

SPRING 2019

# EUROPEAN YOUNG LEADERS

LONDON SEMINAR

REPORT



The European Young Leaders (EYL40) programme led by Friends of Europe is a unique, inventive and multi-stakeholder programme that aims to promote a European identity by engaging the continent's most promising talents in initiatives that will shape Europe's future. The programme was initially conceived in partnership with EuropaNova.

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# THE POTENTIAL OF COLLECTIVE POWER

In a week when the British parliament was once again struggling to find a way out of the Brexit deadlock, almost 60 of the brightest young minds in Europe gathered nearby with a more positive agenda: seeking to harness the potential of collective power and secure support for liberal values in the European Parliament elections in May.

Topics over the three-day seminar of European Young Leaders ranged from climate change to renewed superpower space rivalries; social innovation to the future of financial structures in the digital age.

Brexit, unavoidably, loomed large. Speakers made clear that the sense of anger and alienation that led the British to reject the European Union is mirrored by voter dissatisfaction across Europe fuelling support for populist movements.

Young leaders stressed the need for new ideas to reverse the trend of voter indifference or irritation and inspire Europeans to reject retrograde populism. They discussed the type of leadership Europe requires and lamented the failure of established politicians to raise to the challenge of these troubled times.

Still, there were plenty of examples of bottom-up collective power making a difference: from youthful climate-change protests currently

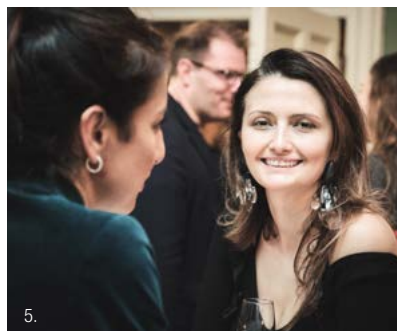
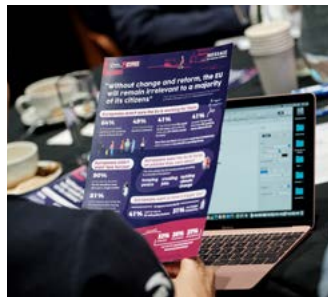
sweeping the globe, to participants' own experience in running successful campaigns in areas from air pollution to gender rights.

There was a recurring sense that everybody has to take responsibility for change; that no action is too small, either at individual or community level; and that long-term thinking is essential for a safe future.

Despite poll predictions of populist success, the seminar was upbeat on the prospects of securing positive outcomes in the EP elections, encouraged by studies showing that one-in-three voters only make up their minds in the weeks and days before the European vote.

The London seminar held from March 14-16 was the latest under the annual EYL40 programme co-launched by Friends of Europe in 2011 to bring together 40 of Europe's most-promising talents under 40.

It has forged a silo-busting network of pacesetters from politics, business, the arts, science and technology, civil society, media and other fields, with the goal of promoting innovative ideas and dynamic responses that plug into Friends of Europe's #EuropeMatters project to design a Europe that's fit for action in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.



1. Jamila Aanzi, Dutch Women's Representative to the UN; and Eva De Roo, Radio host
2. Zanda Kalnina-Lukaševica, Parliamentary State Secretary for EU Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Latvia
3. Audrey de Nazelle, Lecturer on air pollution at Centre for Environmental Policy, Imperial College London
4. Viktoria Modesta, Bionic pop artist and futurist; Andreas Kunze, CEO and Co-Founder of KONUX
5. Maria Lucia Hohan, Fashion designer and CEO of fashion brand Maria Lucia Hohan
6. Lukasz Dziekonski, CEO at Montis Capital Group; Aaron Farrugia, Parliamentary Secretary for EU Funds at the Maltese Government



## Brexit Blues

The spring 2019 European Young Leaders' gathering could hardly have been closer to the epicentre of the political earthquake that is Brexit. On the first evening, the group had to squeeze past police, protesters and a media scrum to enter the Houses of Parliament where a third successive night of drama had just seen MPs vote to delay Britain's departure from the European Union beyond the March 29 deadline.

'One of the most important weeks in the history of this nation,' was the assessment of one speaker at the EYL's dinner in the House of Lords. The theme at a debate, that night, hosted by [Baroness Beeban Kidron](#), was "Voice and Visibility: Gender Power in the Arts." Young Leaders, guests and Baroness Kidron - a renowned film and television director - spoke up on the issue, hailing the growing strength of female voices in the arts. 'There has never been a better time to be a woman,' asserted one Young Leader. She insisted, however, that much more needs to be done to ensure equality and diversity. Despite the vigour of the discussion, the Brexit mess was impossible to avoid. 'I really hate it,' said one speaker, seeming to sum up the general mood.



**“The political system is an acute crisis ... It’s a complete disaster”**

Zanny Minton Beddoes,  
Editor-in-Chief of The Economist



**“People want power and control more than the so-called economic benefits that, actually, they don’t feel that they have seen anyway, because of the extent of inequality”**

Joss Garman, UK Director  
European Climate Foundation  
& 2019 EYL

Earlier that day, Brexit was the focus of an animated debate held at Museum of London and featuring speakers [Thomas Raines](#), Head of the Europe Programme at Chatham House, and [Zanny Minton Beddoes](#), Editor-in-Chief of The Economist. Deadlock in parliament, the country divided and utter failure to find a constructive way forward, clearly showed the damage to Britain’s political system and society.

‘This country is far more divided than I have ever known it,’ said Minton Beddoes. ‘Our system is imploding,’ she added. ‘The political system is an acute crisis ... It’s a complete disaster.’

The debate examined the reasons for Britain’s vote in the Brexit referendum. Factors mentioned ranged from tribal identities and nostalgia for empire, to a revolt against the ruling establishment and neglect of peripheral regions; xenophobic arrogance to insecurity in a fast-changing world and dissatisfaction with inequality.





‘People want power and control more than the so-called economic benefits that, actually, they don’t feel that they have seen anyway, because of the extent of inequality,’ said [Joss Garman](#), UK Director European Climate Foundation & 2019 EYL. ‘It’s not about economic security, it’s about culture and identity.’

Although some speakers saw Britain recovering from Brexit in the longer-term, there was a glum assessment of the immediate future. ‘Brexit makes me cry approximately once a week,’ confessed [Marta Krupinska](#), a Polish-British Entrepreneur, Co-Founder Azimo & 2019 EYL. ‘Whether it happens or doesn’t happen we are still going to be somewhat in the shit, because society is very, very divided,’ she added. ‘Racism is on the rise, the economy is not going to get better, and is probably going to get worse.’

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Polish-British Entrepreneur,  
Co-Founder Azimo & 2019 EYL



**“I’ve been seeing weak politicians from all parties, kicking the can down the road for a year and a half now”**

Aaron Farrugia, Parliamentary Secretary of State for EU Funds at the Maltese Government & 2017 EYL

Other Europeans expressed exasperation with the British decision and its bungled exit plan. ‘I’ve been seeing weak politicians from all parties, kicking the can down the road for a year and a half now,’ said [Aaron Farrugia](#), Parliamentary Secretary of State for EU Funds at the Maltese Government & 2017 EYL. He, at least, was hopeful that the British may yet reverse their decision to leave. Others, recalling Britain’s often obstructive role within the EU, stated that the UK should go, for the sake of Europe. ‘It might be best from our perspective that you guys actually leave,’ contended [Wouter Verschelden](#), Founder of News Monkey in Belgium & 2014 EYL. ‘If you want to have the European project succeed, maybe it’s best to have you guys out of the club.’

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1. Francesca Cavallo, Author & Entrepreneur, Founder of Timbuktu Labs

2. Clémentine Forissier, Editor in Chief at Contexte

3. Alexandra Dariescu, Award-winning concert pianist, producer of "The Nutcracker and I" and creative entrepreneur; Dionysis Grammenos, Founder and Music Director at the Greek Youth Symphony Orchestra

4. Rosamund Adoo Kissi-Debrah, Founder and Director at the Ella Roberta Family Foundation

5. Thomas Raines, Head of the Europe Programme at Chatham House

6. Roger Montaña I Busquets, Founder and President of Twenty50; Ruben Van Zwieten, Pastor and social entrepreneur; Emma Jones and Imani Jacqueline Brown from the British Council's Future Leaders Connect; Tomás Ignác Fénix, Farmer and Vice President of the European Council of Young Farmers



# Short-term tinkering is **not enough**

There was a general realisation, however, that the rest of Europe has no time for complacency or schadenfreude. Factors leading the British to reject Europe are also fuelling discontent beyond the English Channel. Eurosceptic populists across the continent are tapping into voter insecurities triggered by rapid technological, social and demographic changes; the aftermath of financial crisis; and geopolitical shifts including the rise of China and perceived Western decline. Short-term tinkering with the system is not enough: a new social contract is needed to remake the relationship between the market and the state, including substantial reforms of tax and education systems.

‘What’s happening isn’t totally unique. It’s about political and economic transformation of modern European societies and the way that has corroded traditional ideas about identity and community and democracy,’ explained Raines. ‘It’s driven by forces which all European countries are going to have to confront.’

How to deal with those forces was a major theme running through all three days of the London seminar. Young Leaders explored ideas that can galvanise public opinion behind a positive European message, reverse the populist tide and harness the power of collective intelligence to deliver innovative responses to the social and economic challenges facing today’s Europe.

**“What’s happening isn’t totally unique. It’s about political and economic transformation of modern European societies and the way that has corroded traditional ideas about identity and community and democracy”**

Thomas Raines, Head of the Europe Programme at Chatham House



**“Most democracies are essentially 19<sup>th</sup> century constructs, most of the methods of bureaucratic government are more mid-20<sup>th</sup> century and they are way beyond their sell-by dates”**

Geoff Mulgan, Chief Executive NESTA, former head of policy in the Prime Minister's office under Tony Blair and Director of the Government's Strategy Unit

‘Let's see how we can make best use of this collective power,’ said [Geert Cami](#), Co-Founder and Secretary General of Friends of Europe, in his welcome to the Young Leaders. ‘We all need to use our powers to motivate people to inform themselves and go out and vote.’

Constructive political change is vital, explained [Geoff Mulgan](#), Chief Executive NESTA, former head of policy in the Prime Minister's office under Tony Blair and Director of the Government's Strategy Unit. ‘Most democracies are essentially 19<sup>th</sup> century constructs, most of the methods of bureaucratic government are more mid-20<sup>th</sup> century and they are way beyond their sell-by dates,’ he told the group. ‘The political party needs to be reinvented. It doesn't work in all sorts of ways around the world.’

Although pessimistic about immediate political prospects, Mulgan was hopeful of a longer-term turnaround as the knowledge economy spreads,





political structures are reformed, best practices in social innovation spread and collective intelligence fuses the best in human and machine learning.

Amongst the Young Leaders too, there was hope that politicians are waking up to the need for progressive reform. 'Political leaders are very much aware of the existential crisis that we have right now ... They want to redefine themselves, because if they do not, then they will be doomed,' said [Alicja Gescinska](#), a Polish-Belgian Philosopher, Writer & 2019 EYL who is herself a candidate in the European Parliament elections.

**“Political leaders are very much aware of the existential crisis that we have right now ... They want to redefine themselves, because if they do not, then they will be doomed”**

Alicja Gescinska, a Polish-Belgian Philosopher, Writer & 2019 EYL, candidate in the European Parliament elections

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# Take me to **Your Leader**



Defining leadership and the qualities needed to make transformational leaders was the subject of the seminar's introductory session held in the Museum of London. It pointed to Europe's shortfall in values-driven political leadership that looks beyond the short-term to build policies with a lasting legacy.

'When politics is not a vocation, but it's a job ... there is no chance to make long-term proposals, because you can lose your seat and your seat is your job,' argued [Roger Montañola i Busquets](#), Founder and President of Twenty50 & 2019 EYL from Spain.

Authenticity, honesty, conviction and the ability to adapt to change were listed amongst the top qualities

**“If you’ve always done  
what you’ve always  
done, you’ll always get  
what you’ve always got”**

Magid Magid, Lord Mayor  
of Sheffield & 2019 EYL



**“The skills that you need to become a leader are the opposite to those that you need to be a good leader”**

João Wengorovius Meneses,  
Secretary General at BCSD Portugal &  
2012 EYL

required – but often lacking – in leaders. ‘Taking risks and having the courage to actually do what you think is correct,’ were highlighted by [Magid Magid](#), Lord Mayor of Sheffield & 2019 EYL. ‘If you’ve always done what you’ve always done, you’ll always get what you’ve always got,’ he cautioned.

[João Wengorovius Meneses](#), Secretary General at BCSD Portugal & 2012 EYL, worried such good leadership qualities can be at odds with the grubby trade-offs needed to climb the political leadership ladder. ‘The skills that you need to become a leader are the opposite to those that you need to be a good leader,’ he contended. ‘You need to balance interests that do not accommodate any kind of moral compass ... you need to work for the long term, but you need to win elections and gain power in the short term.’

Nevertheless, participants pointed to examples of grassroots leadership that are securing change: from the success of the #MeToo movement in confronting sexual abuse, to the global wave of youthful demonstrations against climate change – including one being held a short walk along the Thames from where EYLs were meeting.

