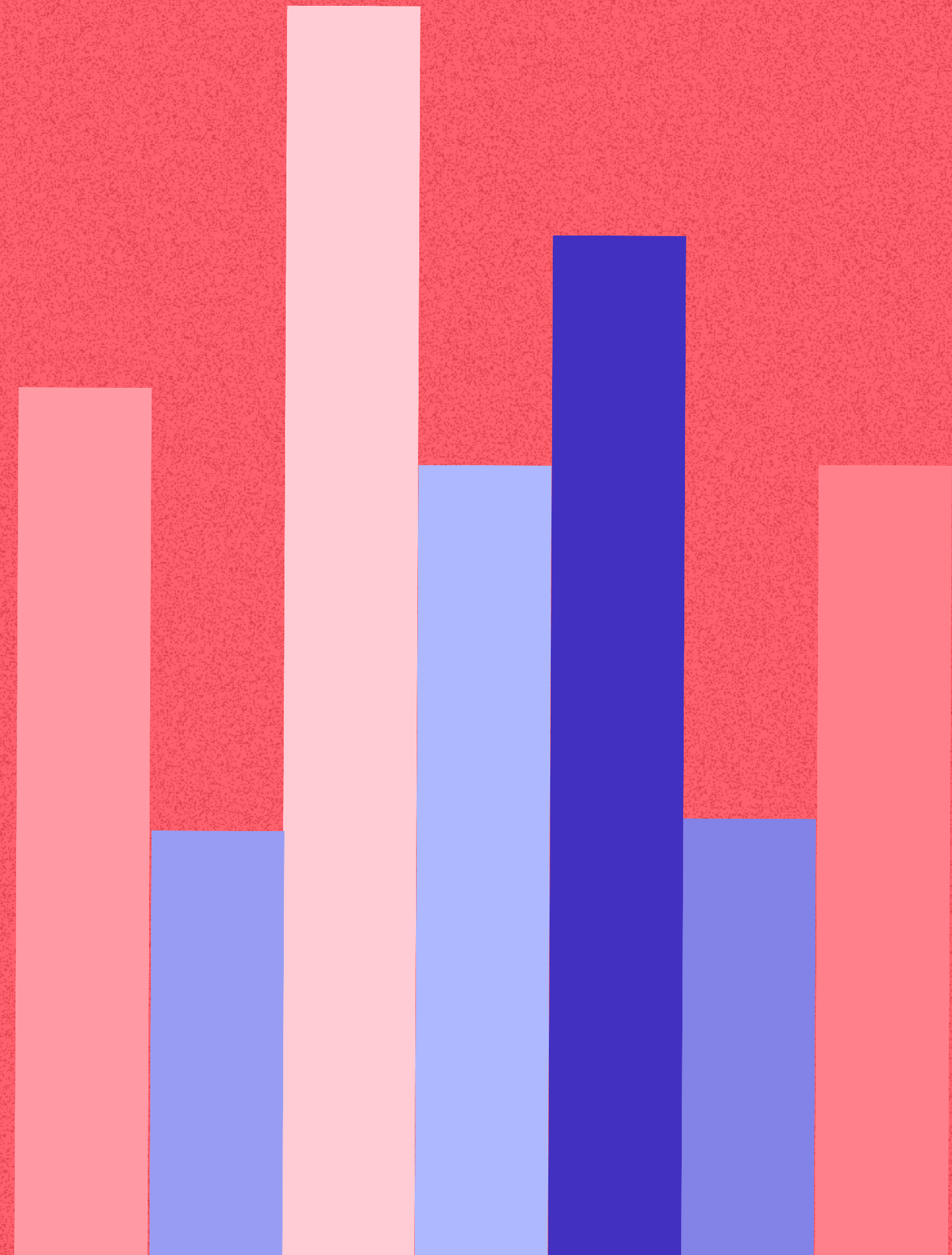




Connect. Debate. Change.

