



Conversations for the Future of Europe

Organised by Philippe Van Parijs and Brigid Laffan

Objective: To guide the steps of the European Union and to mobilise its citizens so as to make such steps possible, it is not enough to analyse the past and criticise the present. It is crucial to concoct concrete proposals for a better future and to subject them to a no-nonsense, multidisciplinary discussion. The *Conversations for the Future of Europe* aim to contribute to such a discussion.

A concern for concreteness and political feasibility should be present throughout, the aim being, as in Robert Schuman's 1950 declaration, *des réalisations concrètes* rather than vague dreams. However, this should not prevent us from bearing in mind Max Weber's warning at the end of *Politik als Beruf*: "Certainly all historical experience confirms the truth that man would not have attained the possible unless time and again he had reached out for the impossible." A concern for feasibility is compatible with boldness. Indeed, boldness may be required to move forward. In order to foster uninhibited common thinking, participants are invited to regard these encounters as if they were private conversations rather than public events.

Format: In this series, each meeting will focus on one issue. It will be briefly introduced by two members of the EUI community or visitors, each with a proposal relating to the issue, and followed by a general discussion.

Programme

Tuesday, 15 May 2018 | 13.00 - 14.45 | Sala Europa, Villa Schifanoia

"What is the next step for the social protection of European citizens?"

Speakers:

Philippe SCHMITTER | EUI: *"The Eurostipend"*

Martin SEELEIB-KAISER | University Tübingen: *"A European Minimum Income Scheme"*

Discussion opened by: **Laura SEELKOPF** | EUI

Tuesday, 22 May 2018 | 13.00 - 14.45 | Sala Europa, Villa Schifanoia

“How can European institutions and their decisions acquire greater legitimacy in the citizens’ eyes?”

Speakers:

Matthew LOVELESS | EUI: *“Do EU citizens have a stomach for more ambitious EU-level policies? If not, what can be done about it?”*

Richard BELLAMY | EUI: *“Two proposals for enhancing powers of national parliaments in EU decision-making”*

Discussion opened by: **Adrienne HÉRITIER** | EUI

Tuesday, 29 May 2018 | 13.00 - 14.45 Sala del Capitolo, Badia Fiesolana

“Why and how must the physical protection of European citizens be enhanced?”

Speakers:

Francesca GALLI | EUI: *“Can information sharing enhance security without violating rights?”*

Cyrille THIÉBAUT | EUI: *“May a European army be the future of European defence?”*

Discussion opened by: **Richard MAHER** | EUI

Tuesday, 5 June 2018 | 13.00 - 14.45 Emeroteca, Badia Fiesolana

“What would a good Brexit be like?”

Speakers:

Brigid LAFFAN | EUI: *“The best possible deal for Ireland”*

James DENNISON | EUI: *“Fair Brexit”*

Discussion opened by: **Tim OLIVER** | EUI