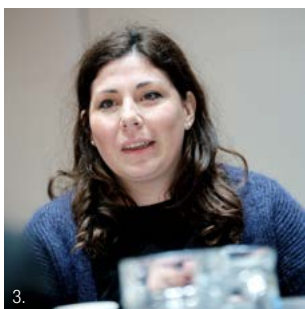
Young Leaders and invited speakers shared their own experiences that showed the potential for determined individuals to make a real difference.

Londoner Rosamund [Adoo Kissi-Debrah](#), Founder and Director of the Ella Roberta Family Foundation, explained how she set up a campaign to push air pollution to the top of political agendas after her beloved daughter Ella died following diagnosis with a rare form of asthma. [Francesca Cavallo](#), Author, Entrepreneur, Founder of Timbuktu Labs & 2019 EYL from Italy, told how her crowdfunded effort to counter gender stereotyping in children’s literature led to her book, “Good Night Stories

for Rebel Girls”, becoming a 3.5mn-selling international hit, translated into dozens of languages.

Irish writer, LGBTQ Activist & 2019 EYL [Una Mullally](#) recalled her role in successful campaigns to persuade Irish voters to back change in referendums on marriage equality and reproductive rights. The key, Mullally explained, is appealing to the emotions. ‘This was a huge change, but the fundamental element was empathy, both of these referendums were about empathy,’ she said. ‘You have to speak to people’s hearts ... in referendums people vote on feelings.’





1. Baroness Beeban Kidron, film director, producer, founder of 5Rights and member of the House of Lords
2. Justin Mundy, Senior Fellow at the World Resources Institute
3. Annalisa Camilli, Investigative journalist at Internazionale specialising in migration
4. Alessandro Fusacchia, Member of Parliament and secretary of Movimenta
5. Paola Subacchi, Professor of Economics at Queen Mary University of London

# Big Issues

In a series of specialised sessions across the first two days of the meeting, Young Leaders and invited experts looked at big-ticket issues facing European and global societies. The debates revealed a pressing need to engage citizens and showed how individuals taking responsibility for their actions can have a major impact advancing broader community interests.

Climate change, described as the “challenge of our time”, is already a major motivator for popular action, but it’s time for us all to do our bit to protect the planet. ‘It’s usually been that the responsibility is with governments and we as individuals will follow and that is changing ... we have an existential crisis that demands that we all take responsibility,’ [Justin Mundy](#), Senior Fellow at the World Resources Institute told the group.

Young leaders were in broad agreement on the need for urgent, people-led action. ‘I’m getting tired of the discussion: whose responsibility is it? Because it’s everybody’s responsibility,’ said [Eva De Roo](#), Belgian radio host & 2019 EYL. ‘We are just losing time, and nothing is happening. I’m afraid it might take too long.’

**“It’s usually been that the responsibility is with governments and we as individuals will follow and that is changing ... we have an existential crisis that demands that we all take responsibility”**

*Justin Mundy, Senior Fellow at the  
World Resources Institute*



**“There is an attitude that somehow climate change is a matter of choice: how can we change that?”**

Viktoria Modesta, Latvian-British Bionic Pop Artist, Futurist & 2019 EYL

Leaving aside climate-sceptics, too many people who are aware of the dangers remain complacent about what needs to be done. ‘There is an attitude that somehow climate change is a matter of choice: how can we change that?’ asked [Viktoria Modesta](#), Latvian-British Bionic Pop Artist, Futurist & 2019 EYL. ‘We have to show that this is a fact; it isn’t a fad or a trend.’

Could the protests led by schoolchildren around the world, be the pivot towards a greater global engagement? ‘We don’t need to be convinced about the urgency. We know all that, we need to create a tipping point,’ argued [Dharmendra Kanani](#), Director of Insights at Friends of Europe. ‘Is it the kids? Are they the great hope, a young people-led revolution that is going to change politics?’

Education and organisation will help turn those youthful demonstrations into a true force for collective action, said [Edward Gardiner](#), Scientist and Behavioural Design Lead at Warwick Business School. ‘They are definitely a positive thing, the mass protests,’ he said. ‘The student protesters need to organize themselves into a group that can take collective action ... they need to be confident and secure in the skills that they have.’ [Laurence Tubiana](#), CEO at the European Climate Foundation, said governments must become responsive to demands from the streets for changes on the scale needed to tackle the threat. ‘I don’t think we can go forward without big reforms in institutions and big change,’ she said. ‘We have to be much more radical in our reforms.’

Speakers looked for the best way to put “a worm in the system” that would persuade the financial sector to hardwire pro-climate policies in investment policy to “a have domino-effect throughout the economy”. Mundy said that is already happening, as the concept of climate risk increasingly comes to bear on the responsibility of funds to act in the interests their investors, particularly





as financial authorities increase demands for compliance with efforts to reduce those climate risks. Gardiner agreed, saying there was growing acceptance of the need to factor-in climate risk, even at the risk of lower short-term profits. Tubiana stressed the importance of changing perceptions so that investors would see sustainable investments as less risky than traditional energy spending.

Linked to climate change is the threat of air pollution and its deadly impact on our cities. 'Seven million people die per year from air pollution. It's 13 % of all deaths. It's more than the deaths from malaria, TB and HIV-AIDS combined,' said [Jane Burston](#), Director at the Clean Air Fund & 2017 EYL from the UK, who moderated a debate on the issue.

Here too, participants underlined the necessity of education and citizens' action to put pressure on politicians to act. Personalising the issue to focus on health risks that affect ordinary people is important, as

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## **“Financial services aren’t serving a lot of people in society”**

Fran Boait, Executive Director at Positive Money and Director of the Board at Finance Watch

well as highlighting the economic payback from cleaner air, and perusing comprehensive measures that have a tangible impact for citizens. ‘We are missing out on opportunities for much more holistic approaches for tackling air pollution,’ said [Audrey de Nazelle](#), Lecturer on air pollution at the Centre for Environmental Policy, Imperial College London. ‘Replacing really dirty cars in our cities with slightly less-dirty cars is a missed opportunity.’

The importance of empowering municipal and regional authorities was a recurring theme through this and previous EYL seminars. It applies particularly to the fight against air pollution. ‘Local leaders are really well placed to tackle this sort of stuff, better than national leaders are, because they can rise above party politics,’ explained [Polly Billington](#), Director of UK 100 – a network of local government leaders. ‘They are well connected with their communities; they know how to deal with local business.’



It's not only environmental issues where multi-stakeholder approaches are essential to securing solutions for 21<sup>st</sup> century challenges. Money may still make the world go around, but the nature of the financial system is fast-changing and moves towards cashless societies are raising profound questions about how we spend and save.

'Financial services aren't serving a lot of people in society,' said [Fran Boait](#), Executive Director at Positive Money and Director of the Board at Finance Watch. 'Money ... it's not working for society right now, so we do need to think about how we redesign it.' She pointed to the massive expansion of finance in the years running up to the crash of 2007-2008 and called for greater scrutiny to ensure the accountability of financial institutions. The world is due for a "serious conversation" on what finance is for, Boait added. She criticised the quantitative easing programmes launched by central banks in the wake of the financial crisis to pump money into the economy, complaining that most benefits went to financial markets and wealthy individuals. 'We've long advocated a people's QE, so in a downturn we can use the central banks' powers to create money and get it into the real economy,' Boait said. 'We've also advocated this idea of a green QE, where you could get new money spent on green transition.'

Several Young Leaders asked about the risk of another crisis given the current economic volatility, particularly tensions between the United States and China. 'I assume that if you look at the world economy, that there is enough instability to cause a crisis,' said [Andreas Kunze](#), CEO and Co-Founder of KONUX & 2019 EYL from Germany. However, while businesses are finding it difficult to cope in unpredictable markets, [Paola Subacchi](#), Professor of International Economics at Queen Mary University of London and expert on international financial and



**“It happens with any technology: tech can be used for good or bad, space is no different”**

Jordi Barrera, Technology Vice President at Open Cosmos



monetary systems, said a repeat of the crash was far from inevitable. ‘There are some areas where there is excessive risk exposure, but the banks are sufficiently capitalised to resist a crisis,’ she said. ‘I would not be so concerned about a crisis soon.’

Looking at ways digital innovation can democratise banking services, EYL Marta Krupinska recalled how her costly experiences sending money home after emigrating from Poland inspired her to form a global money-transfer platform which raised over \$70 mn and gained more than 1 mn customers. ‘I couldn’t get a credit card in this country until I had a six-digit salary, which is frankly crazy,’ she said. ‘It’s not that I hate the financial system or the banking system, I just want to make it cheaper.’

From FinTech and the environment to the renewed race for space, a number of crossover issues – both moral and practical – rose to the fore in the EYL debates. A plenary session dedicated to “The Return of the Space



Race” looked at an industry projected to be worth \$1.1tn by 2040. The panel discussed concerns that the fast-paced growth of private sector investment in space was creating risks of regulation failing to keep up with technological developments, leading to a repeat of mistakes made with data and digital platforms.

‘It happens with any technology: tech can be used for good or bad, space is no different,’ said [Jordi Barrera](#), Technology Vice President at Open Cosmos. ‘You will never be able to police everyone ... We need to be responsible for space the same way as we are with our Earth.’

Panellists also defended space investment against accusations the money could be better spent on Earth. ‘Space resources can provide an extension of our spaceship Earth,’ explained [Amara Graps](#), Founder of Baltics in Space and Head Researcher at Latvia University Institute of Astronomy. ‘The future we are

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*Amara Graps, Founder of Baltics in  
Space and Head Researcher at Latvia  
University Institute of Astronomy*



**“If we manage to establish this self-sustaining space economy, then the sky is the limit ... well it’s not the limit, because space is still infinite”**

Guillem Anglada-Escudé, a Spanish Astrophysicist at London’s Queen Mary University & 2018 EYL

building needs all hands working ... The possibilities are amazing of what you can build up there.’ She outlined a “science-fiction” vision of satellite operators mining asteroid resources in 2027 but concluded that such technology exists today and the regulatory language for it has been under discussion for several years in the International Space Resources Governance Working Group, based in The Hague.

The debate covered legal and ethical issues over the ownership of space resources and the potential of the space economy. ‘We are trying to find planets similar to our own, to help understand our place in the universe,’ said [Guillem Anglada-Escudé](#), a Spanish Astrophysicist at London’s Queen Mary University & 2018 EYL. ‘If we manage to establish this self-sustaining space economy, then the sky is the limit ... well it’s not the limit, because space is still infinite.’



With China and the United States intensifying their space race rivalry, Europe is seeking a more collaborative approach. 'Europe has little taste for this type of international competition,' said [Jean-Jacques Tortora](#), Director of the European Space Policy Institute. 'The model Europe prefers is international cooperation.' Europe, however, needs to take care that it does not miss out through an overly cautious approach. 'Space for me is one of the glimmers of optimism,' said [Luke Graham](#), British Member of Parliament & 2019 EYL. 'We're terrible as Europeans, in that we look at the obstacles before we look at the opportunities.'

**"Space for me is one of the glimmers of optimism. We're terrible as Europeans, in that we look at the obstacles before we look at the opportunities"**

[Luke Graham](#), British Member of Parliament & 2019 EYL





1. Danka Barteková, Olympic Bronze medalist; Monika Panayotova, Former Deputy Minister for the Bulgarian Presidency of the EU Council, EYL40

2. Geert Cami, Co-Founder and Secretary General of Friends of Europe; Jakob Haesler, Founder of Project Alloy

3. Martina Vuk, Secretary of State for the Slovenian Ministry of Education, Science and Sport

5. Kamilla Sultanova, Independent Entrepreneur at ConnectUz; Dawood Azami, Award winning senior broadcast journalist at BBC

6. Markus Freiburg, Founder and Managing Director of Financing Agency for Social Entrepreneurship (FASE); João Wengorovius Meneses, Secretary General at BCSD Portugal



1. Manuel Costescu, Head of Investments at Open Society Foundations (SEDF)
2. Cristina Fonseca, Co-Founder of Talkdesk; Danae Bezantakou, CEO at Navigator Shipping LTD
3. Marko Pavic, Minister for Labour and the Pension System in Croatia; Alfredo Muñoz, Founder and CEO, ABIBOO Architecture
4. Ayman Mhanna, Executive Director at Samir Kassir Foundation & MENA YL
5. Una Mullally, Writer, Journalist and LGBT activist





**The John S. Latsis Public Benefit Foundation is a non-profit organisation established in 2005 to carry on the philanthropic legacy of John Latsis.**

The Foundation plans, manages, and funds programmes across a wide range of issue areas, centered around five thematic strands:

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SCIENCE  
SOCIAL WELFARE  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
ARTS & CULTURE**

An additional, diversified branch of activities fall under the operation of the Neraida Floating Museum. The Museum runs a variety of events and offers free access to visitors, highlighting the maritime and entrepreneurial history of Greece, familiarising the youth with maritime professions, and promoting environmental conservation.

The Foundation implements a venture philanthropy approach to its grant-making, which means prioritizing high engagement with grantees, tailored financing, non-financial support, involvement of networks, organisational capacity-building, performance measurement and remaining responsive to ongoing social needs.



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**John S. Latsis  
Public Benefit Foundation**



## The way ahead

Back on Earth, the EYL networking experience included a series of peer-learning roundtables, where the 2019 intake of Young Leaders interacted with alumni in 30-minute conversations covering topics that ranged from funding for insurgent movements to the post-Brexit budget battle; development for Europe's rural areas; and the possibility that music can make us better people.