Our work in 2023

The think tank for a more inclusive,
sustainable and forward-looking Europe

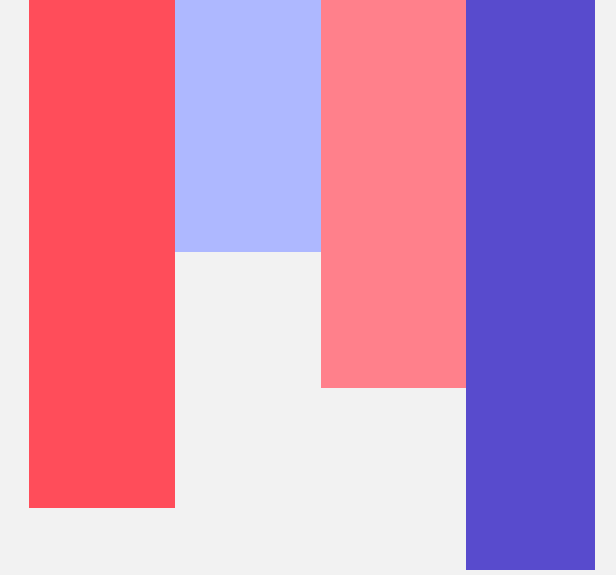


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Context

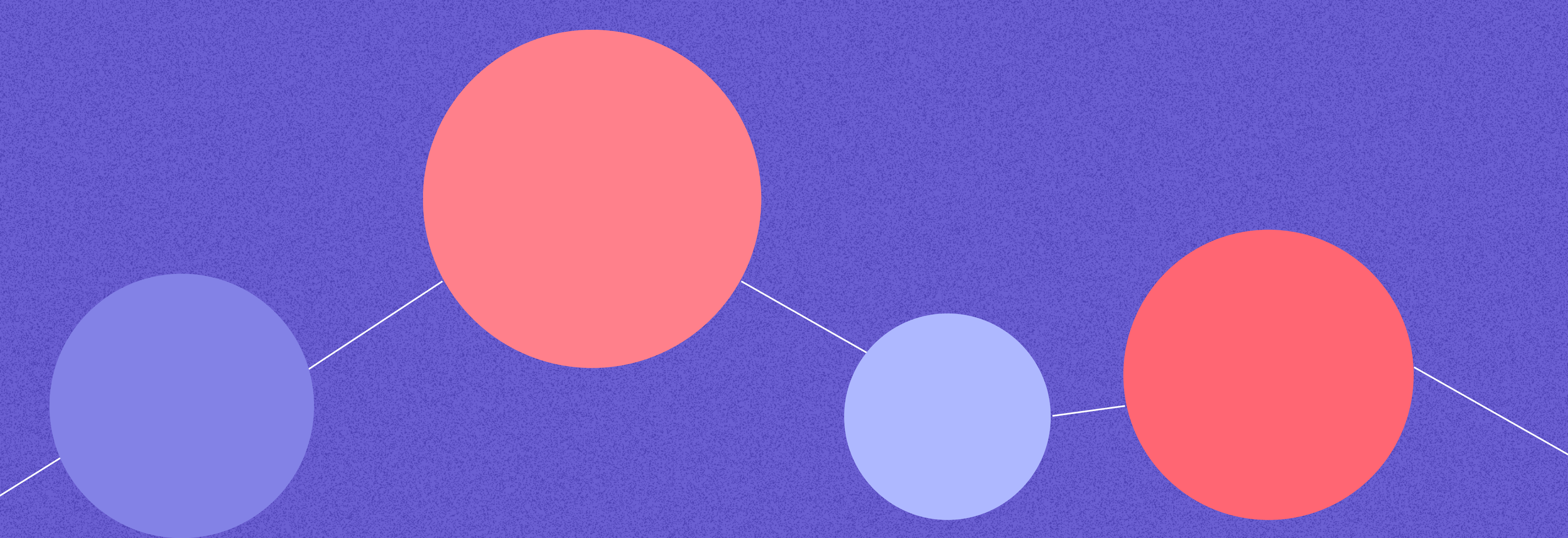


In 2023, the world witnessed another year marked by turmoil and upheaval. Conflict persisted between Ukraine and Russia, further exacerbating global political instability. The eruption of the Israel-Hamas war in the Middle East added to the complex geopolitical landscape. Friends of Europe remained steadfast in its commitment to fostering dialogue and progress amid these crises.

Our commitment to imagining a new social contract for Europe remained at the forefront of our agenda. Building upon the foundation laid in 2022, we embarked on a journey to redefine the principles and priorities that will guide our collective future. The Renewed Social Contract serves as our guiding framework, providing a blueprint for action in the face of uncertainty and adversity.

