Updated : 04/11/2024

Programme

World Forum for Democracy

12th EDITION

6 > 8 NOVEMBER 2024

DEMOCRACY & DIVERSITY

Can we transcend the divides?

THE WORLD FORUM FOR DEMOCRACY
IS SUPPORTED BY THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE
AND THE TRIENNIAL CONTRACT
FOR STRASBOURG EUROPEAN CAPITAL 2024-2026

PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

Wednesday 6 November

Hemicycle of the Council of Europe   *Interpretation: FR/EN*

09.30-10.30	Time for Facts	
10.30-10.35	Words from the Host	
10.35-11:00	Welcome Words	
11.00-11.10	Interlude	
11.10-11.30	Keynote Speach	
11.30-13.00	Plenary Session 1	Elections and Value Divides
13.00-14.30	Lunch Break	
14.30-16.00	Plenary Session 2	Unravelling the Web of Disinformation
16.00-17:30	Plenary Session 3	Citizen Engagement for a Democratic Renewal
17.30	Artistic activity	
Followed by	Reception	

Thursday 7 November

Meeting Rooms of the Palais de l'Europe   *Interpretation: FR/EN*

09.00-11.00   FIRST SERIES OF LABS

Lab 1	Youth engagement: a key to promoting diversity in society?	Room 11
Lab 2	Fighting fake news and disinformation to strenghten our freedoms	Room 10
Lab 3	A polarised democracy, a sick democracy?	Room 9
Lab 4	How can diversity be promoted at local level?	Room 8
Lab 5	A seat at the table: enhancing the role of marginalised groups in public discourse	Room 7

11.15-13.00   FIRST SERIES OF FORUM TALKS

FT 1	Elections under pressure: what's at stake for Representative Democracy?	Room 11
FT 2	How to counter discrimination and Promote Equality and diversity to transcend divides in society	Room 10
FT 3	Public safety vs. free speech?	Room 9
FT 4	Does sharing decision making power with citizens make democracy stronger?	Room 8
FT 5	Youth Engagement in Democracy – on what Terms?	Room 7
FT 6	Fighting Disinformation: Media at the Frontline	Room 6
FT 7	History Untold: The Power of Diverse Histories	Room 1

13.00-14.15	Lunch Break
14.15-15.00	Discussion Corner

15.00-17.00   SECOND SERIES OF LABS

Lab 6	Amplifying marginalised voices: diversity in action	Room 9
Lab 7	Improving women's representation and maximising their Potential, a path through gender equality	Room 11
Lab 8	No room for hate – Let's discuss together	Room 10
Lab 9	How can we guarantee diversity and trust in elections and democratic processes?	Room 8
Lab 10	Education, a way to raise awareness about diveristy	Room 7

17.15– 19.00   SECOND SERIES OF FORUM TALKS

FT 8	Can We Transcend Divides Through Multi-Level Governance?	Room 8
FT 9	Challenges of Digital Democracy	Room 9
FT 10	Protecting the Integrity of Elections means Protecting Human Rights	Room 10
FT 11	"The kollective": Fighting for Truth in a World of Deception (Eurimages)	Room 11
FT 12	"War on Education", screening and debate (OHTE/EuroClio)	Projection Room
FT 13	Press cartoons, an antidote to populism and a medicine for democracy?	Room 7
FT 14	Can Democratic Innovations Transcend Divides?	Room 6

19.00	Reception

Friday 8 November

Hemicycle of the Council of Europe   *Interpretation: FR/EN*

09.00-10.00	Plenary Session 4	From Populism to Authoritarianism – is the erosion of democracy inevitable?
10.00-11.00	Conversation of generations	
11.00–12.00	Plenary Session 5	Reporting from the Forum and Agenda for the Future
12.00–12.45	Closing Session	Ceremony for the Democracy Innovation Award
12.45-13.15	Closing Performance	

Democracy and Diversity - Can we transcend the divides?

Strasbourg, 6-8 November 2024

The strength of democracy lies in its ability to embrace and balance differences to serve society as a whole. Diversity is a source of resilience, adaptability and creativity. But it can also be exploited for political gain by polarising opinion and deepening divides. Socio-economic, gender, ethnic, generational and other inequalities fuel divisive rhetoric and trigger electoral choices which make democracies increasingly fragile.

In a year during which around one half of the world's population has been called to the polls, the 2024 edition of the World Forum for Democracy will address the critical threats posed by disinformation and divisive political narratives around diversity, including in the context of election campaigns. The Forum will focus on how electoral processes may inadvertently crystallise societal divides and provide fertile ground for populism to flourish. In light of the urgency of this challenge, the Forum will explore ways of raising understanding among citizens of the risks posed by populism for their fundamental rights and freedoms.

To achieve this, the Forum will feature inspirational talks by thought leaders. Analytical labs will challenge proposed new solutions and identify ideas worth spreading. Moreover, the Forum will actively foster the creation of networks and communities of practice, serving as incubators for turning ideas into action.

The main axes for the 2024 edition will be:

Elections and value divides: Elections are pivotal moments in democratic life, yet they have become flashpoints where deep-seated value divides are exacerbated. The Forum will offer a deep dive into the potential of inclusive electoral practices and new ideas to overcome binary thinking and foster unity within diverse societies.

Unraveling the web of disinformation: Disinformation, particularly online, is a powerful tool to manipulate public opinion, sow discord, and erode trust in democratic institutions. The Forum will analyse the mechanics of disinformation campaigns, their impact on democratic processes, and explore innovative strategies to counteract this threat.

Citizen engagement for democratic renewal: Many democracies are facing a crisis of citizen engagement. Democratic organisations which can freely associate are a prerequisite for civil society being able to foster citizen engagement. They help creating social capital, trust and confidence which are instrumental in shaping democratic outcomes. The Forum will assess the extent to which democratic institutions reflect a changing *demos* and whether population diversity is adequately represented in public life, business, culture, sports and other areas of democratic life. It will look into new forms of citizens' engagement and decision-making which can help create spaces for constructive dialogue, foster understanding and young people's engagement, and build consensus on policy solutions that transcend narrow interest and deliver the common good.

The World Forum for Democracy is not just a platform for discussion but a call to action. As an annual gathering of policymakers, academics, activists, youth representatives and democracy innovators, in the Council of Europe headquarters in Strasbourg, it contributes to the implementation of the Reykjavik Principles of Democracy adopted by the Heads of State and Government of Council of Europe member states at their Fourth Summit in Reykjavik in May 2023.

Wednesday, 6 November 2024
Hemicycle of the Council of Europe, Palais de l'Europe – Interpretation FR/EN

09.30-10.30   Time for Facts
<u>Moderator</u>:
Matjaž GRUDEN, Director for Democracy, Council of Europe
<u>Panel</u>:
Adam BARTHA, Director of Epicenter (European Policy Information Center), Brussels
Staffan I. LINDBERG, V-Dem Institute, Department of Political Science University of Gothenburg, Sweden
Laura SILVER, PEW Research Centre, Associate Director Global Attitudes Research, United States of America

10.30- 10.35   Words by the President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe
Theodoros ROUSOPOULOS
10.35-11.00   Welcome Words by the Organising partners
Representative of the French authorities
Brigitte TORLOTING, Vice-President of the Grand Est Region, responsible for cross-border issues, Europe and international relations
Frédéric BIERRY, President of the European Collectivity of Alsace
Jeanne BARSEGHIAN, Mayor of Strasbourg

11.00-11.10   Interlude

11.10—11.30   Address by the Secretary General of the Council of Europe
Alain BERSET

The Plenary Sessions will be moderated by:
Annette GERLACH, Journalist and TV Host, ARTE, France
Alex TAYLOR, European journalist, France