Open Space sessions also gave a chance for activities in an unconference format. One, led by [Cynthia Nadal](#), Board member at JEDI and investor-in-residence at King's College, pushed Young Leaders way beyond their comfort zones to brainstorm on unfamiliar technological challenges, notably the use of big data in cancer research and the quest for biodegradable alternatives to plastics. 'We do need crazy people having crazy ideas,' said Nadal. 'Anyone can think of something disruptive; you do not need to have a PhD in a particular subject to have an idea.'

Applying innovative, disruptive solutions to the task of regenerating the European project was the task set to the Young Leaders during a final session, held at the Thomson Reuters Foundation's headquarters, in the heart of London's Canary Wharf financial district.

Facing declining participation in European Parliament elections and populist parties increasingly questioning the validity of integration, it's crucial to engage citizens in the



**“Overall it works. ‘It should be treasured because it’s amazing that it works ... we have shown that we can deliver and that we can manage crises”**

Klen Jäärats, Director for EU Affairs in the office of Estonian Prime Minister Jüri Ratas & 2015/2016 EYL



democratic process and inject new life into the drive for European unity. How can the power of the collective be unleashed to rally support for Europe and secure a positive vote in May? The session on “Making the Vote for Europe Matter” was addressed by [Clément Beaune](#), Advisor on Europe and the G20 to French President Emmanuel Macron & 2019 EYL, and [Klen Jäärats](#), Director for EU Affairs in the office of Estonian Prime Minister Jüri Ratas & 2015 EYL.

Amid the gloom inspired by Brexit and the wider populist surge, there was a consensus that Europe actually functions rather well, especially compared to dysfunctional systems elsewhere around the world. ‘Overall it works,’ said Jäärats. ‘It should be treasured because it’s amazing that it works ... we have shown that we can deliver and that we can manage crises.’

One thing urgently needed is a greater effort to communicate Europe’s success. That should start with national politicians ending their all-too-common practice of



scapegoating Europe for their own shortcomings. Better communication can bolster a sense of community among Europeans. That should include a realistic assessment of the threats, both external and internal, that face democracies across the continent.

Election campaigns can point to the turmoil in the UK as cautionary tale of what happens when citizens turn their backs on Europe. 'People will show up and vote if they see something at stake,' said Beaune. 'There is a lot at stake, there is a cleavage in Europe between nationalism and being pro-European ... Brexit illustrates what can happen if people do not think about this.'

Above all, there can be no space for complacency among supporters of the European project, added Beaune, who warned that Europe was at greater threat from laziness and indifference than from its divisions. 'We need to do something different,' he added. Europe needs to engage better with voters, beyond elections, through such initiatives as citizens' committees working with MEPs



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Clément Beaune, Advisor on Europe and the G20 to French President Emmanuel Macron & 2019 EYL



**“Do you really want to contribute to better European social cohesion between the centre and the peripheries? Because this is ... a problem for the whole of Europe in the election coming in two months”**

Tomáš Ignác Fénix, Czech Farmer,  
Vice President of the European  
Council of Young Farmers & 2019 EYL

to draft policy options. There should be a focus on local power close to the people, rather than heavy-handed institutional overhauls that risk alienating citizens with perceived transfers of authority to remote EU institutions. The balance of power between small and large states inside the Union has to be maintained.

Government policies must be adapted to encourage social mobility, giving people a clear path to better their lives and ensure a better future for their children. Much more needs to be done to overcome the sense that rural, small-town and suburban voters are cut off from urban power centres. ‘Do you really want to contribute to better European social cohesion between the centre and the peripheries? Because this is ... a problem for the whole of Europe in the election coming in two months,’ said **Tomáš Ignác Fénix**, Czech Farmer, Vice President of the European Council of Young Farmers & 2019 EYL, who is also a candidate in that EP election.

Young leaders produced a plethora of concrete suggestions of how to make a difference. There was a suggestion to deepen a sense of European identity by expanding the popular Erasmus student exchange programme beyond academia, offering all citizens a six-month civilian service option in an EU country other than their own. 'It will cost money ... but I think it could be a big flagship event for the next 15 years,' Beaune said. 'Each generation could have a new experience.'

EYL should use their own experience to reach out to students, argued [Alfredo Muñoz](#), Founder and CEO, ABIBOO Architecture & 2019 EYL from Spain: 'Education is an area where as leaders we can really have a big role.' Pan-European cultural initiatives, should be encouraged, including through support for European cinema and TV. Young leaders could use their contacts to lobby for firmer tech-company action against peddlers of hate speech, dark ads and fake news.

More pro-active social media campaigns, such as Friends of Europe's #EuropeMatters project should be taken forward. 'A Twitter account that has a message about getting out to the vote but also a message about Europe that cannot be hijacked by the euro-sceptics,' was proposed by [Mary Fitzgerald](#), Researcher and Consultant in Euro-Mediterranean affairs specialising in Libya & 2013 EYL. She suggested taking the successful @Ireland handle to a European level.

On a non-digital level, politicians need to get out more. European leaders and officials should travel and reach out to audiences beyond their home countries. A popular speech by European Council President Donald Tusk in Romania and Macron's recent message to European citizens published in newspapers across the EU, were cited as examples. Macron's appeal for a "European Renaissance" was generally welcomed, although some



**“We need to have a counter-narrative to hold the populists to account, but also to give hope to the voters, to tell them that the future will be better together”**

Sophie Nivelles-Cardinale,  
Award-winning French War  
Correspondent & 2019 EYL

raised concern that such initiatives risk increasing perceptions of excessive “big country” influence in the EU. They called for governments to also give more visible responses to interventions by leaders from smaller member countries.

National politicians also have to spend less time in capital cities and speak in small towns and village halls. They could enlist the help of famous friends, said [Ruben van Zwieten](#), Dutch Pastor, Social Entrepreneur & 2019 EYL. He looked at the huge social-media impact of showbiz personalities during a recent healthcare campaign in the Netherlands. ‘It was amazing ... if just one of these guys is going to say something like ... “please vote because I think Europe is a good thing”.’

Data presented at the seminar traced swings in voter priorities and revealed most citizens only make up their minds who to vote for shortly before European elections. As many as 54% decide who they vote for in the months, weeks and days ahead of the vote, according to the data released by the European Parliament after the last vote in 2014. The figure rises to 76% among younger voters. That indicates there’s still time to press for positive outcomes in May, despite the polls predicting euro-sceptic success.

‘We need a grassroots campaign to get people to vote ... to remind them how much benefit Europe is bringing to them,’ said [Sophie Nivelles-Cardinale](#), Award-winning French War Correspondent & 2019 EYL. ‘We need to have a counter-narrative to hold the populists to account, but also to give hope to the voters, to tell them that the future will be better together.’





1. Polly Billington, Director of UK100
2. Wouter Verschelden, Founder of News Monkey
3. Meghan Milloy, Co-Founder of Republican Women for Progress
4. Laurence Tubiana, CEO at the European Climate Foundation
5. Mary Fitzgerald, Researcher and Consultant in Euro-Mediterranean Affairs and Libya
6. Yuriy Vulkovsky, Country Manager Reach for Change; Eduardo Portal Martin, Conductor and Founder of Antares Ensemble; Alicja Gescinska, Philosopher and writer; Michael Printzos, Programme Director, The Hellenic Initiative



# About Friends of Europe

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Friends of Europe is a leading think tank that connects people, stimulates debate and triggers change to create a more inclusive, sustainable and forward-looking Europe.

## CONNECT

Friends of Europe is an independent think tank with a difference – we believe innovation is a mindset, behaviour and action. We aim to be catalysts for change and believe that real solutions come from transforming mindsets through the confrontation of ideas and the breaking down of silos between politicians, businesses and civil society.

Believing that change is achieved through inclusive policies and action, we reach out to and work with a wide network of policymakers, international organisations, civil society representatives, business leaders, academics, the media and citizens across Europe and beyond.

We have no national or party political bias and ensure that all viewpoints are represented in our activities and publications.

## DEBATE

We foster open, insightful and provocative debates to stimulate fresh ideas and creative thinking.

Our portfolio of events and reports means that Friends of Europe contributes ideas and leads the debate on a wide range of EU-related issues, including:

Climate & Energy | Health | Asia, Africa and Emerging Economies | Digital, Skills & Inequalities | Peace, Security and Defence | Migration and Integration | Citizens' Europe

Our European Young Leaders (EYL40) programme connects Europe's most promising talents, and our Board of Trustees brings together the knowledge and experience of European leaders who include Presidents, Prime Ministers, European Commissioners and Presidents of the European Parliament.

The Development Policy Forum (DPF), the Asia programme and the Europe-China Forum build bridges to foster global partnerships.



Europe's World, our policy journal, is the only pan-European publication which offers a unique insight into the views of leading policymakers and opinion-makers on European and global challenges.

Our online platform Debating Europe encourages citizen-led debates with policymakers. In less than five years, it has built up a 4.3m-strong community of citizens across Europe and over 272,000 social media followers who put their questions to high-profile decision makers.

## CHANGE

We offer Europe's citizens an opportunity to take an active transformational role in shaping their environment. We use ground-breaking online brainstorming to bring different stakeholder groups together from all over the world and constantly innovate in how we convene and shape discussions. Through our debates, conferences, working groups, reports and recommendations we provide bold and ambitious but practical solutions for a more inclusive, sustainable and forward-looking Europe.

## FRIENDS OF EUROPE IN FIGURES

5000+ senior participants and speakers

60 events

50 publications and over 200 op-eds published

a growing 4.3 million strong online community on our online discussion platform Debating Europe

1.120m unique visitors to its websites



# About the programme

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The European Young Leaders (EYL40) programme led by Friends of Europe is a unique, inventive and multi-stakeholder programme that aims to promote a European identity by engaging the continent's most promising talents in initiatives that will shape Europe's future. The European Young Leaders represent a promising European leadership from all over the continent and with a wide variety of backgrounds including politics, business, civil society, academia, arts, science and the media.

From trailblazing biochemists to budding political leaders, and from dot.com entrepreneurs to NGO 'stars' who are shaping the social and environmental policies of tomorrow, the European Young Leaders are a unique community that crafts innovative responses to European challenges and positively affects the lives of future generations.

Every year, they meet during two 3-day seminars that take place in symbolic European cities, joined by decision-makers, stakeholders and key European actors, to discuss issues of common concern and develop concrete proposals and recommendations to tackle the challenges facing Europe and its citizens.

The relaxed tone and out-of-the-box nature of the European Young Leaders (EYL40) programme have brought about salient and open discussions that have facilitated the development of a strong network of committed Europeans.

This programme also turns ideas into actions. That means ongoing interactions between young leaders, alumni and outside participants to boost innovative ideas and have a bigger impact on the European stage by forwarding projects that matter to the community. The programme was initially conceived in partnership with EuropaNova, a Paris-based think-tank.

The 2017 Autumn seminar in Tallinn also increased the programme's outreach by inviting North American and Middle East and North African (MENA) Young Leaders to join the discussions for the first time. The aim is to create synergies, promote structural dialogue and foster better mutual understanding between established leaders from the three regions and develop an inter-regional, multidisciplinary network of alumni to support the leaders of tomorrow.

# Young Leaders



## JAMILA AANZI

The Netherlands · Dutch UN Women's Representative Dutch Women's Council & 2014 EYL

Jamila has positioned herself as one of the leading innovators in the fields of youth involvement and social outreach in the Netherlands. She has participated in numerous programmes aimed at encouraging cooperation between diverse backgrounds and envisioning a new social and political vision. In 2017, the Dutch Minister of Foreign Affairs, appointed Jamila as Dutch women's representative at the United Nations. As a senior international trainer for the Max van der Stoep foundation she trains political parties and politicians in Eastern Europe, the Middle-East and North-Africa. Jamila is an alumnus of several international leadership programs like the Israeli 'future European leaders' program and the US state department's 'international visitors' leadership' program.



## GUILLEM ANGLADA-ESCUDE

Spain · Professor of Astrophysics at the Queen Mary University & 2018 EYL

Guillem is a well-known astrophysicist and scientist, who discovered the Proxima-b exoplanet orbiting Proxima-Centauri, our closest neighbouring star. He has conducted research in several countries and has been actively engaged with space agencies, such as NASA and the European Space Agency. In 2016, Nature magazine chose him as one of the ten most prominent scientists world-wide, and the same year he was also listed by TIME Magazine as one of the 100 most influential people in the world.



## DAWOOD AZAMI

United Kingdom · Presenter and Chief International Correspondent at BBC & 2012 EYL

Dawood is one of the most promising young journalists and scholars of his generation in the UK. He has been working for the BBC World Service in London as a Senior Broadcast Journalist and is a Visiting Lecturer at the University of Westminster, where he teaches Globalization, Power and International Governance. He joined the BBC in 1998 and also worked as the BBC World Service Bureau Chief and Editor in Kabul, Afghanistan. He was also a visiting scholar at Ohio State University, USA. He holds three Bachelor's and three Master's degrees, including Science, Law, International Relations and Diplomacy. In 2010, Dawood became the youngest person to ever win the biggest award in the BBC, the "Global Reith Award for Outstanding Contribution". He is also a poet/writer, calligrapher and painter/artist.