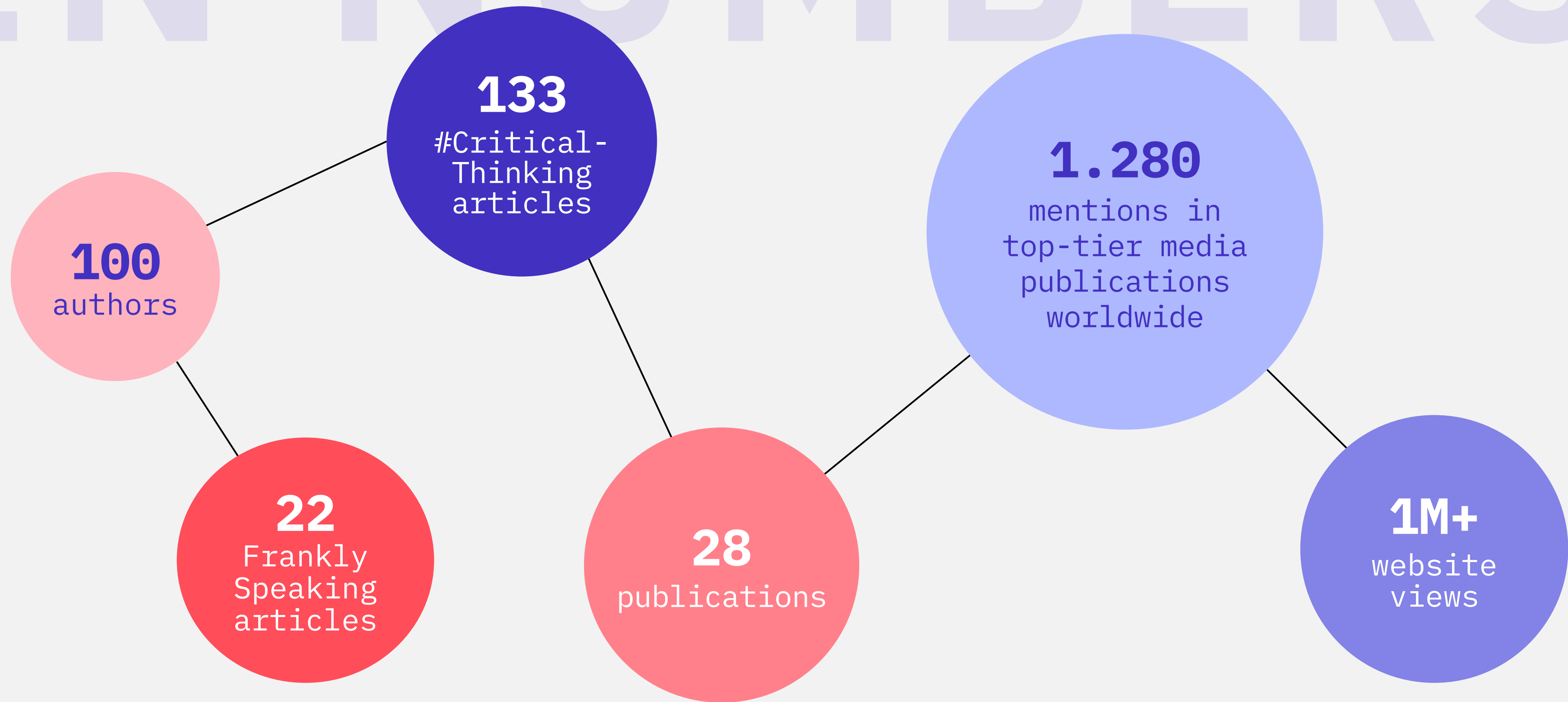
These efforts culminated at our State of Europe high-level roundtable, where we unveiled our vision of 10 Policy Choices as a basis for a Renewed Social Contract. Our annual flagship event allowed us to engage in extensive consultation, generate innovative ideas tailored to address the challenges of a new era and solidify our policy commitments.

The path forward may be uncertain as we look ahead to the future, but our resolve remains unwavering. In the coming year, we will continue to champion bold ideas and transformative solutions, working hand in hand with our partners and stakeholders to shape a better tomorrow. Together, we have the power to build a Europe that is resilient, inclusive and prosperous for all.