11.30-13.00   Plenary Session 1 – Elections and Value Divides

Introductory Address by Ervin **IBRAHIMOVIĆ,** Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Montenegro
<u>Panel</u>:
Mantas **ADOMĖNAS.** Secrétaire Général, Communauté des Démocraties
Afia Asantewaa ASARE-KYEI, Member of the Meta's Oversight Board, Ghana/South Africa
Jasmine FITZPATRICK, University of Mainz, Germany
Ervin **IBRAHIMOVIĆ,** Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Montenegro
Vladimir MISEV, Senior Adviser on New Voting Technologies, OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR)

13.00-14.30   Lunch Break

14.30-16.00   Plenary Session 2 – Unravelling the Web of Disinformation

Introductory Address by Gordan **GRLIĆ** RADMAN, Minister of Foreign and European Affairs, Croatia
<u>Panel</u>:
Abeba BIRHANE, Adjunct Assistant Professor, School of Computer Sceince and Statistics, Trinity College Dublin, member of the United Nations Secretary General's Artificial Intelligence Advisory Body , Ethiopia
Gordan **GRLIĆ** RADMAN, Minister of Foreign and European Affairs, Croatia
Andreas KRAVIK, State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Norway
KUWAHARA Kyoko, Japan Institute of International Affairs, Japan
Bruce SCHNEIER, Harvard Kennedy School, United States of America
Andrew WILSON, European Council on Foreign Relations, United Kingdom

16.00 - 17:30   Plenary Session 3 – Citizen Engagement for Democratic Renewal

Introductory Address by Adam BODNAR, Minister of Justice, Poland
<u>Panel</u>:
Adam BODNAR, Minister of Justice, Poland
Mehdi JOMAA, Prime Minister of Tunisia (2014-2015) and Club de Madrid Member
Matt LEIGHNINGER, Director of the National Civic League, United States of America
Henry Kwasi PREMPEH, Executive Director of the Ghana Center for Democratic Development, Ghana
Sviatlana TSIKHANOUSKAYA, Leader of the Belarusian democratic forces

17.30-18.00   Concert Q Ensemble followed by a Reception

Thursday, 7 November 2024

Meeting rooms in Palais de l'Europe – Interpretation FR/EN

09.00-11.00 FIRST SERIES OF LABS

Lab 1 – Youth engagement: a key to promoting diversity in society?
Lab 2 – Fighting fake news and disinformation to strengthen our freedoms.
Lab 3 – A polarised democracy, a sick democracy?
Lab 4 – How can diversity be promoted at local level?
Lab 5 – A seat at the table: enhancing the role of marginalised groups in public discourse.

11.15-13.00 FIRST SERIES OF FORUM TALKS

Forum Talk 1   Elections under pressure: what's at stake for Representative Democracy?
Forum Talk 2   How to counter discrimination and Promote Equality and diversity to transcend divides in society?
Forum Talk 3   Public safety vs. free speech?
Forum Talk 4   Does sharing decision making power with citizens make democracy stronger?
Forum Talk 5   Youth Engagement in Democracy – on what Terms?
Forum Talk 6   Fighting Disinformation: Media at the Frontline
Forum Talk 7   History Untold: The Power of Diverse Histories

13.00-14.15 Lunch Break

14.15-15.00 Discussion Corner

15.00-17.00 SECOND SERIES OF LABS

Lab 6 – Amplifying marginalised voices: diversity in action.
Lab 7 – Improving women's representation and maximizing their potential, a path through gender equality?
Lab 8 – No room for hate – Let's discuss together
Lab 9 – How can we guarantee diversity and trust in elections and democratic processes?
Lab10 - Education, a way to raise awareness about diversity?

17.00-19.00 SECOND SERIES OF FORUM TALKS

Forum Talk 8   Can We Transcend Divides Through Multi-Level Governance?
Forum Talk 9   Challenges of Digital Democracy
Forum Talk 10   Protecting the Integrity of Elections means Protecting Human Rights
Forum Talk 11   "The Kollektive": Fighting for Truth in a World of Deception (Eurimages)
Forum Talk 12   "War on Education", screening and debate (OHTE/EuroClio)
Forum Talk 13   Press cartoons, an antidote to populism and a medicine for democracy ?
Forum Talk 14   Can Democratic Innovation Transcend Divides?

19.00   Cultural Surprise offered by the EUNIC cluster in Strasbourg

19.10   Unveiling of the participatory artwork

19.15   Reception

Friday, 8 November 2024

Hemicycle of the Council of Europe, Palais de l'Europe – Interpretation FR/EN

Maîtres de cérémonie
Annette GERLACH, Journalist and TV Host, ARTE, France
Alex TAYLOR, European journalist, France

09.00-10.00 Plenary Session 4 – From Populism to Authoritarianism – is the erosion of democracy inevitable?

Moderator: Caitríona DOYLE, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Ireland to the Council of Europe

Panel:
Frédéric BIERRY, president of the European collectivity of Alsace, France
Renzo DIAZ GIUNTA, lawyer, Peru
Georgios KATROUGALOS, Independent Expert on a Democratic and Equitable International Order of the United Nations, Greece

10.00-11.00 Conversation of generations

Moderator:
Annette GERLACH, Journalist and TV Host, ARTE, France

Raffaella Y. NANETTI, Ph.D, Professor Emerita, College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs, University of Illinois at Chicago
Jaden BRAVES, Chief Executive Officer of the Young Politicians of Canada
Sumaia SADIQI, young refugee form Afghanistan

11.00-12.00 Plenary Session 5 – Reporting from the Forum and Agenda for the Future

Moderators:

Yoav SHEMER-KUNZ, Syracuse University of Strasbourg, General Rapporteur (tbc)

Rapporteurs:
Audience exchange on the Take aways of the Forum
Youth Rapporteur: Representative of Youth Delegation, Kostian JANO, Albania
Gender Rapporteur: Mariam JAJANIDZE, Council of Europe Office in Tbilisi, Georgia

Discussant :

12.00-12.45 Closing Session and ceremony for the Democracy Innovation Award

Moderators:
Matjaž Gruden, Director for Democracy
Anna KNOBBOUT, Advisory Council on Youth

Election of the winner of the Democracy Innovation Award

Presentation of the Democracy Innovation Award
Closing speech:
Bjørn BERGE, Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe

12.45-13.15 Closing Performance by a pop-rock duo "Bleu mécanique"

PROGRAMME OF FORUM TALKS

Thursday, 7 November - Meeting rooms at the Palais de l'Europe – Interpretation FR/EN

11.15-13.00 – FIRST SERIES OF FORUM TALKS

Forum Talk 1 – Elections under pressure: what's at stake for Representative Democracy?
In Co-operation with the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE)   ROOM 11

Recent elections have seen increased instrumentalisation, polarisation and disinformation, raising questions about the fairness and integrity of the electoral processes and their impact on representative democracy.

Moderator:
Georges PAPANDREOU, General Rapporteur on Democracy for the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE), Rapporteur on "Strengthening democracy through participatory and deliberative processes", Greece

Panel:
Věra JOUROVÁ, Vice-President of the European Commission for Values and Transparency, Czech Republic
Sabina **ĆUDIĆ**, Member of the Monitoring Committee of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, Bosnia and Herzegovina
Pierre-Alain FRIDEZ, Vice-President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, Rapporteur on "The theme of migration and asylum in election campaigns and the consequences on the reception of migrants and their rights", Switzerland
Iris BOYER, Head of the International Observatory on Information and Democracy of the Forum on Information & Democracy, France
Tomislav DAMNJANOVIC, Founder and CEO of A Media and of Mandat, Political and election campaigning strategist, Serbia

Discussants:
Felix BACHER
Frederik SCHMIDTS

Rapporteur:
Louisianne CARRERE
Thomas MIKAN

Forum Talk 2 – How to Counter Discrimination and Promote Equality and Diversity to Transcend Divides in a Society?
In co-operation with Council of Europe's Anti-Discrimination Department   ROOM 10

This session will explore the ways in which democracies can harness the power of diversity to address and mitigate issues of discrimination and exclusion. It will provide a space for discussing comprehensive strategies for the inclusion of marginalised and minority groups, best practices and policy reforms for a more inclusive democracy.