### **DANKA BARTEKOVÁ**

Slovakia · Olympic Bronze medallist & 2019 EYL

Danka is a Slovak skeet shooter who won the bronze medal in Women's Skeet at the 2012 Summer Olympics. In 2012, she was elected to the International Olympic Committee (IOC) Athletes' Commission, where she has served as an IOC member for eight years. Danka will also be part of the IOC Coordination Commission for Lausanne 2020, the third Winter Youth Olympic Games, as the youngest-ever Chair of an Olympic Coordination Commission. She is currently enrolled in a PhD at the University of Matej Bel, Banská Bystrica, Slovakia. Danka also played a leading role in the implementation of the Athlete365 platform, a tool to support all athletes in the world, both in their competitive activity and post-career.



### **CLÉMENT BEAUNE**

France · Adviser to French President Emmanuel Macron & 2019 EYL

Clément is the Europe and G20 advisor to French president Emmanuel Macron, shadowing him during meetings with other European state heads. The presentations he gave on Europe even when he was still in school were so accomplished that they were widely shared. Clément became Macron's Europe adviser when Macron was still economy minister. Beaune advised Macron, helping him craft the push against Chinese steel dumping that is now at the heart of the president's broader vision for a more defensive EU trade policy. The French president's proposals during his En Marche Campaign for European Union reform were clearly influenced by his adviser.



### **DANAE BEZANTAKOU**

Greece · CEO at Navigator Shipping LTD & 2013 EYL

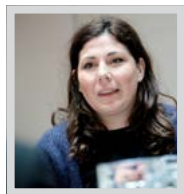
Danae is the CEO of Navigator Shipping Consultants LTD. One of her important achievements is her organisation of the Navigator Conference since 2001, which is considered to be one of the biggest shipping events, gathering the decision-makers of the shipping community and speakers from all over the world on an annual basis. Through her participation in lectures and seminars, Danae has travelled the world to promote and strengthen women's entrepreneurship. Her latest venture includes the foundation of Greek Food Obsessions, a gourmet culinary company providing the Greek and international food market with high quality Greek gourmet products from all over Greece. Danae holds a Bachelor of Science in International Hospitality and Tourism Management from the University of Surrey.



### JANE BURSTON

United Kingdom · Director at the Clean Air Fund & 2015 EYL

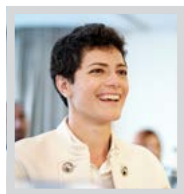
Jane is the managing director of Clean Air Fund, a think tank and philanthropic foundation focussing on air quality and climate change. Previously she worked as Head of Science for climate change and energy in UK central government, and as Head of Energy and Environment at the National Physical Laboratory with a team of 150 scientists. Jane has dedicated most her life to climate and environmental issues, serving first as a strategic consultant on low carbon policy to the Mayor of London. In 2008, she founded Carbon Retirement, an award-winning social enterprise working with the EU ETS. Her dedication to sustainability and entrepreneurial drive was rewarded with being named as one of the 'Top 30 UK entrepreneurs under 30' by Real Business in 2010, a 'Social Entrepreneur of the Year' by Square Mile in 2011 and one of the 'Top 10 Outstanding Young Persons of the UK' by the Chamber of Commerce International in 2015, among others.



### ANNALISA CAMILLI

Italy · Investigative journalist specialising in immigration & 2019 EYL

Annalisa is an Italian journalist credited for drawing attention to a wide variety of social issues. Currently working for the news magazine Internazionale, her articles have extensively covered immigration in Italy and Greece as well as human rights and gender inequality across Europe. Having previous experience at Associated press, her stories regularly underline the hardships endured by migrants while crossing the Mediterranean as well as their treatment once in Europe. She is the winner of the 2017 Anne Lindt journalism award for her investigation "The boat without a name" for which she has spent six months investigating the deadliest shipwreck, searching the 28 survivors who are now living all over Europe. She is also a regular contributor to international news outlets such as the Washington Tribune and Politico.



### FRANCESCA CAVALLO

Italy · Author & Entrepreneur, Founder of Timbuktu Labs & 2019 EYL

Francesca is a bestselling author, entrepreneur and founder of Timbuktu Labs. She is the co-creator of 'Good Night Stories for Rebel Girls', a collection of 100 tales of extraordinary women that has become a publishing sensation. As the most successful new title in the history of crowdfunding, it has sold more than 3.5mn copies and has been translated into dozens of languages. Francesca's career began in theatre, where she worked as both a manager for a theatre company and as a playwright. In 2012, she moved to California to co-found a children's media start-up called Timbuktu Labs. Since then, she has authored nine picture books that have been translated into more than 47 languages.

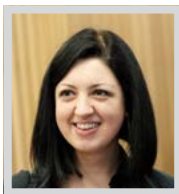




### MANUEL COSTESCU

Romania · Head of Investments at Open Society Foundations (SEDF) & 2017 EYL

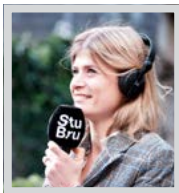
Manuel headed until very recently the directorate in charge of implementing infrastructure projects and stimulating foreign investment and public-private partnerships in Romania. Before joining the government, he worked as an executive director at J.P. Morgan, a multinational banking and financial services holding company, where he was responsible for the relationship with various public sector clients in Europe, including central banks, debt management offices, development banks and government agencies. Manuel also worked as an independent consultant on business and development projects in Australia, South Africa, Tanzania and Peru, as well as at the Brattle Group, where he was a research analyst with a focus on risk management and strategies in the energy sector.



### ALEXANDRA DARIESCU

United Kingdom · Award-winning concert pianist, producer of “The Nutcracker and I” and creative entrepreneur & 2018 EYL

Named a ‘Rising Star’ by the BBC Music Magazine, Alexandra made her debut at the Carnegie Hall in New York. An award-winning Romanian pianist, she has performed in many prestigious orchestras, such as the London Philharmonic Orchestra and the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra. As the recipient of several awards and honours, she has been listed as one of the ‘30 Pianists under 30 Destined for a Spectacular Career’ by the International Piano Magazine. In addition to her musical achievements, Alexandra received the UK’s Women of the Future Award in the Arts and Culture category, making her an ambassador and symbol of success in the classical music industry. In late 2017, the world premiere of her own production, “The Nutcracker and I, by Alexandra Dariescu”, took place in London – a ground-breaking multimedia performance created for a piano solo with dance and digital animation.



### EVA DE ROO

Belgium · Radio host & 2019 EYL

Eva is a radio host for the Belgian national radio station Studio Brussel. Music had always been a constant in her life but it was only after getting a degree as an interpreter English-French that she decided to follow that passion. She had her first experience as a radio personality under the cover of darkness during “The Wild Bunch”, the late-night incubator for Studio Brussel’s young talent. Today, only 5 years after this first appearance, she has an eponymous prime-time radio show and has co-hosted “The Warmest Week” - Belgium’s biggest annual charity fundraiser, raising 17million last year - four times in a row. Combined with her career as a voice-actor, DJ and MC at music festivals, this has turned her into one of Belgium’s booming all-round media talents.



### **LUKASZ DZIEKONSKI**

Poland · CEO at Montis Capital Group & 2015/16 EYL

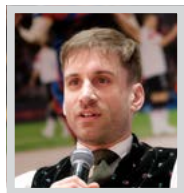
Thomas is the Founder of ERGON, an affordable, high-quality Greek restaurant chain-come-grocery store outlet that now has locations in 13 cities worldwide. Thanks to a network of over 150 independent, local, artisanal producers who create 600 products under the unified ERGON brand, the company is able to offer the widest available range of the best that Greece produce has to offer. A role model and an inspiring entrepreneur, Thomas has set an encouraging example for Greek youths on how to thrive in the face of devastating recession.



### **AARON FARRUGIA**

Malta · Parliamentary Secretary for EU Funds at the Maltese Government & 2017 EYL

Aaron was elected to the Maltese Parliament in June of 2017, and appointed Parliamentary Secretary for EU Funds and Social Dialogue within the Ministry for European Affairs. Before his current position, Aaron ran the Malta Freeport, the first transshipment hub in the Mediterranean. He served as president of the Labour Youth Forum and was elected deputy mayor of Ta' Xbiex in 2005. During the international financial crisis, he was appointed to a team of economic experts set up by the Young European Socialists and was elected as Education Secretary in the Maltese Labour Party's Central Administration. In 2014, he founded the Anton Buttigieg Foundation, which seeks to promote social awareness in Malta, focusing on education as the primary tool for economic and social development.



### **TOMÁŠ IGNÁC FÉNIX**

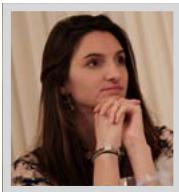
Czech Republic · Farmer and Vice President of the European Council of Young Farmers & 2019 EYL

Tomáš Ignác is the Vice President of the European Council of Young Farmers - the voice of Europe's next generation of farmers towards the European institutions. He also runs a 50-ha organic fruit and wine family farm in southern Moravia and cooperates with agricultural and environmental institutions as part of his farm business. The motivation to farm in this less favoured region is a holistic approach to (re-)build the countryside. Previously, Tomáš actively engaged in the NGO Antikomplex, working on German-Czech reconciliation. In addition, he led the LGBT Christian community called Logos for four years. His ambition is to advocate for a sustainable agricultural policy and a strong bond of the European nations and between rural areas and cities.

**MARY FITZGERALD**

Ireland · Researcher and consultant in Euro-Mediterranean affairs specialising in Libya & 2013 EYL

Mary is a journalist and analyst specialising in the Euro-Mediterranean region with a particular focus on Libya. She has worked on Libya since 2011 and lived there throughout 2014. Her work has appeared in publications including the Economist, Foreign Policy, the New Yorker, the Washington Post, the Financial Times and the Guardian. She has conducted research on Libya for the European Council on Foreign Relations (ECFR) and the European Institute of the Mediterranean (IEMED) among others. In her previous role as Irish Times foreign affairs correspondent, she reported from 40 countries across the Middle East, Africa, Asia and Europe. She is a member of the Global Women's Forum 'Rising Talents' network.

**CRISTINA FONSECA**

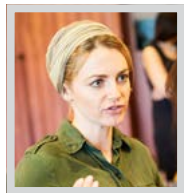
Portugal · Co-Founder of Talkdesk & 2018 EYL

Cristina is a software engineer and tech entrepreneur, who co-founded one of Silicon Valley's fastest growing companies, Talkdesk, a platform that allows anyone to quickly create a call centre online. Previously, Cristina has worked as a researcher at INESC-ID, a Portuguese non-profit institution conducting advanced research in electronics, energy, telecommunications and information technologies. Cristina is passionate about Artificial Intelligence and the impact of technology, and advises early-stage start-ups.

**CLÉMENTINE FORISSIER**

France · Editor in Chief at Contexte & 2015 EYL

Clémentine is a journalist who has gone from freelance reporting on the radio and in magazines to later becoming Chief Editor at EurActiv, France. She is now Chief Editor of Contexte, an online newspaper that focuses on French and European public policy which she co-founded in 2013. She is also Vice-President of Europresse, the association of French journalists who cover European affairs, and AJDE, an association for journalists who specifically report on energy issues. Educated in Paris and Brussels, Clémentine is a published author and was previously in charge of opening the Brussels office of the Robert Schuman Foundation.



### MYRIAM FRANÇOIS

France · Journalist and presenter & 2017 EYL

Myriam is an academic, broadcaster and writer specialising in issues related to Islam and the Middle East. She is a regular contributor to the Middle East Eye, the New Statesman and the Telegraph. In 2014, she broke a headline story on an exclusive 36-page document written by Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, the Al-Qaeda militant behind the 9/11 attacks. Since then, she presented two BBC documentaries, 'The Muslim Pound' (2016) and 'A Deadly Warning: Srebrenica Revisited' (2015) nominated for the Sandford St Martin religious programming award. Myriam is also a Research Associate at the Centre of Islamic Studies at SOAS University, where she focuses on British-Muslim integration issues. She recently completed her doctorate at Oxford University on the subject of Islamic political movements in Morocco.



### MARKUS FREIBURG

Germany · Founder and Managing Director of Financing Agency for Social Entrepreneurship (FASE) & 2017 EYL

Markus is the founder of the Financing Agency for Social Entrepreneurship (FASE), a leading financial intermediary that helps social enterprises scale their social impact by helping them raise hybrid growth capital. FASE has built an open pipeline of investment-ready social enterprises. Markus is also a member of the Expert Group on Social Entrepreneurship (GECES), a consultative multi-stakeholder group on social business that examines the progress of measures foreseen by the European Commission. He has experience of working with many social enterprises in finding appropriate financing solutions and scaling-up the impact of proven business models. Markus worked for seven years as a management consultant at McKinsey & Company, where one of his roles was providing pro-bono consulting for social entrepreneurs.



### ALESSANDRO FUSACCHIA

Italy · Member of Parliament and secretary of Movimenta & 2012 EYL

Alessandro Fusacchia is an Italian member of Parliament, secretary of Movimenta - a new Italian political organisation. He is currently serving in the Chamber of Deputies as a member of the permanent commission on Culture, Science and Education and he has previously served as Head of Cabinet at the Italian Ministry of Education, University and Research. He was Special Advisor to the Minister of Foreign Affairs for Economic Diplomacy and Special Advisor to the Minister of Economic Development for European Affairs, Youth and Innovation. Previously, he was an official at the Council of the European Union dealing with global economic governance. He has also worked for the Italian Prime Minister's office in Rome as part of the G8 team, as well as for the Italian Ministry of International Trade.