OUR WORK IN NUMBERS

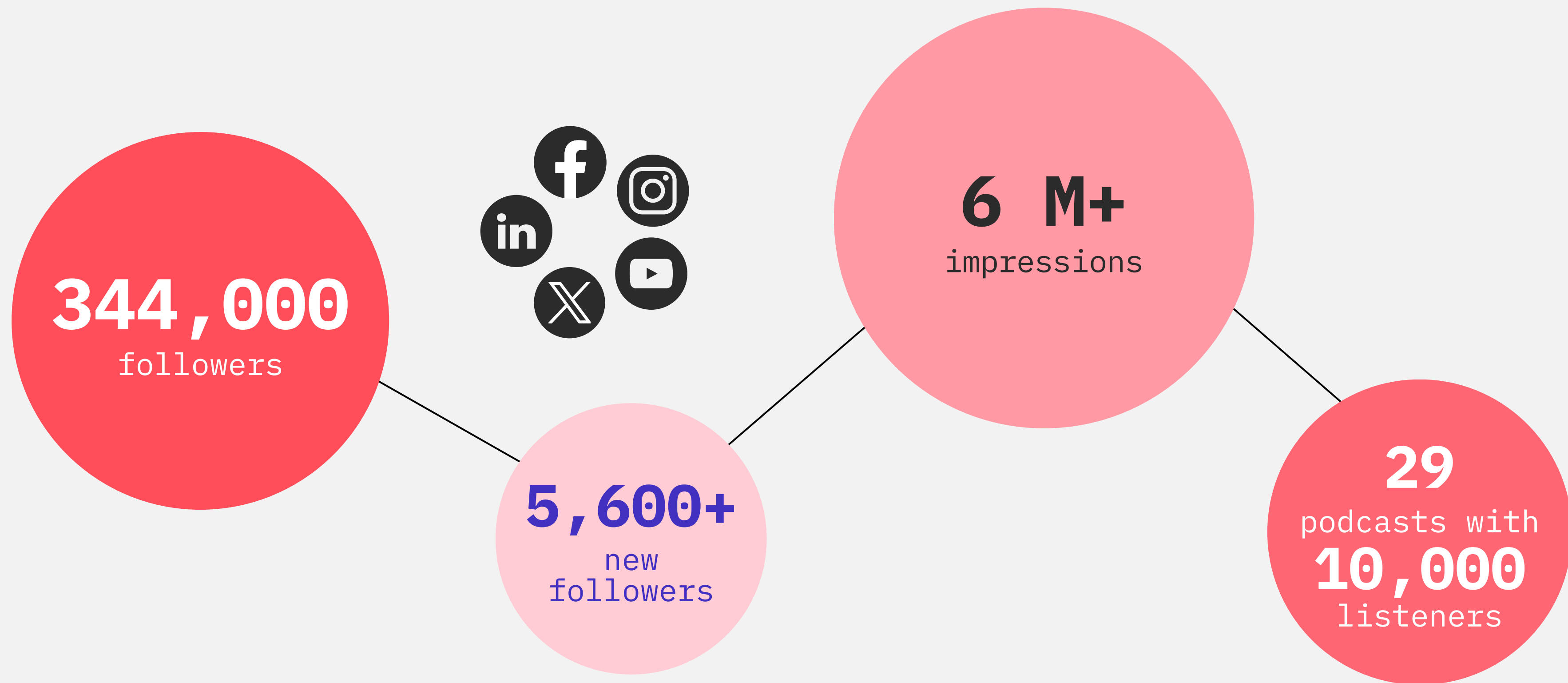
