

VOICES OF EUROPE: VOL 2.

The Conference on the Future of Europe: Aftermath & Operationalization

THEMATIC TRAINING

20 SEPTEMBER 2022

10:00 - 11:00 CET

As a democracy support umbrella organization and a promoter of civic education across the EU and in partner countries, the European Network of Political Foundations (ENoP) has followed closely and acted anticipatively in the setup of the Conference of the Future of Europe.

With a set of 10 recommendations, delivered ahead of the Conference, ENoP has brought the voice of political foundations and our partners in the expected set-up and consultation processes in this new initiative.

Today, following the conclusion of the Conference, and the expected address on the State of the Union by President Von der Leyen in fall 2022, we would like to discuss the outcomes of the consultation process and the steps ahead.

As political foundations, serving as bridge-builders between CSOs and political actors across ideological lines, we would like to explore the ways in which we can support the implementation and operationalization of the new initiatives, aimed at **bringing transparency and advancing democratic consolidation**.

In this context, the following exchange will **focus on three** out of **nine priority areas** as identified by the Conference, namely:

- **European democracy;**
- **EU in the world;**
- **Values and rights, rule of law, security**

The Joint Communication of the European Commission, the European Parliament, The European Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions, published in June 2022, makes reference to revising existing EU Treaties and the option of introducing “passerelle clauses to move to qualified majority voting in certain policy fields”.

These important discussions will have direct repercussions on the EU decision-making processes and require special attention when it comes to democratic consolidation.

Therefore, the following exchange will bring together EU stakeholders, CSO representatives and academia experts to share their insights from the Conference’s outcomes and envisaged follow-up actions.

In the aftermath, an ENoP set of follow-up recommendations will be published in fall 2022 in order to support the Feedback Event, scheduled by the European Commission.

PROGRAMME

Opening of the thematic training

Panel discussion

- **Anna Asimakopoulou**, Member of the European Parliament, Committee on Foreign Affairs (AFET)
- **Tena Mišetić**, Policy Coordinator, Responsible for the Conference on the Future of Europe, Cabinet of President Van der Leyen, European Commission (TBC)
- **Prof. Steven Van Hecke**, KU Leuven

Q&A with ENoP members

Conclusion and closing remarks

Moderator: Panagiotis Kakolyris, Member of ENoP Steering Committee & Chair of Working Group The Future of Europe

Guiding questions for the discussion:

- How do you evaluate the consultation process of the Conference and its inclusiveness from your stakeholder's perspective?
 - How do you perceive the possibility of updating the Union's main Treaties in an attempt to safeguard common values?
 - Is deliberative democracy the new way ahead for the EU?
 - What engagement mechanisms should remain in place in order to stimulate civic participation?
 - What role for political foundations?
 - What recipe for counteracting disinformation and propaganda?
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The current event will be held in the format of a *thematic training*. The event is internal to the members of the ENoP network and has an informative purpose, aimed at bringing more clarity on the aftermath of the Conference on the Future of ENoP, and providing an opportunity for ENoP members to better understand and respond to the EU policies in the pipeline.



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