Moderator:
Erik ADELL HELLSTRÖM, Chair of the Steering Committee on Anti-Discrimination, Diversity and Inclusion (CDADI) of the Council of Europe

Panel:
Anu JUVONEN, Executive Director Demo Finland, Finland
Željko **JOVANOVIĆ**, Director of the Roma Foundation for Europe, Belgium
Jürgen PIRKER, Pr, Member of the Committee of Experts of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages, Austria
Jelle POSTMA, Director of "Justice for Prosperity", the Netherlands

Discussant:
Juliet NYARKO ADANSI, Ghana
Rapporteur:
Marie SPADA
Sashmir SIDNEY

Forum Talk 3 – Public safety vs. free speech?

In co-operation with Council of Europe's Cyber Crime Division   ROOM 9

In the contemporary context, it is often difficult to balance the requirements of safeguarding the freedom of expression with those of fighting cybercrimes – this session will offer possible answers to this conundrum.

Moderator:
Alexander SEGER, Head of Council of Europe's Cyber Crime Division

Panel:

Abeba BIRHANE, Adjunct Assistant Professor, School of Computer Sceince and Statistics, Trinity College Dublin, member of the United Nations Secretary General's Artificial Intelligence Advisory Body, Ethiopia
Jasmine FITZPATRICK, University of Mainz, Germany
Geronimo L SY, Professor of Law, Silliman University, AI GovTech Advisor, The Philippines
Peter NOORLANDER, Director, Global Rights Hub, United Kingdom

Discussant:
Huaderson SOLIS DIAZ, Dominican Republic

Rapporteur:
Nadia FOUCARD
Thelma ACKERMANN

Forum Talk 4 – Does Sharing Decision–making Power with Citizens make Democracy Stronger?

In co-operation with the European Collectivity of Alsace and the Council of Europe Steering Committee on Democracy

ROOM 8

Many believe that representative democracy is in crisis with citizens losing trust in institutions and political elites?– Can methods such as deliberative democracy be a part of the solution?

Moderator:
Stefan SINDELAR, Innovation in Politics Institute, European Capital of Democracy, Austria

Panel:
Angela JAIN, Senior Project Manager, Democracy and Social Cohesion, Bertelsmann Foundation, Germany
Matt LEIGHNINGER, Director of the National Civic League, United States of America
Lara MILLION, Vice-President of the European Collectivity of Alsace, responsible for the Citizens' Council of Alsace and local democracy, France
Iryna MYKULYCH, Donor Relations and Stakeholder Engagement Coordinator, "Agency for Reconstruction and Development" NGO, Ukraine
Camille DOBLER, Head of Research, Missions Publiques, Belgium

Discussant:
Pedro RIVAS, Colombia
Rapporteur:
Cheryl SMITH
Molly BREWSTER MELLINGER

Forum Talk 5 – Youth Engagement in Democracy – on what Terms?

In co-operation with Council of Europe's Youth Department

ROOM 7

The youth is not just our bright future – their needs and demands need to be addressed now. As generations change, the social contract has to adapt. How we invest in the youth today will determine the immediate future of our democracies.

Moderator:
Tobias FLESSENKEMPER, Head of Council of Europe's Youth Department

Panel:
Jaden BRAVES, CEO Young Politicians of Canada
Nick FRANCIS, Deputy Chairmen of the International Young Democrat Union, St. Vincent and the Grenadines
Peter Torok, Member of the Advisory Council on Youth Katharina STOURZH, Head of Division for Parliamentary Cooperation, Austrian Parliamentary Administration, Austria

Discussant:
Rahma BELAL, Egypt

Rapporteur:
Héloïse DRYBURGH
Souleymane BAH

Forum Talk 6 – Fighting Disinformation: Media at the Frontline
In co-operation with the Division for Co-operation on Freedom of Expression

ROOM 6

The panel will focus on the critical role of media in debunking and combating disinformation. It will gather representatives of the Ukrainian government and media and their international peers to discuss current threats to global information integrity, delving into specific examples of Russia's targeted information attacks on Ukraine. It will also showcase practical strategies that media professionals can employ to enhance audience's resilience and counter disinformation, including tactics for navigating social media. The discussion will be followed by an exchange with the audience. At the end of the session the speakers and participants of the panel will be invited to reflect on how the joint efforts of governments, media, civil society, and international organisations can further combat

disinformation and safeguard the integrity of our shared information space.

Moderator:
Mariya FREY, journalist, Ukraine

Panel:
Aliona HOLIAKOVA, Creative producer at Co-Productions and Outsource Commissioning Department of Ukrainian public broadcaster "Suspilne"
Hélène CHAMPAGNE, Program Director, EU MediaFit Project, DW (Deutsche Welle) Akademie
Andrew WILSON, European Council on Foreign Relations, United Kingdom

Rapporteur:
Greta TIFIRO
Paul-Antoine VACHER

Forum Talk 7 – History Untold: the Power of Diverse Histories
In co-operation with the OHTE   ROOM: 1

This Forum Talk will focus on how teaching the history of minorities enables history to be a multi-perspective narrative and serves to make it more inclusive and democratic.
The motto of the Observatory on History Teaching in Europe, "Teaching history, grounding democracy," reflects its belief that high-quality history education plays a crucial role in fostering a better understanding of the past, sharpening critical thinking, and helping to identify past mistakes to avoid repeating them in the future. By increasing the scope of analysis in history, in terms of both historical periods as well as including different points of view from history, this enables us to have a multiperspective approach, which facilitates mutual understanding with and knowledge about, what the majority in society perceives as, the "Other"[1].

Moderator:
Olena PALKO, historian of the post-Soviet minorities, University of Basel, member of the OHTE Scientific Council, Switzerland

Panel:
Yasamin ALKHANSA, Researcher in Education, University of Saint-Andrews, UK
Ismael CORTES GOMEZ, Associate Professor at the UNESCO Institute of Philosophy for Peace, Roma activist, Spain
Claire HOLLISS, Historian, specialist in the history of women and LGBTQ+ minorities, head of history at Reigate Sixth Form College

Discussant:
Roxana Daniela PETRACHE, Denmark
Rapporteur:
Ella SEMRAD
Léa PTAK

---

[1] https://www.coe.int/en/web/history-education/the-image-of-the-other-in-history-teaching

Forum Talk 8 – Can We Transcend Divides Through Multi-Level Governance?

In co-operation with the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe
ROOM: 8

Democracy emerged at the level of small communities and later developed into the multilevel governance systems we know today ; how can this multi-level approach protect diversity and promote inclusive policies on different levels of government ?

Moderator:
Claudia LUCIANI, Director, Congress of the Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe

Panel:
Neven KLEPO, Dr., Head of Democratisation and Prevention and Municipal Integration Management Division, Department of Integration and Refugee Affairs, , Rhine-Erft District, author of "State-Building from Below", Germany
Gaëtane RICARD-NIHOUL, European Commission Deputy Head of Unit for Citizens' Dialogues, EU
Raffaella Y. NANETTI, Ph.D, Professor Emerita, College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs, University of Illinois at Chicago
Dave SINARDET, Prof. Dr., Professor of Political Science, Free University of Brussels, Belgium

Discussant:
Sofia BOHDANOVA, Youth Delegation of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities

Rapporteur:
Emma Louise NOVY

Forum Talk 9 – Challenges of Digital Democracy?
In co-operation with Council of Europe's Education Department   ROOM: 9

This session will explore strategies to promote media literacy and critical thinking skills in the digital age,.