### JOSS GARMAN

United Kingdom · UK Director, European Climate Foundation & 2019 EYL

Joss is currently the UK Programme Director for the European Climate Foundation. He also sits on the board of the UK Energy Research Centre (UKERC) and the Board of GreenerUK, a coalition of NGOs campaigning to protect high environmental standards through the Brexit process. He previously served as chief advisor to the Shadow Secretary of State for Energy & Climate Change, in addition to serving as Associate Director for energy & climate change at the Institute for Public Policy Research. Among the many senior positions he occupied at Greenpeace UK, he has worked as Political Director, Head of Media, and Head of the Energy & Climate Campaign. During his time at Greenpeace, he co-founded the direct-action group, Plane Stupid, and acted as an advisor to the TUC and UNICEF.



### ALICJA GESCINSKA

Poland/Belgium · Philosopher and writer & 2019 EYL

Alicja is a Belgian-Polish philosopher who has oriented her career around questions of identity and freedom. A published academic and an accomplished author, her first and most well-known title, *The Conquest of Freedom*, was shortlisted for an array of literary prizes when it was published in 2011. In addition to having held the position of Research Associate at Princeton University, Alicja has lectured at Amherst College on topics such as philosophy of freedom, Islam in Europe and European politics. Returning to Belgium in 2016, she now leads the philosophical TV programme, *Wanderlust*, on the Canvas channel and contributes regularly to both *Philosophy Magazine* and the broadcasting company, VRT. Her debut fictional novel, *A Kind of Love*, won the 'Debuutprijs' in 2017.



### EDVARD GLÜCKSMAN

Sweden · Impact Partnership Development Manager, University of Exeter & 2015/2016 EYL

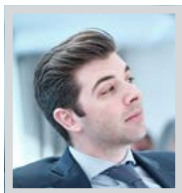
Edvard is an environmental sustainability professional working for the University of Exeter, currently serving as the business-facing manager on Tevi, an ERDF-funded programme supporting SMEs in Cornwall to grow whilst contributing to the circular economy and environmental growth. Edvard recently spent three years as a senior environmental consultant with Wardell Armstrong, specialising in the environmental and social impacts of development projects in emerging economies in line with the standards of international financial institutions. He has previously held a number of roles at the interface of science and society, having worked at the European Geosciences Union and the UK Parliamentary Office of Science and Technology. Edvard holds MSc and PhD degrees from the University of Oxford and undergraduate degrees from the University of St Andrews and McGill University.



### LUKE GRAHAM

United Kingdom · Member of Parliament & 2019 EYL

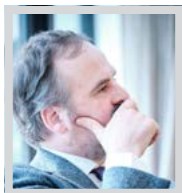
Luke is a MP for the Conservative Party and a recently appointed Parliamentary Private Secretary to the Cabinet Office. Before entering politics, Luke's interests lied with finance and he worked in the private sector as an accountant for over a decade. Upon returning from five years abroad in China, Thailand and the United States, he campaigned for Scotland to remain in the United Kingdom. He also notably took on the role of finance director for Stronger In, the official remain campaign during the Brexit referendum. In the House of Commons, Luke is a member of the Finance Committee and previous member of the Public Accounts Committee.



### DIONYSIS GRAMMENOS

Greece · Founder and Music Director at the Greek Youth Symphony Orchestra & 2018 EYL

As one of the most charismatic conductors of his generation, Dionysis made his conducting debut at the age of twenty-one with the Vienna Chamber Orchestra. Since then, he was awarded a Grant for conducting from the Onassis Foundation and was also the first Greek to receive a Conducting Fellowship at the Aspen Music Festival. Dionysis Grammenos was the first ever wind player to win the Grand Prix d'Eurovision from the European Broadcasting Union. Still only twenty-six, the virtuoso has performed in some of the world's most prestigious venues, including Carnegie Hall, Amsterdam's Concertgebouw, Berliner Philharmonie, the Konzerthaus Vienna, Cité de la Musique in Paris and the Barbican Centre in London and has worked with orchestras such as the Vienna Symphony and the Maggio Musicale Fiorentino among others.



### JAKOB HAESLER

Germany · Co-Founder Project Alloy & 2013 EYL

Prior to founding Project Alloy, Jakob was the CEO and Co-Founder of Tinyclues SAS, a Paris-based software startup with the objective of industrialising datamining on Big Data with the help of advanced machine learning algorithms in a Cloud Computing environment. Previously he was a partner and consultant at McKinsey & Company in Germany and France where he worked on topics ranging from Banking to Public Sector Reform to Global Public Health issues, most notably the creation and distribution of child HIV treatments. Prior to McKinsey he briefly worked at the World Bank. He holds a Master's in Public Administration from Harvard's Kennedy School of Government and a Bachelor of Science from the University of St. Gallen. Jakob is also a founding partner of the "Cercle du Leadership".

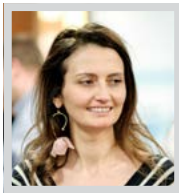




### **JULIA HANZL**

Austria · Sculptor & 2019 EYL

Julia is a sculptor producing a variety of independent work as well as numerous commissioned pieces. These include urn designs for Bestattung Wien (Vienna funeral service) and a life-sized graveyard angel made of bronze for a Viennese crypt. Julia regularly collaborates with artists and gallery owners, creating exhibits showing video and photographic visualisations of her sculptures as well as a glass version of her sculpture “Who killed Smiley?”. She also works with a German jewellery-maker, turning her ideas into pieces of jewellery. In 2014, she was named one of the most important figurative artists worldwide, a recognition which led two of her sculptures to be included in the art book “500 Figures in Clay” (Lark Crafts/New York).



### **MARIA LUCIA HOHAN**

Romania · Fashion designer and CEO of fashion brand Maria Lucia Hohan & 2019 EYL

Maria Lucia is an internationally well-known fashion designer, who has seen her clothes worn by the likes of Beyoncé, Taylor Swift, Jennifer Lopez and Madonna. After working several years in Paris and Milan as a textile designer, Maria Lucia returned home to Romania to open her own shop with a modest 800 euros investment and two second-hand sewing machines. After gaining a substantial number of followers on social media and being discovered by Hollywood, she currently runs her renowned fashion brand with 70-woman employees from Bucharest. Additionally, Maria Lucia is a strong advocate for women's rights and has publicly criticised the excessive consumerism upon which the fashion industry thrives.



### **KLEN JÄÄRATS**

Estonia · Member of Parliament & 2015/2016 EYL

As Director of the EU Secretariat in the Estonian government, Klen coordinates and develops all EU policy and acts as the chief European affairs adviser to the Prime Minister. A career civil servant, Klen started out in the Ministry of Internal Affairs, rising quickly to the position of Head of the Refugees Department. In this capacity, he dealt with a variety of NGOs and international organisations including the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). He later moved to Brussels where he spent six years working at the Estonian Permanent Representation to the EU during which time he dealt with many issues related to the preparation, ratification and implementation of the Treaty of Lisbon.

**ZANDA KALNINA-LUKASEVICA**

Latvia · Parliamentary State Secretary for European Affairs & 2017 EYL

Zanda started her professional career at Jurmala's city council in 1998. She then worked at the Ministry of Regional Development before joining the Strategic Analysis Commission, where she advised Latvian President Valdis Zatlers on strategic planning. She was elected to the Latvian Parliament in 2011. During her mandate, she chaired the Committee on European Affairs and the Reform Party parliamentary group. In 2014, Zanda was appointed Parliamentary State Secretary in the Latvian government. Her role is to ensure cooperation between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Latvian Parliament and the European Parliament.

**MARTA KRUPINSKA**

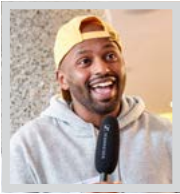
Poland / UK · Entrepreneur, Co-Founder Azimo & 2019 EYL

Marta is a London based fintech entrepreneur, co-founder of real time pay FinTech startup FreeUp and entrepreneur-in-residence at the global GovTech firm PUBLIC.io. Having experienced first-hand the kinds of challenges that arise when attempts are made to send money home, she was previously a co-founder of a global money transfer platform Azimo which raised +\$70M in funding and gained over 1 million customers. Marta also advocates for responsible leadership and diversity & inclusion.

**ANDREAS KUNZE**

Germany · CEO and Co-Founder of KONUX & 2019 EYL

Andreas is the CEO and Co-Founder of KONUX, a company that combines smart sensors and analytics based on artificial intelligence (AI) with the aim of guaranteeing the punctual operation and maintenance of railway networks. While working for corporations like Siemens and BMW, Andreas came to the realisation that many industrial companies were not yet aware of the advantages accompanying the Internet of Things, nor did they know how to properly make use of their data. He managed to raise +\$50 million with leading Silicon Valley investors and just a year later, KONUX won the national mobility award 'Deutscher Mobilitätspreis' along with the German digital award 'The Spark' in 2016. That same year, Andreas was the youngest CEO to be included in the entrepreneur list by the German Capital Magazine.



### **MAGID MAGID**

United Kingdom · Lord Mayor of Sheffield & 2019 EYL

Magid is the Lord Mayor of Sheffield. He is the youngest person ever to hold the job and he is also the first Green Party councillor to wear the chain of office. Magid came to Sheffield aged five after six months in an Ethiopian refugee camp. He came to study aquatic zoology, after which he worked in digital marketing and for the housing charity Shelter. Magid joined the Green Party in 2015 during the rise of the far-right party UKIP. From 2017 to 2018, he served as Deputy Lord Mayor, and during this period he participated in the third series of the reality show *Hunted*. In 2018, he was chosen by the council to serve the one-year term as Lord Mayor. In his inaugural portrait, Magid squatted on a balustrade wearing green Dr. Martens, an image that went viral on social media.



### **JOÃO WENGOROVIOUS MENESES**

Portugal · Secretary General at BCSD Portugal & 2012 EYL

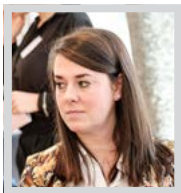
Prior to taking on the position of General Manager for StartUp Discoveries, João held the role of Head of 'GABIP Mouraria' at the Lisbon City Hall, the department in charge of urban rehabilitation and social development of Mouraria, one of the most traditional and multicultural quarters of Lisbon. He also holds the 'Management of Nonprofit Organisations' teaching position at ISCTE-Lisbon University Institute, and in June 2011 started a social consulting firm called Big Society. Previously he managed the NGO TESE, and was a Financial Officer at Chapito, which is one of the oldest Portuguese NGOs working with vulnerable young people. He is also a columnist for *Diário Económico* and has co-authored a book on NGO management.



### **AYMAN MHANNA**

Lebanon · Executive Director at Samir Kassir Foundation & MENA Young Leader

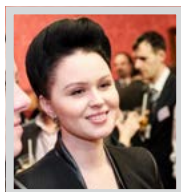
Ayman Mhanna is Executive Director of the Beirut-based Samir Kassir Foundation, one of the leading press freedom NGOs in the Middle East. In this capacity, he oversees the foundation's advocacy, monitoring, research and training activities. Mhanna has previously held the position of Executive Director of the Global Forum for Media Development, focusing on monitoring violations targeting journalists and providing them with the necessary support. He has also extensively worked with issues related to election observation, electoral reform and civil society involvement. Until recently, he was a lecturer on policy development and communications at Saint Joseph University in Beirut. In 2016, he was appointed Secretary-General of the Democratic Renewal Movement, a secular, social-liberal political party in Lebanon.



### MEGHAN MILLOY

USA · Co-Founder of Republican Women for Progress & North American Young Leader

Meghan Milloy is the co-founder of Republican Women for Progress (RWFP) and was previously the Chair of Republican Women for Hillary (RWFH). She is currently a Robert Bosch Foundation Fellow where she is working in both the German public and private sectors focusing on trade issues. Before that she was the Director of Financial Services Policy at the American Action Forum (AAF), a think tank where she managed the entirety of AAF's activity in its financial services and housing finance policy portfolios. Previously she was a Presidential Management Fellow working at the Small Business Administration and later at the House Committee on Small Business. She was an intern at the National Republican Senatorial Committee and in the George W. Bush White House. She also worked in the office of Majority Leader Trent Lott and has volunteered on the campaigns of Haley Barbour, George W. Bush, John McCain, Mitt Romney and Hillary Clinton.



### VIKTORIA MODESTA

UK / Latvia · Bionic pop artist and futurist & 2019 EYL

Maria Lucia is an internationally well-known fashion designer, who has seen her clothes worn by the likes of Beyoncé, Taylor Swift, Jennifer Lopez and Madonna. After working several years in Paris and Milan as a textile designer, Maria Lucia returned home to Romania to open her own shop with a modest 800 euros investment and two second-hand sewing machines. After gaining a substantial number of followers on social media and being discovered by Hollywood, she currently runs her renowned fashion brand with 70-woman employees from Bucharest. Additionally, Maria Lucia is a strong advocate for women's rights and has publicly criticised the excessive consumerism upon which the fashion industry thrives.



### ROGER MONTAÑOLA I BUSQUETS

Spain · Founder and President of Twenty50 & 2019 EYL

Roger is one of the founding fathers of Twenty50, a think tank that unites the best global talents on a multidisciplinary platform based on cooperation, exchange and thought. Connecting professionals from a wide range of backgrounds and a variety of major cities, Twenty50 maintains that its primary objective is to forge the society of the future. Focusing on technological innovation, the think tank works on a range of issues such as nanorobotics, genomics, AI and virtual reality. As a former MP in the Parliament of Catalonia and as deputy of the Convergència i Unió, Roger was one of the youngest members to join at the age of 24. In 2015, he was selected for the prestigious International Visitor Leadership Program by the US State Department.



