Open competition among Call to Europe participants – sourcing the best improvisations about ‘What’s next for Europe after COVID-19?’ (evaluation on Day 3 by PES CoR, ETUC, YES, PES, S&D Group, PES Women, Rainbow Rose)



17:00 – 17:30

Virtual coffee break & digital networking room is open

18:30 – 19:15

Face off – Accelerating and Delivering on the Green Recovery

The recent ruling in Germany about how the country's climate change law violates rights by putting the burden of reducing CO2 emissions on young people illustrates how compelling the matter is in terms of intergenerational justice. And this follows on from other successful court cases such as the one of Urgenda in the Netherlands or a similar one that failed in the UK.

Together with the political agreement on the EU Climate Law as part of the European Green Deal and the upcoming COP26 in Glasgow this year, climate remains high on the political agendas across Europe. And rightly so! The COVID-19 pandemic has taught us even more how and why we must follow the science. The positive news at EU level is that the long-term budget and recovery from the health crisis intends to be in line with the EU Green Deal and aims to help move towards a more sustainable and resilient Europe, socially, economically and environmentally. However, to accelerate climate action, broader public support is needed which, at the moment is still lacking and furthermore, paradoxically, whilst investing in a more sustainable future, we still continue to use public money to subsidise harmful fossil fuel industries.

How therefore can we ensure accelerated delivery of the green recovery?

Moderated by **Charlotte BILLINGHAM**, FEPS Senior Policy Advisor, UK
Ed MILIBAND, Shadow Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, UK, Labour MP for Doncaster North vs **Luisa NEUBAUER**, Friday's for Future Germany (tbc)

20:30 – 21:15

Night Owl Session #DigiReflection – Mind the Digital Gap

The digital transition has seen new ways of work, while existing social and labour protections, as well as public services have become less effective. The result? A rise in inequality. Join us for a conversation with Ursula Huws, to understand what is happening, why a return to the post-war welfare state is not an option, and what could be the elements of a new social contract. The discussion will be based on her book 'Reinventing the Welfare State'.

Moderated by **Justin NOGAREDE**, FEPS Digital Policy Advisor, The Netherlands
Ursula HUWS, Director, Analytica Social and Economic Research, Author of 'Reinventing the welfare state. Digital platforms and public policies', UK

Day 2, Wednesday, 26th May 2021

**A Decade of Progressive Thinking – Where we are today and where we want to go next:
Towards a Resilient and Inclusive Recovery**

09:30 – 10:00

Virtual coffee break & digital networking room is open



OPENING SESSION

Video screening Call to Europe

- 16:00 – 16:05 Introduction and moderation by **László ANDOR**, FEPS Secretary General, Hungary
- 16:05 – 16:15 **PechaKucha Duo 10x21 – Mind the 10 biggest challenges facing Europe**
Mafalda DÂMASO, Visiting Research Fellow, King's College London, Portugal
KUBA JABŁONOWSKI, Research Fellow, Geography Department, University of Exeter, Poland
Call to action **Vasco CORDEIRO**, Member of the Regional Parliament, Azores, First Vice President of the European Committee of the Regions, Portugal
- 16:15 – 17:30 **Progressives in the Driver's Seat – For a European Recovery based on sustainability, solidarity and social rights, followed by Q&A**
How can progressives lead the revival of Europe's economy and realize opportunity for all?
Moderated by **Ania SKRZYPEK**, FEPS Director for Research and Training, Poland
Aranca GONZÁLEZ, Minister of Foreign Affairs European Union and Cooperation of Spain
Jeppe KOFOD, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Denmark (tbc)
Ana Paula ZACARIAS, Secretary of State for EU Affairs, Portugal
Enrico GIOVANNINI, Minister of Sustainable Infrastructures and Mobility, Italy
Tuula HAATAINEN, Minister of Employment, Finland
Tomáš PETŘÍČEK, former Minister of Foreign Affairs, Czech Republic
Pierre Yves DERMAGNE, Minister for Economy and Labour, Belgium
- 17:30 – 18:00 **Call to Europe X Talk, followed by Q&A**
Introduction and moderation by **László ANDOR**, FEPS Secretary General, Hungary
Adam TOOZE, Kathryn and Shelby Cullom Davis Professor of History, Columbia University, UK
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- 18:00 – 18:45 **Feminist Culture Café – Mind the Gender Gap**
What would have happened if Shakespeare had a sister with the same genius? Reflecting on the place of women in fiction, that is a question already asked by Virginia Woolf back in 1929. Applying her reasoning to culture and creativity more broadly, the ideas she conveys about women's unequal position in society depriving them from the same conditions to express their talent still largely applies nowadays. Yet, culture and arts constitute extremely powerful tools to foster women's rights and to share common experiences. And if some may argue there are fewer female artists, it is not because they are not there but simply because the powers in place have not been celebrating them. It is precisely in the spirit of closing this deep gap that the Foundation for European Progressive Studies launched its Feminist Culture Café series periodically diving into a hand-picked book, movie, piece of art, theatre play or song to finally render women more visible and to discuss feminist topics. This time, on the occasion of the FEPS Call to Europe 10 Virtual Festival, this Feminist Culture Café special edition will delve into how feminism and culture are a centre piece in crafting an inclusive and diverse Europe. The COVID-19 pandemic has namely had devastating effects on the cultural and creative sectors profoundly affecting the livelihoods of artists and cultural professionals. Women, who hold a higher proportion of precarious jobs in the arts and culture sectors, are particularly vulnerable to social and economic
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insecurity. Therefore, we will gather policymakers to explore how progressive responses to the current crisis need to envision culture as a powerful vehicle for gender equality as well as a vital means of creatively bringing everyone together to preserve human connections during these all too socially distanced times. So, make sure to join us to exchange ideas in this gathering with a group of open-minded, progressive and culture lovers!