Moderator:
Norbert KERSTING, University of Münster, Germany

Panel:
Ximena Stefani DOCARMO COHAILA, Co-Head of the Accelerator, Apolitical Foundation, Germany
KUWAHARA Kyoko, Japan Institute of International Affairs, Japan
Anna RENKAMP, Senior Project Manager, Democracy and Cohesion, Bertelsmann Foundation, Germany
Bruce SCHNEIER, Harvard Kennedy School, United States of America
Geart FERHATI, I-Vote, Albania

Discussant:
YANG Sohee, Republic of Korea
Gloria MANNAZZU, Senior Project Officer, Communications for the European Year of Digital Citizenship Education 2025

Rapporteur:
Tea SKLAR

Forum Talk 10– Protecting the Integrity of Elections means Protecting Human Rights

In co-operation with the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs of France, International IDEA and the Foundation René Cassin   ROOM: 10

This session will examine the interdependence of protecting the integrity of elections with human rights.

Moderator :
Claude KERN, Senator

Panel:
Massimo TOMMASOLI, Directeur, *Global Programmes International IDEA* Emmanuel DECAUX, Président de la Fondation René Cassin.
Cécile GOUBAULT LARRECQ, doctoral student in international law at the University of Paris-Panthéon-Assas
Joëlle COUREAU, cheffe de pôle Droit, Réformes et fragilités de l'Etat

Discussant:
Cécile Goubault LARRECQ, France
Mevlana SAHITI, France

Rapporteur :
Manon PROISY

Forum Talk 11 – The Kollective: Fighting for Truth in a World of Deception

In co-operation with Eurimages, European Cinema Support Fund of the Council of Europe

ROOM: 11

Set to broadcast in Spring 2025, "The Kollective" is a Dutch-Belgian-German-Italian co-production supported by the Council of Europe's Pilot programme for series Co-productions. The series is based on the true story of the Bellingcat group. It aims to show how the wide spread of information's impact, when in the hands of malicious groups, can jeopardise democratic fundamentals in order to shift economic and political stabilities worldwide.

Moderator:
Alex TAYLOR, European journalist, France

Panel:
Matjaž GRUDEN, Director of the Directorate General of Democracy and Human Dignity, Directorate for Democracy, Council of Europe
Morad KOUFANE (commissioning broadcaster from European Alliance for Kollective), Head of International Scripted, FranceTV
Randa CHAHOUD, director, block two of The Kollective

Discussant:
Martina TOTHOVA, Slovakia

Rapporteur:
Gaétan DEROCHE

Forum Talk 12 – "War on Education", screening and debate

In co-operation with the Observatory for History Teaching in Europe and EuroClio

No interpretation   ROOM: Screening Room

"Ukraine has rightfully received widespread news coverage since Russia launched its full-scale invasion in February 2022. Most of the information has been about the military operations, the humanitarian crisis and international affairs. Not much attention has been given to the ideology behind the invasion and the role of education in this conflict. The Russian army is systematically targeting Ukranian educational institutions and state actors deny Ukranian identity and right to exist as a Nation. This is happening because they know that education is a weapon they have been using to impose their views on past, present and future generations… The film tells a story that, while only touched on the surface by major international newspapers, urges mainstream attention."

The screening will be followed by a debate with the panelists and the room.
Moderator:
Steven STEGERS, Executive Director, EuroClio

Panel:
Olena PALKO, historian of the post-Soviet minorities, University of Basel, Switzerland
Stefano DI PIETRO, Film Director, Italy
Mariya FREY, Journalist at Suspilne, Ukraine

Rapporteur:
Estelle LANVIN

Forum Talk 13 – Press cartoons, an antidote to populism and a medicine for democracy?

In co-operation with the Cartooning for Peace   ROOM: 7

The brutalisation of political life, the impoverishment of public debate, the instrumentalisation and radicalisation of opinions, the increase in disinformation, the rise of populism, the danger of authoritarianism… These are just some of the ills that

threaten our 'democratic fatigue'. And yet there are remedies before the disease is complete: aren't art and humour formidable weapons against the autocrats of all stripes who impose censorship? How can press cartoons help to defend the fundamental rights and freedoms that make up democracy? How can we caricature our society when reality itself becomes a caricature?

Moderator:
Jean-Paul MARTHOZ, co-ordinator for the publication of the annual report of the Committee to Protect Journalists

Panel:
Zehra OMEROGLU, Press cartoonist, Türkiye
Tjeerd ROYAARDS, Press cartoonist and member of Cartooning for Peace, The Netherlands
Emanuele DEL ROSSO, Press Cartoonist and member of Cartooning for Peace Italy
Alberto GODIOLI, associate professor of European culture and literature at the University of Groningen, director of the 'Humour in Court' project

Discussant:
Anna UFAEVA, Argentina

Rapporteur:
Nadia LOUVIER

Forum Talk 14 – Can Democratic Innovations Transcend Divides?

In co-operation with Democratic Society (Demsoc)

How can different sectors (practitioners, researchers, and policymakers) work together to embed democratic innovations in transcending political and cultural divides?

ROOM: 6

Moderator:

Panel:
Matt LEIGHNINGER, Director of the National Civic League, United States of America
Anthony ZACHARZEWSKI, President of the Democratic Society and Nets4Dem
Azucena MORAN, Research Associate, Research Institute for Sustainability - Helmholtz Centre Potsdam, Germany
Danela ARSOVSKA, Mayor of the City of Skopje, North Macedonia

Discussant:
Reka HESZTERENYI, Italy

Rapporteur:
Sahmir SIDNEY

DETAILED PROGRAMME OF LABS – Thursday, 7 November

Meeting rooms at the Palais de l'Europe – Interpretation FR/EN
O9.OO–11.OO FIRST SERIES OF LABS

LAB 1: Youth engagement: a key to promoting diversity in society?

ROOM: 11

Sponsored by the Region Grand Est

Young people are more than ever confronted with global issues such as climate changenationalism and populism.Young people are not only potential victims but also a a part of the solution. Policy makers should not only listen to young people but also hear them.

Moderator:
Jean-Baptiste CUZIN, Head of the cross-border, European and international cooperation of the Region Grand Est

Discussant:
Adamantia ZISIMOPOULOU, Cyprus
Yaroslav MOROZOV, Ukraine

Initiative 1:   Empowering Young Leaders for Global Democratic Innovation, *ZonaDebate*
            Spain

ZonaDebate is a Spanish association of over 100 European members, mainly young university leaders. Their initiative is to create an online community for people under 30, interested in politics and with a clear democratic vocation, as well as some experience of leadership and activism. This initiative addresses the frustration felt by young Europeans over the rise of populism and the lack of political education, empowering them to engage meaningfully in the democratic process. The community will be organised into working groups tasked with drafting proposals and reports on relevant issues. These projects are then voted on and approved by a simple majority within the group, then submitted to a joint commission to produce a unified proposal, which will be forwarded to the Global Coordination Team (GCT). Composed of a representative from each participating country, the GCT will function as a youth "lobby", ensuring that proposals representing young leaders reach the stakeholders. This collaborative approach amplifies the voice of young people and puts them in touch with key political players.
            Presenter: Alejandro DI LORENZO BERROZPE

Initiative 2:   Youth voices for inclusive democracy, *The Young Changemakers*
            Pakistan
The Young Changemakers (TYC) is a Pakistani non-profit organisation dedicated to promoting youth leadership and social change. Youth Voices for Inclusive Democracy (YVID) is one of TYC's main projects. The project aims to empower Pakistan's marginalised youth to actively engage in democratic processes and promote social cohesion and diversity. YVID organises workshops, awareness campaigns and community outreach activities to amplify young people's voices, encourage understanding between different communities, and foster inclusive dialogue and collaboration. The initiative focuses on Pakistani regions where youth engagement in democratic processes is limited, involving diverse actors (marginalised youth, civil society organisations, local stakeholders, and governmental bodies). TYC collaborates with partner organisations and governmental agencies to enhance resources and extend the initiative's impact.
            Presenter: Sulman BHATTI