### UNA MULLALLY

Ireland · Writer and LGBTQ activist & 2019 EYL

A leading voice on LGBTQ rights and politics, Una is one of Ireland's most reputable young activists. As a journalist, broadcaster and author, she has written for prominent news outlets such as The Guardian and the Sunday Tribune, in addition to contributing a weekly column to the Irish Times. Her two books, *In The Name Of Love*, and her anthropology, *Repeal the 8th*, trace the historical developments which culminated in the two separate referenda on marriage equality and reproductive rights in Ireland. She was the Independent Chair of Ireland's National 2018 LGBTI+ Youth Strategy, which is the first of its kind. A poet and screenwriter, she has authored the documentary, *I Am Irish*, co-founded a music documentary film festival, co-created the pro-choice podcast, *Don't Stop Repealin'*, and co-founded the Irish Times Women's Podcast.



### ALFREDO MUÑOZ

Spain · Founder and CEO, ABIBOO Architecture & 2019 EYL

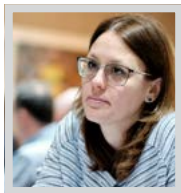
Alfredo is a global architect who has designed and managed more than six million square metres across five continents. In addition to being the youngest of the most international Spanish architects named by the Spanish media, he has also been selected for the European Center & Chicago Athenaeum Museum Architecture and Design bi-annual awards programme. Under Alfredo's leadership, ABIBOO has designed projects in a wide range of scales, from large urban developments and affordable housing townships to small temporal structures. Before founding ABIBOO, Alfredo held senior roles at Toyo Ito (Pritzker Prize), and SOM (1,700+ awards). His work has been featured in media outlets such as the New York Times, Wallpaper and Domus, among others.



### SOPHIE NIVELLE-CARDINALE

France · Award-winning war correspondent & 2019 EYL

Sophie is a multi-award-winning war reporter who has covered multiple conflicts and issues across the Middle East. Starting in 2011, she reported from inside Syria on the protests and the repression of the regime. Her work was awarded with Prix Bayeux-Calvados for War Correspondents in 2013, and the Prix Albert Londres in 2016, the most important journalism award in France. In June 2017, she was the first foreign journalist to film inside Raqqa with the Kurdish forces. In 2017, Sophie also reported from Central Africa on the civil war and from Zimbabwe on the end of the Mugabe era.



### **MONIKA PANAYOTOVA**

Bulgaria · Former Deputy Minister for the Bulgarian Presidency of the EU Council & 2019 EYL

Monika was Deputy Minister for the Bulgarian Presidency of the Council of the EU2018. She previously served as a Member of the European Parliament for the European People's Party (EPP). Prior to that post, she was a Member of the Bulgarian Parliament, Chairwoman of the Committee on European Affairs and Oversight of the European Funds and a member of the Foreign Policy and Defence Committee. Before starting her political career, Monika worked for an NGO and spent time as a research fellow at the Economic Policy Institute in Sofia.



### **MARKO PAVIĆ**

Croatia · Minister for Labour and the Pension System in Croatia & 2019 EYL

Marko is the Minister for Labour and Pension Scheme in Croatia. Before entering the world of politics, Marko dedicated his time to physics and oceanography. After finishing his studies, he travelled to Antarctica to study climate change developments. Among the various high-level positions he has held over the years, Marko has worked as an Independent consultant for EU project development and has been involved in numerous organisational and educational development programmes.



### **EDUARDO PORTAL MARTIN**

Spain · Conductor and Founder of Antares Ensemble & 2017 EYL

Over the last few years, Eduardo has made a great impression on audiences and orchestras alike. Since graduating as conductor and violinist, he has conducted multiple orchestras across Europe and the Americas, such as the London Philharmonic Orchestra and the Sao Paulo Symphony Orchestra. In 2015, his presentation with the BBC National Orchestra of Wales included a broadcast on BBC Radio 3. For the third season in a row, he has returned on multiple occasions to the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra to conduct concerts all around England. Widely acclaimed by musical critics, Eduardo is particularly committed to the contemporary repertoire and is the founder of the Antares Ensemble in Spain, whose focus is on the performance of new music, emphasizing its links with historical and rarely-performed masterpieces.





### **MICHAEL PRINTZOS**

Greece · Programme Director, The Hellenic Initiative & 2015/2016 EYL

Michael is Programme Director at The Hellenic Initiative, a global, non-profit, secular institution aiming to mobilise support and investment for sustainable economic renewal in Greece. He is also a Committee Member at the American Hellenic Chamber of Commerce, dedicated to achieving Greek competitiveness through properly informing and adequately motivating business employees. Michael is the co-owner of Green Systems, an engineering procurement and construction company in Athens, and Brainomix, a start-up company that develops medical imaging software to assess the eligibility of acute stroke patients for life saving treatment. He completed his secondary education in Greece before attending the University of Oxford where he gained a degree in mechanical engineering.



### **KAMILLA SULTANOVA**

Denmark · Independent Entrepreneur at ConnectUz & 2015/16 EYL

Kamilla is a bridge-builder and a solopreneur based in Helsinki. She has had a successful sales career in Scandinavian shipping companies including Maersk Line, where she was in charge of a global sales strategy execution in more than 20 markets spanning Eastern Europe, Nordics and Middle East. A gifted adviser and passionate advocate, Kamilla has done over 10 years' worth of activist work in influencing debates, policies and practices in the field of gender equality, inclusion, empowerment and cross-cultural dialogue in the Nordics and the EU.



### **CEZARY TOMCZYK**

Poland · Member of Parliament & 2017 EYL

Cezary began his political career on Sieradz's city council in 2006. One year later, he was elected as a Member of the Polish Parliament at the age of 23. He sat in the Committee on National Defence and the Committee on EU Affairs in addition to chairing the Permanent Subcommittee on the Multiannual Financial Framework for 2014-2020. In 2010, he was awarded the Medal of Merit for National Defence by the Polish Minister of National Defence in recognition of his services to the development and strengthening of the defence of his country. In 2015, he was appointed as a Secretary of State and spokesperson in the government of Ewa Kopacz. After the 2015 parliamentary elections, he was nominated as shadow Deputy Minister of National Defence for the Civic Platform.



### DAVOR TREMAC

Croatia · General Manager for Southeast Europe at Uber & 2017 EYL

Holding a degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Zagreb, Davor co-founded and served as COO of Gourmeo, a web start-up dealing in premium restaurant space, which expanded across Brazil, Germany and the United Kingdom. It partnered with the best restaurants in major cities across Europe, South America and Asia. Davor then worked for a leading consultancy firm where he managed media, technology and telecom projects in Europe and South East Asia. He is now General Manager at Uber where he is responsible for developing the transportation network company across Southeast Europe. Davor is also a member of the Board of Governors of the American Chamber of Commerce in Croatia.



### RUBEN VAN ZWIETEN

The Netherlands · Pastor and social entrepreneur & 2019 EYL

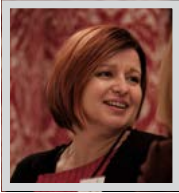
Marko is the Minister for Labour and Pension Scheme in Croatia. Before entering the world of politics, Marko dedicated his time to physics and oceanography. After finishing his studies, he travelled to Antarctica to study climate change developments. Among the various high-level positions he has held over the years, Marko has worked as an Independent consultant for EU project development and has been involved in numerous organisational and educational development programmes.



### WOUTER VERSCHULDEN

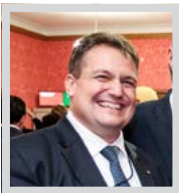
Belgium · Founder of News Monkey & 2014 EYL

Wouter is the founder of Newsmonkey.be, a social media tailor-made news website, partly funded by a successful crowd-funding action. In 2013, he made a documentary and book about the future of the news business: Stop The Presses: the Golden Age of Journalism starts now. The documentary was partly based on his experience as the Editor-in-Chief of De Morgen that he managed for over 2 years. Before that, he worked at De Standaard, as a political journalist, and won several Belfius-press prizes. During that period he acquired his passion for politics and the inner workings of the system, which resulted in a fiction series about Belgian politics that he co-wrote for television and that will air in Belgium. He holds an MA in Political Journalism from the Columbia School of Journalism in New York. He also has a Master in Business from the Vlerick Management School in Ghent and a Masters in Politics at Ghent University and Université de Bretagne Occidentale.

**MARTINA VUK**

Slovenia · Secretary of State for the Slovenian Ministry of Education, Science and Sport & 2019 EYL

Martina is currently the Secretary of State for the Slovenian Ministry of Education, Science and Sport. Having long been interested in politics, she began her political career by participating in the Young Democrats Forum towards the end of secondary school. This formative experience led her to pursue and obtain elected office at both the local and national level. At the Slovenia National Assembly, Martina has actively participated in the parliamentary group responsible for the fields of work, family, social affairs, health and human rights. For the past four and a half years, under two Governments, she worked as a state secretary at the Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities. As a Council of Europe-certified human rights trainer, she has worked with various non-governmental organisations to promote human rights and gender equality.

**YURIY VULKOVSKY**

Bulgaria · Country Manager Reach for Change & 2014 EYL

Yuriy is a Country Manager for Bulgaria of the International Foundation “Reach for Change” which supports social innovators and social entrepreneurs in 18 countries at 3 continents. He has more than 20 years of experience in the non-governmental sector in Bulgaria and Europe working for the capacity building of the independent social and cultural organisations, as well fighting for government transparency and effectiveness. He believes that the change starts from bottom up and the innovation emerges from the periphery, not from the centre. He is an alumni of the German Marshall Fund and Salzburg Global Seminar and is a member of the Strategy Group of the European Initiative “A Soul for Europe”.

# Speakers & Moderators

## **JORDI BARRERA**

Vice-President of Technology at Open Cosmos

Jordi was part of the founding team at Open Cosmos, a private-sector aerospace company which brought the first qbee satellite from concept to flight readiness in under 6 months. In his role as Vice-President of technology at Open Cosmos, he combines his expertise in satellite systems, mechanical design, systems engineering, integration and testing. Prior to joining Open Cosmos, he worked as a senior mechanical design and analysis engineer at SSTL, where he led the structural analysis of the first commercial application of a new SSTL LEO, having already been involved in the design and mechanical qualification of the avionics. During the time he spent studying aerospace engineering at university, Jordi was an active member of several organisations that pushed for a deeper collaboration between students and the aerospace industry

## **POLLY BILLINGTON**

Director at UK100 Cities Network Limited

Polly is the Director of UK100 - a network of UK cities and local authorities committed to 100% clean energy. She was previously special adviser at DECC 2008-10 and Director of Communications on Sadiq Khan's selection campaign to be Labour's candidate for London Mayor. She devised and led the 100% London campaign, getting both Zac Goldsmith and Sadiq to commit to London adopting 100% clean energy. She has 15 years' experience as a journalist at the BBC, working as the first ever dedicated Political Reporter for Radio 1's Newsbeat as well as Radio 4's Today programme, and was also Head of Communications and Campaigns at Citizens Advice. During the referendum campaign she was Campaign Director of Environmentalists for Europe.

## **FRAN BOAIT**

CEO at Positive Money

As Executive Director, Fran has led the UK and international expansion of Positive Money, a non-profit think tank, which campaigns for systemic change of the money and banking system to support a fair, sustainable and democratic economy. Positive Money Europe was launched in 2018 and there are plans to set up Positive Money US in 2020. On top of her commitment to wider financial reform, she is a Director of Finance Watch and a Senior Fellow at the Finance Innovation Lab. Fran was also recognised as one of the most 'Inspirational Women in the City' by Brummell Magazine in 2017. Fran has a PhD in Geophysics, as awarded by Cambridge University. She has worked at various international organisations, including the UN, Greenpeace, and BP, and is currently the Labour Parliamentary candidate for Gloucester.

**GEERT CAMI**

Co-Founder & Secretary General at Friends of Europe

Geert co-founded Friends of Europe in 1999 and now mainly deals with its strategic development. He also focuses on the expansion and the activation of our vast network of senior political, corporate, media and societal contacts throughout the world, and coordinates the work of the Boards involved in the governance of the organisation. Since its launch, Geert also runs TownHall Europe, the Davignon Centre for New Leadership, next to the European Parliament in Brussels. Before that, Geert worked in ECHO at the European Commission, where he helped create and develop the then newly set-up Information and Communications Unit. Geert also headed the European conference organising, press relations and publishing company Forum Europe for more than ten years. At the outset of his career, Geert worked for 2 music programmes at Belgian public Radio 1, and very briefly as a teacher and TV journalist.

**AUDREY DE NAZELLE**

Lecturer on air pollution at Centre for Environmental Policy, Imperial College London

Audrey de Nazelle conducts cutting-edge multidisciplinary research at the intersection of environmental sciences, health behavior, transportation, and urban planning. Her work aims at guiding decision makers towards health-promoting built environments and policies. Much of her work in the past fifteen years has been on the relationships between active travel and air pollution in terms of exposures, health risks and benefits, and societal engagement. Dr de Nazelle holds a PhD from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in Environmental Sciences, a Maîtrise in Mathematics from the University of Paris VI Pierre et Marie Curie, and was a postdoctoral researcher at ISGLOBAL (formerly the Centre for Research in Environmental Epidemiology), Barcelona, Spain.