LINE NUMBERS



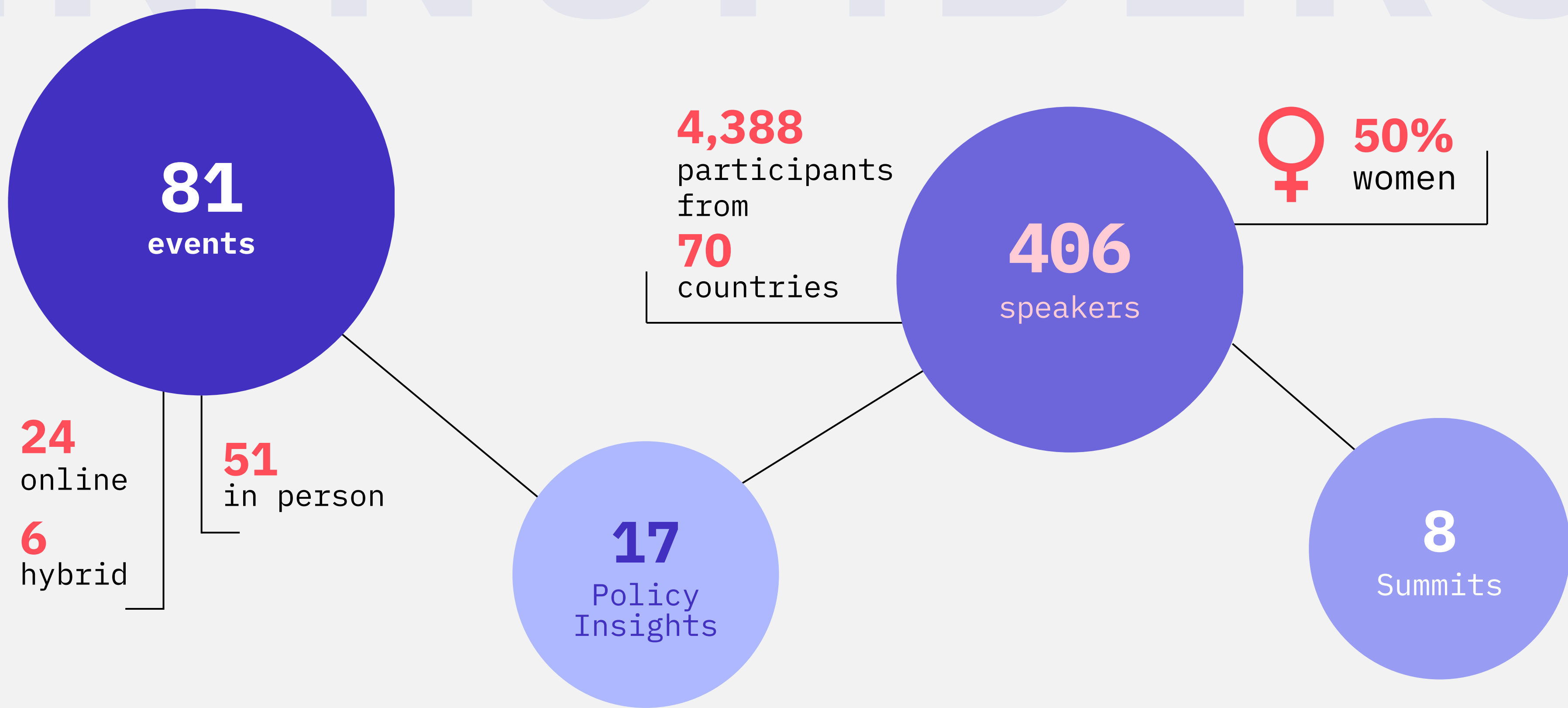
Featured in:



LINK NUMBERS

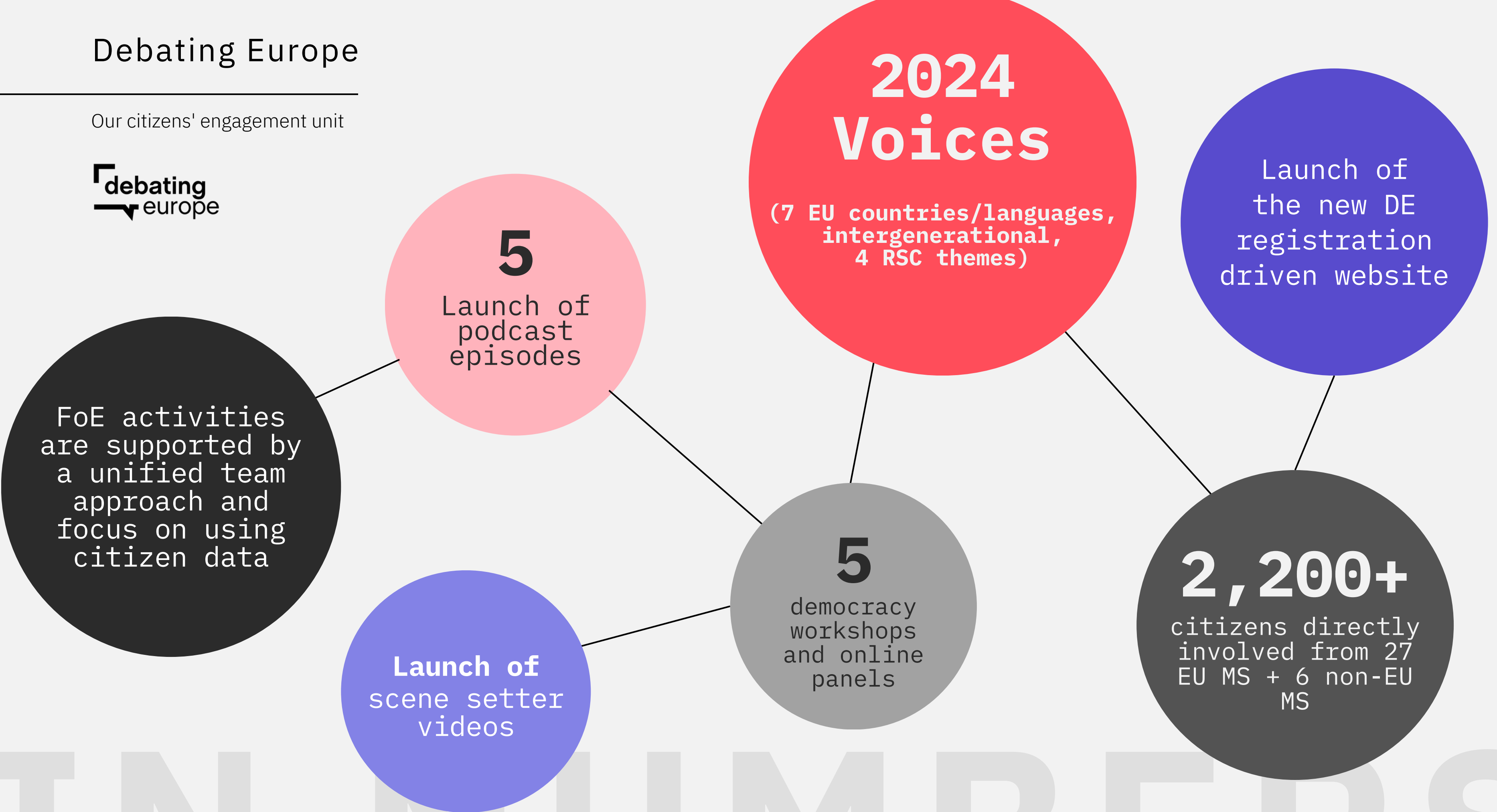


LINE NUMBERS



Debating Europe

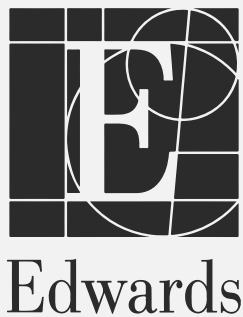
Our citizens' engagement unit



TOTAL NUMBERS

Partnerships

Friends of Europe’s activities are supported by a wide range of partners, and we are grateful to all of them for their engagement. Below are some examples of the organisations that we worked with in 2023



TN N I I M B E R S

2023



Sékou Ouedraogo

ounding President of the
African Aeronautics & Space
Organisation (AASO)



6 June
**Making Space
Matter Summit**

**MAKING
SPACE
MATTER**
s u m m i t



Lisa Jackson

Vice President of
Environment, Policy
and Social Initiatives
at Apple and former
administrator of the
United States
Environmental
Protection Agency

27 June
**Climate and Energy
Summit**

20 June
**Peace, Security &
Defence Summit**



**After the war:
how to keep
Europe safe?**

Launch of study



10 October
Health Summit

*We should no longer speak
about the North and the South
but speak about a common
investment in the future.*

Jean Van Wetter

Managing Director of the Belgian
Development Agency (Enabel)

23 November
**Global Europe
Summit +
EU-ASEAN
Forum**

A panel of youth representatives
chosen by UNICEF voiced their
concerns and hopes for the future.