Initiative 3:   Urban Youth Councils in Bangladesh, SERAC-Bangladesh
            Bangladesh
SERAC-Bangladesh is a youth-focused non-governmental organisation committed to promoting civic engagement, human rights, and community development. The Urban Youth Councils project, in collaboration with UNDEF and supported by UN-HABITAT, aims to develop young people's leadership skills and encourage their involvement in decision-making processes in Bangladesh. Implemented since 2021 in four major cities - Narayanganj, Mymensingh, Rangpur and Rajshahi - the initiative aims to create platforms for young people to help shape the future of their communities. This unique model involves youth councils elected by the city's young people and attached to city authorities, bridging the gap between them and political structures. The aim is to ensure that urban policies and programmes truly reflect the needs of young people by encouraging their active participation in the design and implementation of solutions, aligning with the United Nations' vision that cities of youth are cities of prosperity.
            Presenter: S.M. SHAIKAT

Initiative 4:   RinVote Series, *National Youth Congress*
            Albania
The National Youth Congress of Albania (NYC) is an NGO that promotes youth empowerment through political education, civic engagement, and media literacy. Launched in 2019, the RinVote series aims to engage Albanian youth in democratic processes through a comprehensive four-day academy on democratic principles, governance, local and government reforms. Each cycle offers 14 to 20 young people the opportunity to improve their skills, particularly in public speaking and media communication, through in-depth media training. The "RinON" televised debates are an essential pillar of RinVote, where young people debate directly with political candidates on issues crucial to their communities and the nation. These debates are broadcasted on Euronews Albania at prime time, enabling young people to make their voices heard and influence public discourse. In this way, RinVote promotes respectful and constructive dialogue, fostering informed civic participation and an open media space.
            Presenter: Klajdi PRISKA

LAB 2: Fighting fake news and disinformtion to strenghten our freedoms

ROOM: 10

Sponsored by the City of Strasbourg

Freedom of expression is one of these fundamental freedoms, explicitly defended by democratic regimes and international human rights texts such as the European Convention on Human Rights. This freedom allows all individuals to express their opinions without the risk of being punished. However, this freedom can be limited for several reasons: for instance, it is forbidden to incite hatred. More insidiously, the creation and circulation of fake news is not necessarily prohibited, but it is at least morally contrary to democratic values, particularly when it expresses views that are hostile to democratic institutions or certain communities. So, how can we limit misinformation and hate speech while guaranteeing everyone's fundamental right to express themselves freely?

Moderator:
Floriane VARIERAS, Deputy Mayor of Strasbourg in charge of the Inclusive City: solidarity, support for vulnerable people, anti-discrimination.
Discussant:
Piet, Cartoonist, member of Cartooning for Peace, France
Nora TAFIROULT, Chair of the Association Speaker

Initiative 1:   Simulizi Levels Up, *Husisha Initiative Organisation*
                Kenya

The Husisha Initiative is a Kenyan NGO founded in 2018, working primarily in informal settlements, aiming to revolutionise learning, knowledge sharing, and human rights advocacy. Simulizi Levels Up is a project aimed at bridging the digital divide in Nairobi by equipping young people with essential digital skills. This not only enables them to become active and informed participants in the digital world, but also improves their employability and competitiveness in the digital job market. A comprehensive digital literacy training programme will therefore be put in place, covering basic computer operation and internet navigation, critical thinking and information evaluation, online safety, responsible digital citizenship, as well as an introduction to coding and digital content creation tools. A mentoring programme will also connect participants to industry professionals for career guidance and support. Targeting young people aged 16 to 35 in 15 slums in Nairobi, Mombasa and Kisumu, the initiative aims to empower 5000 young people over a 15-month period.
                Presenter: Charles Njenga CHEGE

Initiative 2:   Vulnerability Index of Disinformation, *Democracy Plus*
                Kosovo*

Democracy Plus (D+) is an independent Kosovar non-profit organisation founded in March 2016. Faced with the threat of disinformation to Kosovo's democracy and national security, affecting citizens' ability to make informed decisions, D+ created the Vulnerability Index of Disinformation in Kosovo from December 2021 to November 2022. The second Vulnerability Index of Disinformation was launched in June 2024. This index assesses Kosovo's vulnerability to information disorders on a measurable scale by offering a comprehensive assessment of the situation. The aim of the index is to gain an in-depth understanding of the ongoing dynamics in Kosovo's media news space and the attitudes of Kosovars towards information disorders and malign foreign influence. In addition, the index aims to provide an overview of the measures that need to be implemented by decision-making institutions to mitigate threats to Kosovo's information environment.
                Presenter: Albana REXHA RAÇA

Initiative 3:   The Svoboda Satellite Package, *Reporters sans frontières*
                France

Since Russia's full-scale military invasion of Ukraine began on 24 February 2022, nearly all independent media outlets have been banned, blocked, labelled as "foreign agents," or declared "undesirable organisations." Private TV channels have been removed from the air, except for cable entertainment channels, and access to Western media like Euronews, France 24 and the BBC is severely limited. Those remaining are either owned by Kremlin-affiliated individuals or practice strict self-censorship due to banned topics and language. To fight against Kremlin propaganda and provide independent journalism to the Russian-speaking population, Reporters sans frontières (RSF) has deployed several activities since 2022, from supporting immediate needs of journalists in exile (Visa support and emergency grants) to expanding the reach of their productions via the "Svoboda Satellite Package", a package with 11 channels accessible free to air via satellite. With its partner, the JX Fund, RSF has been providing services and funds for thousands of Russian journalists and continues its campaign by exposing propaganda.
                Presenter: Antoine BERNARD

Initiative 4:   AI Democracy 2.0, *Project Vote 263*
                Zimbabwe

AI Democracy 2.0 is a groundbreaking initiative that utilises artificial intelligence to promote civic education, fight against misinformation and disinformation, and provide fact-checked information. This project aims to achieve this through a WhatsApp-based chatbot, a platform that is cost-effective, easily accessible, and convenient for most Zimbabweans who face limited civic space and rising living costs in their country. By utilising this chatbot, citizens can gain knowledge about their rights, understand the roles of elected officials, track bills in parliament, and access voting and civic education information without putting their lives at risk. The ultimate objective of this project is to increase the participation of underrepresented groups - youth, women, individuals with disabilities - in electoral processes by providing them with vital civic education information. Thanks to funding from the Open Society Foundation Africa, this project collaborates with academic institutions for the development of the programme and civil society organisations for its implementation.
                Presenter: Youngerson MATETE

LAB 3: A polarised democracy, a sick democracy?

A new crucial question arises within modern societies: the issue of their polarization and the impact it has on the health of democracy. As political, social, and economic divides widen, we need to analyse whether a divided society can still function as a healthy and resilient democracy. What can we do to stem polarisation and strengthen the democratic fabric? Isn't it also said that divergent opinions and diversity forge the richness of our societies? At what point does diversity become polarising, and how can we ensure a fair balance?