**EDWARD GARDINER**

Scientist and Behavioural Design Lead at Warwick Business School

Ed is the Behavioural Design Lead at Warwick Business School (WBS), where he applies insights and methods from behavioural science to support the design of products and services with a social purpose. He joined WBS in the aim to set up and run the Behavioural Design Lab, a partnership with the Design Council. He now focuses on ways to support collective action, helping people work more effectively together to achieve their own common goals. Ed is also Course Director for the Behavioural Science in Practice executive education programme and teaches across a range of programmes at WBS. Additionally Ed is a Founding Member of Common, a problem-solving collective that brings a diverse suite of skills to today's increasingly complex social issues.

**AMARA GRAPS**

Executive Director at Baltics in Spacel

Amara is a senior planetary scientist who has worked in the planetary science field since 1980. She also founded the Baltics in Space programme. Having accumulated 37 years of experience working with a variety of different astronomy and planetary science teams on two continents, Amara was the deserved winner of the 2018 Europlanet Public Engagement Prize. She is known for integrating space capacities from the ground up while working with policy decision-makers on initiatives like the asteroid mining community of scientists and industry for the Luxembourg Ministry of the Economy, of which developments started in 2016. Amara oversaw the initiation, development and implementation of the Asteroid Science Intersections with In-Space Mine- Engineering (ASIME) conference of 2016 and was the co-lead of the Scientific Organizing Committee, established in 2018, which included 85 participants, comprised primarily of asteroid scientists, space mission engineers, technology transfer specialists, venture capital companies and Luxembourg sponsors.

**DHARMENDRA KANANI**

Director of Insights at Friends of Europe

Prior to joining Friends of Europe, Dharmendra Kanani was Director of Policy at the European Foundation Centre (EFC). He was the England Director at the Big Lottery Fund, the largest independent funder in the UK and fourth largest in the world. Kanani has held senior positions in the public and voluntary sector and was advisor for numerous ministerial policy initiatives across the UK.

**ROSAMUND ADOO KISSI-DEBRAH**

Founder and Director at the Ella Roberta Family Foundation

Rosamund Adoo-Kissi-Debrah is the head and co-founder of the Ella Roberta Family Foundation. Established after the death of Rosamund's beloved daughter, Ella, following her diagnosis with a rare form of asthma, the Foundation aims to improve the lives of children affected by asthma in South East London by campaigning both for more effective treatments to combat asthma and for cleaner air. Drawing on her experience as a teacher, her work today focuses on raising awareness of the impact of air pollution, namely through events in schools and local communities and through the representation of parents with asthmatic children. Rosamund continues to fight for public recognition of the link between her daughter's death and London's air pollution, having recently been granted the right to seek a new inquest at the high court.



**ZANNY MINTON BEDDOES**

Editor-in-Chief at The Economist

Zanny is the Editor-in-Chief at The Economist. Appointed in 2015, she is the first female to hold this title. Throughout her 24 years at the British newspaper, she has occupied a number of different roles, most notably as Economics editor and as correspondent for emerging markets. These roles have seen her write numerous analyses of Eastern European and Latin American countries, as well as surveys of the global economy and Asian and Latin American finance. Prior to joining The Economist, Zanny was an economist at the IMF and an advisor to the Polish Minister of Finance. Her articles have been published in Foreign Policy and Foreign Affairs and she has made regular appearances on the BBC, MSNBC and CNN.

**GEOFF MULGAN**

CEO at Nesta

Geoff has been Chief Executive of Nesta since 2011. Under his leadership, he has helped drive the expansion of the UK's innovation foundation and has led its move away from the public sector to become an independent foundation. He also co-chairs a World Economic Forum group looking at innovation and entrepreneurship in the fourth industrial revolution. Having previously worked in the UK government, Geoff's former roles have included Director of the Government's Strategy Unit, head of policy in the Prime Minister's office and Chief Advisor to Gordon Brown MP. He has advised many governments around the world and is currently chair of an international advisory committee for the Mayor of Seoul, in addition to being a member of a number of advisory committees for the Prime Minister's office in the UAE, the Scottish Government and SITRA, the Finnish Innovation agency.

**JUSTIN MUNDY**

Senior Fellow at the World Resource Institute (WRI)

Justin is a Senior Fellow and Special Envoy for WRI's Conflict & Natural Resources and Sustainable Ocean Initiatives. He has thirty years' international experience of working in development, climate change, environment and energy issues, having done so at senior levels within the public, multilateral and private sectors. Prior to joining WRI, Justin was HRH the Prince of Wales' Special Representative, the Director of the Prince's Charities' International Sustainability Unit (ISU) and Funding Partner of Sustainable Land Management (SLM) Partners. In addition to advising the British Government on topics such as Russia, India, China, climate change and energy issues, he was the principal architect of the 2005 G8 Energy Investment Framework. Justin has also worked for the World Bank, WWF, IUCN, IIED and was the Director of the Foundation for International Security.

**THOMAS RAINES**

Head of the Europe Programme at Chatham House

Thomas Raines is head of the Europe Programme at Chatham House. Previously, he was manager and research fellow with the programme. Prior to joining Chatham House, he worked as an analyst in the Strategy Unit of the Foreign & Commonwealth Office in London. He is a regular frequent media commentator having previously contributed or been cited by the World Economic Forum, Reuters, CNBC and BBC News. He is also the author of a number of Chatham House reports and papers, including most recently, *Europe's Political Tribes: Exploring the Diversity of Views Across the EU* and *The Future of Europe: Comparing Public and Elite Attitudes*.

**PAOLA SUBACCHI**

Professor of Economics at Queen Mary University of London

Paola is Professor of International Economics at Queen Mary University of London and the Founding Director of Essential Economics (E-Economics), which provides advice on complex land use, property and policy matters. She is an expert on the functioning and governance of international monetary and financial systems. She is also a frequent advisor to governments, international organisations, non-profits, and corporations and has written several books on the subject, including her most recent work, *The People's Money: How China Is Building a Global Currency*. Paola is a media commentator who regularly appears on the BBC and who frequently contributes to *Foreign Policy*, *Project Syndicate*, the *Financial Times* and *Huffington Post Italy*.

**JEAN-JACQUES TORTORA**

Director at the European Space Policy Institute (ESPI)

Jean Jacques is the Director of the European Space Policy Institute, which provides recommendations on how best to manage challenges linked to space exploration and exploitation. His notable high-level roles within the aerospace industry includes the position of Secretary General of ESD-Eurospace, Head of the French Space Agency (CNES) office of North America, during which time he was also Attaché for Space and Aeronautics at the Embassy of France in Washington, D.C. and Deputy Director for Strategy and Programmes at CNES, where he oversaw its industrial strategy. His previous responsibilities saw him fill the role of France's representative in the ESA Industrial Policy Committee and the Joint Communication Board, as well as act as Advisor to the French Government on the new space applications and competitiveness support.





# Agenda

## DAY 1

## THURSDAY 14 MARCH / MUSEUM OF LONDON

### LOCATION

On the first day, the Museum of London will set the scene. This museum documents the history of the city from prehistoric to modern times and is located on the London Wall - part of the Barbican complex of buildings created in the 1960s and 1970s to redevelop a bomb-damaged area of the City.

### OVER LUNCH

## WELCOME BUFFET LUNCH

A moment to welcome the 2019 class of European Young Leaders to their first seminar and an opportunity for them to meet with their peers from the EYL40 community.

Word of welcome and introduction to the seminar

[Geert Cami](#), Co-Founder and Secretary General of Friends of Europe

### CLASS OF 2019

## THE GETTING TO KNOW EACH OTHER PART

Meeting the new class and alumni

This session will provide the participants the chance to get to know each other and will help to introduce themselves to the other participants.

### FIRE CHAT TALKS

## BREXIT: THE HANDMAIDEN OF EUROPE'S FUTURE?

Meeting the new class and alumni

It can be argued that Brexit has been one of many visible symptoms of current resentments towards the EU. It was rather easy for Brexiteers to convince the majority of the UK that the gap between EU and British day-to-day life is so unbridgeable, that letting go of the 'bureaucracy in Brussels' would have no effect on their lives at all. The political and economic uncertainty that accompanied the subsequent Brexit negotiations has proved that ties aren't easily broken. Increasing numbers of British citizens are realising that they have much to lose when they exit the EU. It is a text book case of not knowing what you have 'til it's almost gone.

On the continent, Brexit has pushed many EU proponents in member states to reaffirm their commitment to the European project. Yet, Europeans would be remiss to think that their Union is any less capable of electing a Trump of their own or experiencing another Brexit. The upcoming European Parliament elections offer a golden opportunity for populist leaders such as Salvini and Orbán to stage protest votes aimed at tearing the heart out of the EU. How can we turn this momentum into a historic turning point that revitalises support for European values? How can we make sure that we learn our lesson from Brexit? How do we successfully communicate these learnings and ambitions to voters?

[Thomas Raines](#), Head of the Europe Programme at Chatham House  
[Zanny Minton Beddoes](#), Editor-in-Chief of The Economist

Moderated by: [Dharmendra Kanani](#), Director of Insights at Friends of Europe



## PLENARY SESSION

**THE CLIMATE CHANGE CONUNDRUM**

The need for collective action in a time of antagonism

The realities of climate change are becoming more and more visible whilst biodiversity is declining at a rate of more than 100 species per million every year. Rising sea levels have already submerged five islands in the South Pacific. There is a widespread scientific consensus that climate change is caused by humankind and its greenhouse gas emissions.

Experts say that we can still reverse global warming before 2050, but it will require the world to adopt solutions at a rapid rate. Global collective action is key but, so far, the world has failed to transcend short-term national interests for the greater global good. Even though climate change mitigation is a common interest, politicians fail to address it in such a manner, instead framing the issue in free market rhetorics. The Gilets Jaunes in France proved that climate change policies run the risk of being put in the same corner as traditional political divisions, such as urban vs. rural and blue vs. white collar, paralysing urgently needed decision-making.

Civil society and youth are clearly leading, with thousands of students striking for months to convince the policymakers of the need to change the way in which we address this topic. How can we assure that this peril is portrayed as a collective problem rather than a partisan one? When will the leaders of our world stop acting 'like children' and take the radical decisions needed to avoid environmental collapse? How can we further mobilise political and economic actors to comply with the Paris Agreement and 2030 SDGs?

[Edward Gardiner](#), Scientist and Behavioural Design Lead at Warwick Business School

[Justin Mundy](#), Senior Fellow at the World Resources Institute

[Laurence Tubiana](#), CEO at the European Climate Foundation

Moderated by: [Dharmendra Kanani](#), Director of Insights at Friends of Europe

**EVENING  
PROGRAMME**

Voice & Visibility: Gender Power in the Arts

Dinner at the House of Lords, Palace of Westminster with the British Council's Future Leaders

Hosted by Baroness Beeban Kidron, film director, producer, founder of 5Rights and member of the House of Lords



## DAY 2

FRIDAY 15 MARCH / 58VE

## LOCATION

On the second day, we'll be looking out on the Thames in 58VE, City of London's riverside venue which is located on Victoria Embankment and offers great views of London's iconic skyline.

CONVERSATION  
WITH

## IN CONVERSATION WITH GEOFF MULGAN

Discussing social innovation and collective intelligence

**Geoff Mulgan**, Chief Executive of NESTA, former head of policy in the Prime Minister's office under Tony Blair and Director of the Government's Strategy Unit. Having lectured in over 30 countries, Geoff Mulgan is ranked as one of the UK's leading public intellectuals.

During this conversation, he will reflect on the current trends in social innovation and the role of collective intelligence herein. How can we combine human and machine intelligence to develop innovative solutions to social challenges? How can we make sure Europe will play a leading role when it comes to making sure innovation is beneficial to society?

## PLENARY SESSION

## THE RETURN OF THE SPACE RACE

Space exploration and the economy behind it

The history of space exploration, in particular human spaceflight, has been inseparably intertwined with politics. During the Cold War, ideological rivalry fuelled the race in order to demonstrate technological superiority. Now—besides China and Russia—Europe, India and Japan also have space programmes that can, and do, reach the moon and other heavenly bodies. But the space race is no longer only about the prestige.

Both the U.S. and Luxembourg just passed laws to legalise mining in outer space—firms that someday manage to mine asteroids would be entitled to own, process, and sell anything harvested. The predicted 'space goldmine' of resources that awaits us raises the question: who owns what in space? Furthermore, space technologies have huge commercial applications; satellite technology will provide most of the world's access to the internet, something our societies have become heavily dependent on. Given the importance of these, the space industry is projected to grow from \$350bn in 2016 to \$1.1trn in 2040.

As we face renewed interest in the 'final frontier', we must ask: what will the future of space exploration look like? What are the implications for our societies? How do we make sure space exploration doesn't only serve private interests but becomes a collaborative venture?