Moderated by **Laeticia THISSEN**, FEPS Gender Equality Policy Advisor, Belgium

Zita GURMAI, PES Women President, FEPS Vice President, Hungary

Delphine HOUBA, Brussels City Councillor and Alderwoman for Culture, Belgium

Sonja Marie JENSEN, Mayor of Nyborg, Denmark (tbc)

Call to action **Alicia HOMS**, President of Young European Socialists (YES) and S&D MEP, Spain

20:30 – 21:15

Night Owl Session - Progressives in action to build back better

Moderated by **David RINALDI**, FEPS Director for Policy and Studies, Italy

We all hope that life will go back to normal soon, but we also hope that politics has learnt the lesson and come back with a renewed character in the post-pandemic world. Progressives are engaged all around Europe, from the local to the European level, to ensure that the post-corona society is more egalitarian, more caring and more sustainable. The to-do-list is huge, as are ambitions and expectations. Health, housing, education, employment, climate, just to name a few areas in which the demand for solutions is high and the need to deliver is pressing. Public goods' access and quality have always been a distinctive feature of social-democratic platforms; in this moment in time, they are on high demand. How to make sure that policymakers deliver on this very much needed change? What are the conditions to bring about a new course? How to make sure that citizens see that progressives lead on this?

Agnes JONGERIUS, S&D MEP and Chair of the PES Social Network, The Netherlands

Anne HIDALGO, Mayor of Paris, France (tbc)

Alva FINN, Director at Social Platform, Ireland (tbc)

Representative of the Italian General Confederation of Labour (tbc)

Call to action **Pascal SMET**, Secretary of State of the Brussels-Capital Region responsible for Europe and PES Group member, Belgium

Day 3, Thursday, 27th May 2021

Celebrating a new decade of Progressive Thinking and looking forward to Progressive Action

08:30 – 09:30

Hackathon - Mind the Intergenerational Gap

Moderated by **Maria FREITAS**, FEPS Engagement and Programme Coordinator, Portugal

Intergenerational dialogue on the Future of Europe.

By their mid-30s Millennials will have suffered two huge crisis – the 2008 financial crisis and now more recently the global health crises caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. All generations suffer during a crisis but the consequences last longer for the youth. For Europe's younger people, the repeated economic shocks have meant that this generation is still struggling to achieve material stability on the one hand and on the other has by and large delayed much of the traits linked with adulthood (getting married, having children or buying a house comes later, when compared to previous generations).



These long-term effects of both crises can aggravate the generational conflict that has been intensified by the acceleration of climate and demographic change. How can progressives enable an intergenerational dialogue that builds bridges instead of exacerbating the conflict between generations?

Belén BARREIRO, Director 40dB and Author of the study 'The generational impact of COVID-19 pandemic', Spain

Andrea GEROSA, Chief Thinker and Founder, ThinkYoung, Italy

Jos BERTRAND, President European Senior Organisation (ESO), Belgium

Sara COSTA, Vice President Young European Socialists (YES), Austria (tbc)

Call to action **Conner ROUSSEAU**, President of Vooruit, Belgium

09:30 – 10:30

Book launch 'Our European Future'

With the launch of the Conference on the Future of Europe, FEPS has worked with top experts, policy makers and young people to prepare a series of innovative, progressive and though provoking ideas to shape the European future. Join us for an insightful roundtable on this and for the launch of our book "Our European Future". This book captures months of fascinating exchanges on a wide range of issues, from rethinking our welfare system in view of the ecological and digital transformations and the post-COVID challenges, rethinking our external action and reforming the multilateral system, redefine our economic governance for an empowered Union and the next democratic transformation.