Moderator:
Gilberto JERONIMO, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Portugal to the Council of Europe

Discussant:
Lukàs LANGER, Czechia
Fatimah HIDAYATOVA, Azerbaijan

Initiative 1:   Mural Art on a Path to Democracy, *Area Demos*
                  Spain

Area Demos, a Spanish think tank, aims to improve the quality of democracy and reduce polarisation and political disinterest in our societies. "Mural Art on a Path to Democracy" is an innovative educational project introducing elementary school children to democratic values and electoral systems over the course of a day. The day begins with the election of the mural to be painted, where pupils vote in two rounds to choose their favorite ecosystem: jungle, ocean, or polar habitat. Then, with a preferential vote, they select a "foreign" animal from the other ecosystems to integrate into the mural, symbolising the integration of foreigners. The children then collaborate by painting together the mural that has won the election, and each personalise a tote bag, illustrating their individual freedom in democracy. This activity shows them that they have a voice, which they can use to vote and persuade their pals to support their choice.
                  Presenter: Isabel MORALES MARTINEZ

Initiative 2:   Reporting Diversity Network, *Media Diversity Institute Western Balkans*
                  Serbia

The Media Diversity Institute Western Balkans (MDI WB) promotes accurate and inclusive diversity journalism. For this reason, Reporting Diversity Network 2.0 – RDN 2.0 is established to effectively influence media representation of ethnicity, religion, and gender in the Western Balkans. The network aims to strengthen the role of civil society in promoting a positive discourse to foster harmonious relations between neighbours and respect for social diversity. It seeks to strengthen regional collaboration between civil society organisations to influence the quality of media messages on ethnicity, religion, gender, and other forms of diversity. By providing tools and resources, it strengthens the influence of civil society and citizens in creating inclusive media and effective policies. Activities include media monitoring to detect hate speech, as well as awareness-raising campaigns on social media to counter incitement to hatred. The partnership brings together 16 organisations from six Western Balkan countries.
                  Presenter: Ivana JELACA

Initiative 3:   Immersive Audio Unlearning, *Sergio Xavier*
                  Portugal

Sérgio Xavier is a freelance educator with 15+ years of experience in different fields such as youth work, human rights education, and education for democratic citizenship. He has developed the artistic-educational research-based methodology "Immersive Audio Unlearning" since 2023, aiming to stimulate radical thinking on many of the challenges featuring within contemporary democracies, such as populism, polarisation, far right, or Eurocentrism. The audience is invited to shut their eyes, wear a critical lens, and immerse themselves in a narrative soundscape, within a story that includes a problematised representation of current reality. After a brief introduction, the immersive experience takes place, concluded by a reflexive sharing of the audience's impressions. "The Ascension" - the IAU story hereby presented - initiates after an electoral process where a populist political force is elected to govern a country. It imagines the growth of authoritarianism and illiberalism in a democratic-recessing state. It fosters the imagination of alternative scenarios, where democracy is collectively strengthened, fundamental rights and freedoms are utterly protected, and (des)information is critically thought.
                  Presenter: Sérgio SENO DA SILVA XAVIER

Initiative 4:   NewsWise, *The Guardian Foundation*
                  United Kingdom

The NewsWise programme, launched in 2018 and led by The Guardian Foundation, National Literacy Trust and PSHE Association, is the UK's only free media literacy programme for children aged 7-11. The initiative aims to create a generation of news-literate young people, with the ultimate objective being to develop responsible, active citizens. A recent study with the University of Birmingham has shown that participating in the programme sustainably improves children's ability to detect fake news and strengthens their civic engagement. So far, the programme has reached 16,700 children in nearly 300 schools across the UK and trained nearly 4,000 teachers. It specifically targets schools in disadvantaged areas or areas poorly served by the media. The programme focuses on critical literacy through understanding how news is produced, identifying reliable sources, distinguishing between fact and opinion, and getting children to create their own news reports.
                  Presenter: Eleanor NAREWSKA

LAB 4: How can diversity be promoted at local level?

Sponsored by the Congress of the Council of Europe

By their nature, local government is closest to citzens.. This first level of democracy is fundamental to building community cohesion across diversities. One of the challenges often faced by local government in this respect is the political representation of diverse residents but also building alliances and share policy positions across diverse constitutencies. How can civil society also take up these issues to raise the awareness of local decision-makers?

Moderator:
Véronique BERTHOLLE, Deputy-Mayor of Strasbourg
Discussant:
Bryony RUDKIN, Member of the Ipswich Borough Council, UK
Maijlinda BUFI, Mayor of Roskovec, Albania

Initiative 1:   Network of Municipal open public spaces VCentriHUB, Kyiv City State Administration Ukraine

VCentriHUB is a network of municipal public spaces (Hubs) for representatives of civil society institutions in Kyiv, consisting of three hubs in different Kyiv districts - Shevchenkivskyi, Obolonskyi and Holosiivskyi. Two further hubs are planned in Solomianskyi and Dniprovskyi, with the aim of establishing one in each Kyiv district. These hubs facilitate local initiatives and serve as a platform for urban policy discussions, public consultations, and other civic activities in collaboration with local authorities. The Hubs regularly host events for children and young people, civil society representatives and civil servants, training courses for senior citizens, meetings and roundtables, presentations, consultations, creative evenings and more. The electronic platform www.vcentri.com - a specific service for civil society organisations (CSOs) - combines several city services for CSOs, such as the possibility of consulting news and announcements of events specific to Kyiv or launching electronic public consultations. In total, the platforms hosted 8000 events, 6000 of which were organised by civil society organisations. The number of visitors reached over 160 000.
        Presenter: Tetiana CHERPAK

Initiative 2:   Cascais Participation System, Cascais City Hall
                Portugal

The Cascais Participation System (CPS) is a comprehensive framework established by the Municipality to promote civic engagement and participatory governance. It includes several initiatives aimed at involving citizens in decision-making processes, and encouraging and supporting meaningful civic engagement in politics, particularly among young people, women and minorities. To reinforce these practices, the municipality has restructured its organisation by creating a team specialised in the design and implementation of participatory processes, in collaboration with other municipal departments. With ten years' experience behind it, Cascais aims to transform these participatory practices into established public policy and promote a culture of participation at all levels of governance. The CPS aims to replace experimental approaches with an integrated strategy, fostering the ongoing democratisation of public policies. It provides a coherent framework for deepening local democracy, unifying municipal efforts and offering citizens a platform for deciding how they wish to exercise their citizenship.
        Presenter: Isabel XAVIER CANNING

Initiative 3:   Digital Democracy Accelerator at local level, Symbiosis – School of Political Studies in Greece
                Greece
The Digital Democracy Accelerator at local level involves a multi-stage process designed to engage citizens in the policymaking cycle. The initiative includes steps such as advocacy, design, outreach, idea collection, deliberation, and monitoring, ensuring diverse stakeholder involvement and inclusive decision-making. Its objectives include gathering citizens' opinions, empowering decision-making, including specific social groups, increasing government legitimacy, improving policy effectiveness, and holding public officials accountable. Actions include submission of proposals, mobilisation of support, feedback, audits, interaction with authorities and monitoring of implementation. The process is deployed locally, covering the entire public policy cycle with hybrid participatory methods and itinerant meetings. Participants include the public, vulnerable groups, local residents, and various potential partners such as local authorities, civil organisations, the media and educational establishments. The collaboration among these diverse participants and partners ensures that the participatory policymaking process is inclusive, well-supported and effectively implemented.
        Presenter: Ljubisa VRENCEV

Initiative 4:   Emergency Response to conflict and promoting peace and stability in East Darfur, Youth
                Volunteers initiative for Peace
                Sudan
"Emergency Response to conflict and promoting peace and stability in East Darfur" is an initiative of the Sudanese non-profit civil society "Youth Volunteers initiative for Peace". The initiative aims to promote peace among communities and deconstructing misinformation campaigns of Sudan's war parties (SAF, RSF) that threatens social cohesion and ambitious willingness for peace & democratic transition in Sudan. It includes monthly meetings with relevant ministries to mobilise stakeholders, workshops on civic education and peacebuilding, TOT and community awareness training, awareness campaigns, as well as youth-led radio programmes on the peaceful coexistence forum. The initiative focuses on the state of East Darfur and involves community members - youth councils, resistance committees, IDPs, nomad representatives and local leaders - with an emphasis on cross-cutting age, gender, and diversity integration to promote peace and democratic transition in Sudan.
        Presenter: Said ALI SININ MUSA

LAB 5: A seat at the table: enhancing the role of marginalised groups in public discourse

ROOM: 7

Sponsored by the Conference of INGOs

How can we ensure real democratic inclusion? Ethnic minorities, people with disabilities, LGBTQ+ people and others, are often under-represented in decision-making and media spheres. This exclusion not only limits their ability to influence policies that directly affect them, but also impoverishes public debate by depriving it of diverse perspectives. Strengthening the place of these groups in public debate means creating accessible and inclusive platforms, promoting equal opportunities policies, and combating stereotypes and discrimination.. By including the voices of marginalised groups, we enrich democratic dialogue, promote fairer and more effective decision-making, and make progress towards a fairer and more inclusive society. This approach is also essential to build trust in democratic institutions.