7 December
**EU-Western
Balkans Summit**



Christopher Hill

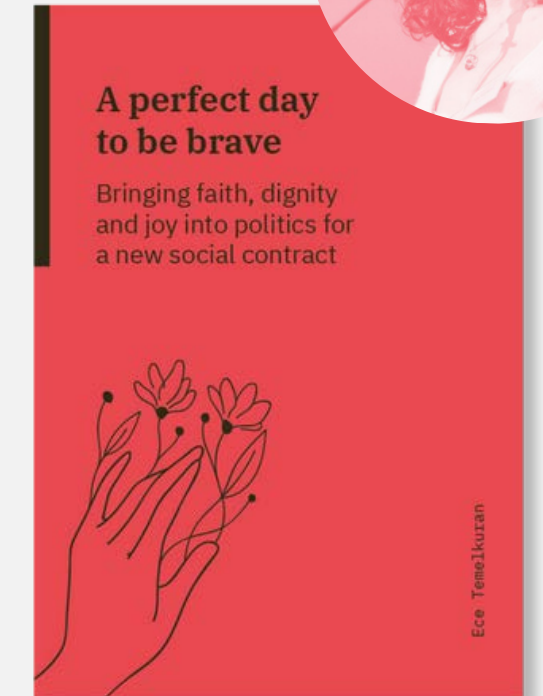
Ambassador of the United
States to Serbia and Dayton
Agreement negotiator

Flagship events



State of Europe

Commemorating the 20th anniversary of the State of Europe, Friends of Europe's high-level roundtable was set against the backdrop of the upcoming 2024 European parliamentary elections. It dedicated its focus to deliberating ten pivotal policy choices aimed at forging a Renewed Social Contract for Europe. These choices emerge from extensive multisectoral and multi-stakeholder consultations, encapsulating the voices and insights of over 2,000 European citizens.



Ece Temelkuran

Award-winning Turkish novelist, political commentator

The State of Europe roundtable was a beacon of thoughtful dialogue and innovative thinking. It provided a unique platform for engaging with diverse perspectives on Europe's future.

Stanley Qiufan Chen

Speculative Fiction Writer, Research Scholar at Yale University, Berggruen Institute Fellow



President's Gala dinner

STATE OF
EUROPE



Flagship events



The EYL Dublin seminar

In 2023, the European Young Leaders (EYL40) programme, hosted two influential seminars in Brussels and Dublin, bringing together under-40 leaders from various sectors to address pressing challenges facing Europe. In Brussels, amid global events like International Women's Day and escalating tensions in Ukraine, participants engaged in debates on topics ranging from European Commission mandates and digital transitions to healthcare reforms and the energy crisis. In Dublin, former Irish Prime Minister John Bruton emphasised the necessity of European cohesion and patriotism to overcome demographic shifts, technological stagnation and geopolitical uncertainties.

This firm belief that justice will prevail is something that people continue to have.

Emine Dzhamarova

Ukrainian First Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and 2023 European Young Leader (EYL40)



The EYL Brussels seminar



ALIGNABLES



16 February
What the Chiefs say: The EU single market at 30

Mario Monti
Professor and former Prime Minister of Italy

7 September
#CriticalThinking
AI-generated disinformation is here – and it's cheap

A plea to combat AI disinformation for election integrity and human rights.

I believe this decade will be a turning point in the history of energy

Fatih Birol
Executive Director of the International Energy Agency



25 October
World Energy Outlook Brussel Official launch

27 Nov - 3 Dec
COPerspectives

As COP28 got underway last November, Friends of Europe activities gathered and shared perspectives from expert voices.



26 June
What the Chiefs say: the EU AI Act – cracking the code or curbing competitiveness?

Dragos Trudorache
Chair of the European Parliament Special Committee on Artificial Intelligence in a Digital Age (AIDA)



27 September
What the Chiefs Say: welcoming the EU's Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism

Gerassimos Thomas
European Commission Director-General for Taxation and Customs Union (DG TAXUD)



31 October
Friends of Europe's newest podcast was launched in the autumn of 2023. This weekly podcast offers an informal conversation on issues high on the agenda.

29 November
#CriticalThinking

Plea for the advancement of the European Sustainability Reporting Standards

An urgent call to keep ESRS on the agenda and bring it to the attention of the European Commission.

Thank you!

Friends of Europe

Connect. Debate. Change.

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*All affiliations mentioned in this publication are the ones held at the time of participation and may not reflect current functions.