Introduction and moderation by **Maria João RODRIGUES**, FEPS President, Portugal

Iratxe GARCÍA PÉREZ, President and MEP, S&D Group, Spain (tbc)

Sergei STANISHEV, President of the Party of European Socialists (PES), Bulgaria (tbc)

OPENING SESSION

Video screening Call to Europe

15:25 – 15:30

Introduction and moderation by **László ANDOR**, FEPS Secretary General, Hungary

15:30 – 16:05

Live interview on Next Generation EU

Thomas DERMINE, Secretary of State for Scientific Policy, Recovery Programme and Strategic Investments, Belgium vs **Méabh MC MAHON**, Reporter Euronews, Ireland

16:05 – 16:45

Ring Ring Europe! Mind the Regional Gap

Covid-19 has further magnified the social inequality within EU member states as well as across countries; access to quality healthcare, first-rate education and decent housing for instance, are crucial elements for the life standards we want to protect and advance but are not easily accessible to all Europeans. Social inequalities are increasingly intertwined to regional divergence and it appears difficult to fight inequalities without addressing the regional divide. Without creating opportunities and delivering quality public services in lagging behind regions, how can it be possible to address the geography of discontent and fight the increasing inequalities?

Moderated by **Ainara BASCUÑANA**, FEPS Head of Communication, Spain

The case for an equal Europe – beyond regional disparities. Europe, ready to take up?

Introduction by **David RINALDI**, FEPS Director for Policy and Studies, Italy



Eastern Europe Calls

Karolina ZIOŁO-PUŻUK, Assistant Professor Humanities Department, Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University, member of Centrum im. Ignacego Daszyńskiego, Poland
Biljana BORZAN, S&D Vice President and MEP, Croatia (tbc)

Western Europe Calls

Andreas SCHIEDER, Head of Delegation, S&D MEP and Co-Chair of the Global Progressive Forum, Austria
Tom JUNGEN, Mayor of Roeser and PES Group member, Secretary-General of LSAP, Luxembourg (tbc)



Northern Europe Calls

Kaisa VATANEN, Head of Policy and Planning SDP, Board Member of Kalevi Sorsa Foundation, Finland (tbc)
Nils UŠAKOVŠ, S&D MEP, Latvia

Southern Europe Calls

Rocío MARTÍNEZ-SAMPERE, Director Felipe González Foundation, Spain
Nikos ANDROULAKIS, S&D MEP, Greece (tbc)

Open call for interest groups to submit their Progressive Calls prior to the event will be launched on FEPS website. The interest group can convene on topical or regional dimension where the ambition is to challenge EU Commissioner Ferreira, to respond.

16:45 – 17:00

Europe replies!

Elisa FERREIRA, Commissioner for Cohesion and Reforms, European Commission, Portugal

17:00 - 17:45

Open Mic 'Your Progressive Call, Your Call to Europe!'

Moderated by **Maria FREITAS**, FEPS Engagement and Programme Coordinator, Portugal



Presentation of the top 3 'What's next for Europe after COVID-19?' proposals which will be evaluated by

Achim POST, Party of European Socialists (PES) Secretary General, Germany (tbc)
Jordi HARRISON, Secretary General of PES CoR, Belgium
Luca VISENTINI, ETUC Secretary General, Italy
Ana PIRTSKHALAVA, Young European Socialists (YES) Secretary General, Georgia
Frazer CLARKE, Deputy Secretary General, S&D Group, UK
Mija JAVORNIK, PES Women Vice President, Slovenia
Mikael LEYI, SOLIDAR Secretary General, Sweden
José SANTORO, Rainbow Rose Secretary General, Spain

The winner of 'What's next for Europe after COVID-19 pitch' competition will in turn present his/her 'to the progressive leader of one of Germany's biggest federal state.

17:45 – 18:10

Call to Europe X Talk, followed by Q&A

Introduction by **Hedwig GIUSTO**, Editor and Chief of FEPS Progressive Post magazine, Italy
Malu DREYER, Minister President of Rheinland-Pfalz, Germany (tbc)



CLOSING SESSION

18:10 – 18:15

Action Toolkit Wear Red 2021 / Red rose selfie 2021

Join FEPS team, FEPS member foundations and partners in a #WearRed virtual rally!
Take action and advocate for a strong, progressive, social Europe #SocialRights!
FEPS Call to Europe is #10!

Animated by

Céline GUEDES, FEPS Project Officer, Portugal

18:15 – 18:30

Call to Europe is 10!

Maria João RODRIGUES, FEPS President, Portugal

18:30 – 19:00

See you next year! Digital networking session

Tune in for the last virtual carousel of Call to Europe 10 where networking is fun, nice and easy with **Peter RUSZ**, Head of Unit, S&D events, Hungary

FEPS Call to Europe 10 conference is organised in cooperation with:



Group of the Progressive Alliance of
Socialists & Democrats
in the European Parliament



PES GROUP
European Committee
of the Regions

ThinkYoung



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**EYES ON
EUROPE**

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