Moderator:
Piotr SADOWSKI, Vice-Preident of the Conference of the INGOs of the Council of Europe (CINGO), vice-président de la Conférence des OING

Discussant:
Geneveviève LALOY, Member of the Conference of the INGOs
Sevilay CELENK OZEN (Türkiye, GUE), member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, member if the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye

Initiative 1:   Fostering Political Pluralism and Democratic Values, North Macedonia

In North Macedonia, there is a lack of all-inclusive political deliberation that crosses party and ethnic lines making it difficult to forge a consensus on the way forward in the political reforms. Since 2017, EPI has been continuously implementing a model of consultations and informing that provides space for the absent dialogue and engage citizens in a meaningful manner in the policymaking processes. EPI has been organising 4 national deliberative polling events and 6 local deliberative events with the objective to strengthen and advance the democratic debate around strategic priorities and the needed national reforms related to democratic institutions, equality, elections, social cohesion, EU integration, security, and economic stability. These events bring together around 200 citizens, representatives of national institutions, civil society organisations, media, political parties, and other relevant stakeholders in each cycle with the aim to provide structured input on the advancement of the national reform processes.
            Presenter: Ardita VEJSELI

Initiative 2:   Facts inclusive, Media Inno Tech / News Verifier Africa
                Nigeria

Facts Inclusive is a project focused on making fact check content accessible to people with hearing and visual disability, and relatable. The project sought to minimise the vulnerability of persons with visual impairment and hearing disability to misinformation and disinformation and fostering a participatory democratic process. The project which was executed under the Media Inno Tech's News Verifier Africa initiative launched an animated sign language fact-checker and utilised AI video tools to create fact-check videos that people with hearing disability can easily engage with. The project has seen a drastic increase in the number of deaf and blind consumers of fact-checks. Subsequent testing of the approach, in partnership with the Abuja Association of Deaf Persons, exposed a widespread lack of civic awareness and information literacy amongst persons with hearing disability in Nigeria, representative of the African context. It further highlighted an urgent need to create media literacy and digital resources in sign language.
            Presenter: Zainab Oyiza SANNI

Initiative 3:   The Global Pluralism Monitor, The Global Centre for Pluralism
                Canada

The Global Pluralism Monitor (GPM) is a measurement tool of the Global Centre for Pluralism (GCP) that assesses the state of pluralism in countries around the world. Across political, economic, social and cultural domains, the Monitor informs decision-making to address root causes of exclusion and improve the prospects for pluralism. The goal is to strengthen efforts by governments, civil society, and the private sector to enable gap analysis, trend analysis, intersectional analysis, conflict prevention and share good practices. A team of national experts on diversity and inclusion uses this framework to produce national reports, combining qualitative data and GCP-developed pluralism perception surveys, guiding local initiatives for dialogue and change. In this way, these initiatives play a crucial role in encouraging social transformations and supporting global efforts to promote harmonious and inclusive coexistence. The GPM framework has already been adopted and adapted by the Women of the Ethnic Commission in Colombia and it was used during our training programmes in Sri Lanka to help build more pluralistic policies.
            Presenter: Michael YOUASH

Initiative 4:   Esimde research and discussion platform, Public Association Center Polis Asia Kyrgyzstan

Esimde is a platform for research and discussion on memory and activities in the Central Asia region, particularly in the Kyrgyz Republic. Composed of diverse professionals, from practitioners to theorists, Esimde is passionately committed to enriching the understanding of the history of the Kyrgyz Republic and Central Asia in the 20th and 21st centuries. Its mission is to promote social change by redefining the historical and memorial perception of this period. Esimde's main objectives include: the restitution and preservation of historical truth, particularly around periods of mass repression, as well as stimulating public debate on understudied aspects of Kyrgyz history. Esimde also aspires to promote fundamental values such as human life, freedom and democracy in collective consciousness and state policy. By cultivating an interest in history, Esimde aims to lay the foundations for future meaningful initiatives that will offer new impartial perspectives on the past, present, and future of independent Kyrgyz society.
            Presenter: Emira NOGOIBAEVA

15.00–17.00 SECOND SERIES OF LABS

LAB 6: Amplifying marginalised voices: diversity in action /

ROOM: 9

Sponsored by the Permanent Representation of France to the Council of Europe

Diversity in action describes the dynamism of marginalised groups who take initiatives to assert their rights and be heard. By organising themselves and acting collectively, these groups highlight the injustices and inequalities they suffer, while proposing concrete solutions for a fairer future. Their actions demonstrate their resilience and their determination to be recognised and to participate fully in society. By speaking out and claiming their place, they enrich public debate with perspectives that are often ignored or minimised. This diversity in action not only calls for inclusion; it embodies diversity as a driving force for change. By amplifying their voices, these movements raise collective awareness and encourage institutions to adopt fairer, more inclusive policies.

Moderator:
Pap NDIAYE, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of France to the Council of Europe

Discussant:
Sarah EL MOTTALIB, Inspector for the Ministry of National Education, Chair of the Association "Les pépites publiques", France
Furkan SORKUNCUK, member of the Conference of the INGOs

Initiative 1: Accelerating Community Participation into Civic Spaces, Libera Initiative for Civic Engagement
Nigeria

"Accelerating Community Participation into Civic Spaces" is an innovative project designed to promote the diversity and inclusion of Key Populations communities into civic spaces, especially into active participatory in democratic processes in Nigeria. More so, the initiative tends to create awareness on the impending danger shrouding Nigeria's growing democracy, which is the constant and massive disinterest on democracy and participatory governance, especially among the youthful population, which is the biggest voting bloc according to the Independent National Electoral Commission sources. This has often led voter apathy, due to lack of trust in the sanctity of the electoral processes. The initiative extends to all young people, regardless of their diversity, including key populations and persons with disabilities. These activities include workshop for key population students in Institutions of higher learning, governance hub for youths in their diversities and inclusive leadership fellowship. Conducted in partnership with local organisations and supported by ISDAO (Initiative Sankofa West Africa), the project seeks to transform perceptions and increase civic engagement in Nigeria.
Presenter: Samuel Arizechukwu OZONNA

Initiative 2: Democracy in diversity, Dialogo Diverso
Ecuador
The "Democracy in Diversity" initiative by the Dialogo Diverso Foundation has strengthened democracy in Ecuador since 2018 by advancing LGBTIQ+ rights and political engagement. The initiative has engaged LGBTIQ+ activists with political parties and assembly members to influence their political agendas in support of LGBTIQ+ rights, obtaining public commitments from them. Additionally, the initiative has launched innovative educational campaigns in social media to solidify political commitments for LGBTIQ+ and engage new young LGBTIQ+ leaders. Significantly, the initiative reached over 287 000 people through debates, conferences, workshops, mass media, and social networks. It got 273 people to multiply political information and knowledge regarding LGBTIQ+ rights and democracy. Various public figures were involved in the initiative, including assembly members, officials, political organisations, and activists. Furthermore, the initiative forged strategic partnerships with entities like the National Democratic Institute (NDI) Ecuador, the Embassy of Canada in Ecuador and several LGBTIQ+ organisations that helped with resources and exposure.
Presenter: Danilo MANZANO

Initiative 3: Using Storytelling to prevent LGBTQ+ bullying, Diversity Role Models
United Kingdom