[Jordi Barrera](#), Technology Vice President at Open Cosmos

[Amara Graps](#), Founder of Baltics in Space and Head Researcher at Latvia University Institute of Astronomy

[Jean-Jacques Tortora](#), Director of the European Space Policy Institute

[Guillem Anglada-Escudé](#), Astrophysicist, discoverer of exoplanets and EYL

Moderated by: [Dharmendra Kanani](#), Director of Insights at Friends of Europe

## PARALLEL SESSION I

### TOO DIRTY TO BREATHE

#### Air pollution in big cities

Outdoor air pollution is a major environmental health problem affecting everyone in low, middle and high-income countries. Large-scale urbanisation and industrialisation has increased the number of heavily polluted cities and areas. In Europe, nearly every single individual is affected by air pollution with over 90% of citizens being exposed to outdoor fine particulate matter above WHO air quality guidelines. The health effects are broad and seriously increase risks of premature death. Air pollution is now considered to be the world's largest environmental health threat, accounting annually for 7 million deaths around the world and 400,000 in Europe alone.

Though London's air may appear clear to the naked eye, the city has suffered from illegal levels of air pollution since 2010. In April 2019, the city will introduce an Ultra-Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) in central London, expanding the hours to 24/7 in which vehicles must pay a charge to travel within the area. Despite this initiative, air pollution has proved exceptionally stubborn. Even if vehicle emissions are curbed, issues such as aircraft and agricultural pollution could prove more challenging yet.

In building smarter cities, what are the most effective policies we can enact to best tackle air pollution?

[Polly Billington](#), Director of UK100 - a network of local government leaders

[Rosamund Adoo Kissi-Debrah](#), Leads a campaign to push air pollution on to the political agenda with The Ella Roberta Family Foundation

[Audrey de Nazelle](#), Lecturer at Centre for Environmental Policy, Imperial College London

Moderated by: [Jane Burston](#), Managing Director of Clean Air Fund and EYL

## PARALLEL SESSION II

### MONEY MAKES THE WORLD GO ROUND?

#### Changing the future of finance

The monetary system is at the core of the economic paradigm that we know today. Almost all transactions are based on an exchange of fiat currency. But money is only valuable as long as we believe that it is valuable and accept and trust this abstract system as a valid payment method. Nowadays, the trust in money and its value is under pressure as faith in this system erodes. In the last 10 years, we have seen how relatively easy it is to defraud, cheat, and lose money in the current financial system. Banks seem to create money out of thin air and easily profit from doing so.

A cashless society is within reach, diminishing the traditional necessity for banking institutions and creating an opportunity to re-think our financial systems. How can we use new technologies to improve the system and collaborate better? How can we restore the trust of people? How do we make sure that the future of finance is more beneficial to society?

[Paola Subacchi](#), Professor of International Economics at Queen Mary University of London

[Fran Boait](#), Executive Director at Positive Money and Director of the Board of Finance Watch

[Marta Krupinska](#), Fintech entrepreneur, co-founder of Azimo - a global money transfer company and EYL

Moderated by: [Dharmendra Kanani](#), Director of Insights at Friends of Europe

## CO-CREATION

## THE OPEN SPACE

Discussing what you consider important

This session is an opportunity for Young Leaders to have their say on topics or activities they would particularly like to focus on during the seminar. This open space session is dedicated to the Young Leaders and is about defining and discussing those issues that you think are important to discuss in this day and age with the other Young leaders.

*For this session, we are envisioning an unconference format, an open space for peer-to-peer learning, collaboration and creativity. Feel free to think about possible subjects or activities and send over any suggestions you might have.*

EVENING  
PROGRAMME

Dinner at the **House of St Barnabas** - a members' club and charity pledging to break the cycle of homelessness and social exclusion in London, located right in the heart of Soho. The history-rich Georgian building is notable for its rococo plasterwork interiors and other architectural features.

## DAY 3

## SATURDAY 16 MARCH / THOMSON REUTERS FOUNDATION

## LOCATION

On the last day, the **Thomson Reuters Foundation**, whose offices are located at the Canary Wharf, will serve as our host. Canary Wharf is one of the main financial centres of the UK and contains many of Europe's tallest buildings, including the second-tallest, One Canada Square. From 1802 to the late 1980s, the area served as one of the busiest docks in the world.

CONVERSATIONS  
OVER BREAKFAST

## PEER-LEARNING ROUNDTABLES

Connecting with EYLs and alumni

## PART 1

1. [Feeding the Warchest - How the insurgents keep their coffers full?](#)

with Dawood Azami - Award winning senior broadcast journalist at BBC

2. [My Olympic experience - From winning bronze to chairing the Youth Olympic Games Lausanne 2020](#)

with Danka Bartekova - Olympic Bronze medallist skeet shooter

3. [The post Brexit European budget battle - Who is fighting for what?](#)

with Aaron Farrugia - Parliamentary Secretary for EU Funds and Social Dialogue in Malta

4. [Thoughtful migration - What happens to refugees when they arrive in Europe?](#)

with Annalisa Camilli - Investigative journalist at Internazionale specialising in migration

**PART 2****1. The power of sounds - Does music make us better people?**

with Alicja Gescinska - Philosopher, writer and TV host

**2. Power of Youth – Myth or Reality and the role of education**

with Martina Vuk - Secretary of State for the Slovenian Ministry of Education, Science and Sport

**3. Resilient Europe - Developing rural areas and a sustainable food policy**

with Tomáš Ignác Fénix - Farmer & Vice President of the European Council of Young Farmers

**4. How youth-led protest and grassroots activism created a progressive path for Ireland**

with Una Mullally - Writer, Journalist and LGBT activist

**5. The battle for hearts and minds - ISIS's communication post-territorial loss**

with Ayman Mhanna - Executive Director Samir Kassir Foundation

**MAKING THE VOTE FOR EUROPE MATTER****The potential of the collective**

Voter turnout has been dropping steadily in European Parliament elections since the first vote was held in 1979. Despite the European Parliament gaining in power and importance following each new treaty, at the last European elections in 2014, only 43% of people turned up to vote compared to 61.99% in 1979.

The motive behind the initial construction of the European project seems no longer evident, creating the opportunity for populists to use the more down-to-earth counter arguments to their benefit. Post-war rationale doesn't seem to be cutting it for the population en masse and the idea of common interests amongst Europeans seems to evaporate in a current debate dominated by identity politics.

Engaging people in the democratic process and regaining their trust is the biggest hurdle facing Europe as it redefines itself during the 2019 elections campaign.

How can we develop a dialogue in which the true common interests of Europe resonate with its inhabitants? What are the benefits that we run the risk of losing if Europe were to disintegrate further?

[Clément Beaune](#), Adviser on Europe and G20 to French President Emmanuel Macron and EYL

[Klen Jäärats](#), Director for EU Affairs in the office of Estonian Prime Minister Jüri Ratas and EYL

Moderated by: [Dharmendra Kanani](#), Director of Insights at Friends of Europe



# List of participants

## A

### **Jamila Aanzi**

Dutch Women's Representative to the UN,  
The Netherlands

### **Guillem Anglada-Escudé**

Reader in Astronomy, Queen Mary, University  
of London, United Kingdom

### **Dawood Azami**

Multi-Media Editor, BBC World Service, United  
Kingdom

## B

### **Jordi Barrera**

Vice President of Technology, Open Cosmos,  
United Kingdom

### **Danka Barteková**

Olympic Athlete & chair of Youth Olympic  
Games Lausanne 2020 Coordination  
Commission, Slovak Olympic and Sports  
Committee, Slovakia

### **Clément Beaune**

Adviser, Europe and G20, Office of the  
President, France

### **Danae Bezantakou**

Managing Director, Navigator Shipping  
Consultants, Greece

### **Polly Billington**

Director, UK100 Cities Network Limited,  
United Kingdom

### **Fran Boait**

Executive Director, Positive Money UK,  
United Kingdom

### **Jane Burston**

Managing Director, Clean Air Fund, United  
Kingdom

## C

### **Geert Cami**

Co-Founder and Secretary General of  
Friends of Europe

### **Annalisa Camilli**

Journalist, Internazionale, Italy

### **Francesca Cavallo**

Bestselling author & Co-Founder, Timbuktu  
Labs, United States of America



### **James Cemmell**

Vice President, Government Engagement,  
Inmarsat, United Kingdom

### **Manuel Costescu**

Head of Investments, Open Society  
Foundation (SEDF), United Kingdom

## **D**

### **Alexandra Dariescu**

Concert pianist, producer - "The Nutcracker  
and I", creative entrepreneur, United Kingdom

### **Audrey de Nazelle**

Senior Lecturer, Imperial College London,  
United Kingdom

### **Eva De Roo**

Radio host, VRT, Belgium

### **Lukasz Dziekonski**

CEO, Montis Capital, Poland

## **F**

### **Aaron Farrugia**

Junior EU Affairs Minister, Ministry of  
European Affairs and Equality, Malta

### **Tomáš Ignác Fénix**

Vice President, European Council of Young  
Farmers (CEJA), Czech Republic

### **Mary Fitzgerald**

Researcher and consultant in Euro-  
Mediterranean affairs specialising in Libya,  
Ireland/France

### **Cristina Fonseca**

Venture Partner, Indico Capital Partners,  
Portugal

### **Clémentine Forissier**

Editor-in-Chief, Contexte, France

### **Myriam Francois**

Journalist/Presenter of Child of Migrants  
and Producer of Documentaries, BBC1, C4,  
TRTWorld, United Kingdom

### **Markus Freiburg**

Founder & Managing Director, Financing  
Agency for Social Entrepreneurship (FASE),  
Germany

### **Nathalie Furrer**

Director of Programmes and Operations,  
Friends of Europe

### **Alessandro Fusacchia**

Member, Chamber of Deputies, Secretary of  
Movimenta, Italy

## **G**

### **Edward Gardiner**

Behavioural Design Lead, Behavioural Design  
Lab, United Kingdom

### **Joss Garman**

UK Initiative director, European Climate  
Foundation (ECF), United Kingdom

### **Alicja Gescinska**

Philosopher, writer and TV host, Belgium

**Edvard Glücksman**

Impact Partnership Development Manager,  
University of Exeter, United Kingdom/Sweden

**Luke Graham**

Member of Parliament, United Kingdom

**Dionysis Grammenos**

Founder and Music Director, Greek Youth  
Symphony Orchestra, Greece

**Amara Graps**

Head Researcher at Latvia University of  
Astronomy and Founder, Baltics in Space,  
Latvia

**H****Jakob Haesler**

Managing Director, Foxdixneuf, France

**Julia Hanzl**

Artist/Sculptor, Austria

**Maria Lucia Hohan**

Fashion designer, Maria Lucia Hohan (MLH),  
Romania

**J****Klen Jäärats**

Director for EU Affairs, Office of the Prime  
Minister, Estonia

**K****Zanda Kalnina-Lukaševica**

Parliamentary State Secretary for EU Affairs,  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Latvia

**Dharmendra Kanani**

Director of Insights, Friends of Europe

**Rosamund Adoo Kissi-Debrah**

Founder and Director, The Ella Roberta Family  
Foundation, United Kingdom

**Marta Krupinska**

Co-Founder, Azimo, United Kingdom/Poland

**Andreas Kunze**

Chief Executive Officer & Co-Founder, Konux,  
Germany

**M****Magid Magid**

Lord Mayor, Sheffield City Council, United  
Kingdom

**João Wengorovius Meneses**

Secretary General at BCSD Portugal, Portugal

**Ayman Mhanna**

Executive Director, Samir Kassir Foundation,  
Lebanon

**Meghan Milloy**

Co-Founder, Republican Women for Progress,  
United States of America

### **Zanny Minton Beddoes**

Editor-in-Chief, The Economist, United Kingdom

### **Viktoria Modesta**

Pop artist, singer and futurist, Latvia/United Kingdom

### **Roger Montañola**

Founder, Twenty50, Spain

### **Geoff Mulgan**

Chief Executive Officer, Nesta, United Kingdom

### **Una Mullally**

Writer, Journalist and LGBT activist, Ireland

### **Justin Mundy**

Senior Fellow, World Resources Institute (WRI), United Kingdom

### **Alfredo Munoz**

Architect, Founder and CEO, Abiboo, Spain

## **N**

### **Sophie Nivelles-Cardinale**

War Journalist and Reporter, France

## **P**

### **Monika Panayotova**

Deputy Minister, Bulgarian Presidency of the Council of the EU 2018, Bulgaria

### **Marko Pavić**

Minister, Ministry of Labour and Pension System, Croatia

### **Eduardo Portal Martin**

Conductor, United Kingdom

### **Michael Printzos**

Director of Programming, The Hellenic Initiative, Greece

## **R**

### **Thomas Raines**

Head of the Europe Programme, Chatham House, United Kingdom

## **S**

### **Kamilla Sultanova**

Entrepreneur, Founder of ConnecUz, Finland

### **Paola Subacchi**

Research Director, International Economics, The Royal Institute of International Affairs, Chatham House, United Kingdom

## **T**

### **Cezary Tomczyk**

Member, Sejm, Poland

### **Jean-Jacques Tortora**

Director, European Space Policy Institute (ESPI), Austria

**Davor Tremac**

General Manager Southeast Europe, Uber,  
Croatia

**V****Ruben van Zwieten**

Preacher and Founder, De Nieuwe Poort, The  
Netherlands

**Wouter Verschelden**

Chief Executive Officer, NewsMonkey,  
Belgium

**Martina Vuk**

Secretary of State, Ministry of Labour, Family,  
Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities,  
Slovenia

**Yuriy Vulkovsky**

Country Manager, Bulgaria, Reach for  
Change, Bulgaria





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