The project "Embracing Difference, Ending Bullying", funded by the Department for Education (DfE), aims to combat bullying in English schools by using Diversity Role Models and storytelling as key tools. The aim of the initiative is to show how carefully constructed personal narratives can be effectively used to counter prejudice-based bullying, debunk disinformation, and strengthen social cohesion in the education sector. Selected in 2021 for a three-year programme by the DfE, the initiative uses Role Model stories to raise awareness among staff and students of the diversity and characteristics protected by the 2010 Equality Act. In-depth research in each school has made it possible to adapt the training and create personalised action plans. This presentation is addressed to civil society representatives, youth workers, law and policymakers and government delegations.
Presenter: …

Initiative 4: Svi UGLAS (Everyone in Unity), Art Aparat
Serbia

Svi UGLAS (Everyone in Unity) is an initiative that promotes democratic values through music. The project, run since 2016 by Art Aparat, focuses on Roma children and young people who are in extreme poverty, excluded from education and often victims of labor exploitation. It empowers them while also involving society in a joint creation with the Roma community, enabling intercultural exchange and fostering empathy, solidarity, and unity. In addition to the intercultural aspect, the project promotes intergenerational exchange, which has proved equally valuable for all participants and for raising awareness among the public. Within the intercultural choir, over 80 members of the Roma and non-Roma communities collaborate, are creating together and producing videos and songs that are broadcasted online. The project also organises concerts to present these works and runs an educational programme to familiarise participants and the public with Roma culture. Training courses and workshops for teachers and youth workers are also offered, using music as a tool for social inclusion.
Presenter: Maja CURCIC

LAB 7: Imrproving women's representation and maximising their potential, a path through gender equality

ROOM: 11

The fight for equality between women and men means focusing on two crucial aspects: representation and women's potential. Improving women's representation means not only increasing their numbers in various sectors and decision-making levels, but also ensuring that their voices and perspectives are truly considered. Maximising their potential means creating environments where women can fully develop their skills and talents, without being held back by discrimination or stereotypes. Taken together, these actions effectively constitute a path towards gender equality, as they aim to eliminate the systemic barriers that limit women's opportunities. By asking ourselves whether this path leads to equality, we are looking at the most effective strategies for achieving a fairer, more balanced society.

Moderator:
Käthlin SANDER, Chair of the Committee of Experts on Artificial Intelligence, Equality and Discrimination (GEC/ADI-AI).

Discussant:
Marta BECERRA, Programme Manager and co-secretary of the Steering Committee on Democracy (CDDEM)
Anna SEVORTIAN, CINGO Standing Committee member, advisor and independent expert on human rights and international development

Initiative 1:   Women Peace Ambassadors, Women's democracy Network
                 Moldova
The initiative aims to improve civic participation and leadership of women in peacebuilding. Women Peace Ambassadors undergo specialised training to become leaders in peacebuilding, addressing the unique challenges faced by women, including vulnerable and refugee women, in conflict-affected areas. Participants include women from throughout the country, including Gagauzia and Transnistrian region of the Republic of Moldova, and Ukrainian forcibly displaced women. They work to create inclusive, peaceful, and participatory environments, amplifying women's voices and promoting gender equality. The project's interventions comprise a series of complementary online and offline activities. To ensure sustainability and inclusivity, the project is developing robust mixed-mode learning content, accessible to both Romanian and Russian speakers, to meet the needs of women peace ambassadors. Through interactive exercises, women acquire the knowledge, practical skills and support they need to become actively involved in peace processes and become agents of change.
          Presenter: Erica ZUCEC

Initiative 2:   European Charter for Equality of Women and Men in Local life, Council of European
                  Municipalities and Regions
                  Belgium
The European Charter for Equality of Women and Men in Local Life, launched in 2006 with the support of the European Commission, has been updated in 2022 by the Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR) and its member associations to ensure its usefulness and relevance for Europe's towns and regions. By signing the Charter, local and regional players make a firm commitment to the principle of equality and diversity and are encouraged to implement concrete policies and actions addressing the themes mentioned in the Charter. The aim is to build the capacity of local authorities and their associations, provide additional support, disseminate local initiatives, and strengthen commitment to the principle of equality and diversity at local and regional level. The project aims to continually review and revise the Charter, promote it to local authorities for signature, and support signatories in implementing concrete policies. Participants include local and regional authorities, member associations, and the CEMR, in partnership with the European Commission, European and international organisations and civil society.
          Presenter: Bela TSKHELISHVILI

Initiative 3:   Europe at a crossroads, The European Women's Lobby
                  Belgium
The European Women's Lobby's (EWL) "Europe at a crossroads" campaign was launched on March 6 in Brussels in the run-up to the 2024 European elections. The campaign has played a crucial role in raising awareness of the rights of women and girls in the next mandate of the EU institutions. It emphasises the need to fully include women in the political, economic, and social spheres to foster functional and effective democracies. The campaign emphasises that equality between women and men benefits society, not just women. The EWL Secretariat manages the campaign at Brussels level, while EWL members run it at national and local level. The campaign extends to all European countries through national coordination in 26 EU member states and 17 European organisations. Activities include online training for members in December 2023, national events across the EU such as "Elle en Europe" signs in Bulgaria, and an event with candidates in Portugal.
          Presenter: Silla-Mari KAKKOLA

Initiative 4:   Women's Mock Parliament, Communication Techniques for Development ACT
                  Egypt

The Egyptian NGO ACT founded the Women's Mock Parliament, which includes governmental and non-governmental organisations, decision-makers, women politicians and leaders, members of parliaments and feminists from Egypt and the Arab world. The aim of the Mock Parliament is to strengthen women's political participation and encourage them to take part in political life in Egypt and the Arab world. This initiative helps to educate and mobilise public opinion on the issue of women's inclusion in the decision-making process. ACT enables women to acquire knowledge of their constitutional rights and political campaigning skills to participate in local, municipal, and parliamentary elections. Today, the parliament reaches 2500 women from predominantly poor rural communities in Egypt and the Arab world, where cultural traditions are biased against women and patriarchal relations are dominant. Parliament gives liberal and reformist women a means of expressing their social and political disadvantage in the current parliamentary system, and of ridiculing the prejudices of that system.
          Presenter: Samah Salaheldin HASSAAN MANSUR

LAB 8: No room for hate – Let's discuss together

Sponsored by PACE

Hatred often results from the inability to understand the other side's position in a conflict or to accept differences of values, culture or perspective. This limits our ability to find a compromise solution and can fuel the vicious circle of one-upmanship. Our era has also brought a new set of challenges in terms of communication, which has become increasingly depersonalised by through social networks, where hate speech tinged with prejudice spreads wide with anyone being a potential target, but particularly those belonging to minorities. How can we encourage people to listen to and understand "the other"? Open dialogue can help uncover the mechanisms of hatred in order to combat it more effectively.

Moderator:
Petra BAYR, member of the Austrian delegation to PACE, member of the national Council of Austria

Discussant:
Georgios STAMATIS(Greece, PPE/DC), Member of Pace and of the Greek Parliament, Greece
Meaza FISEHA, Ethiopia

Initiative 1:   Intervention for social inclusion through the fight against sexist and sexual violence
                  and discrimination, Association DBSP Stop au sexisme
                  France
Founded 3 years ago, DBSP Stop au sexisme is a non-profit organisation whose mission is to prevent and raise awareness about issues of ordinary sexism, sexist and sexual violence, harassment (street, school, cyber), sexual assault, LGBTQIA+ causes and ''male/female'' inequalities. Their first level of action is mainly digital and includes social networks (Instagram, TikTok, LinkedIn, Facebook), a newsletter, a website, YouTube videos, micro-trottoirs and two podcasts. In the field, the association supplements its action with festive prevention measures (flyers, educational games, icebreaker cocotte), safe zones, marauding to monitor risky behaviour, helping victims, and dissuading the perpetrators of problematic acts. The association has also been working in schools since February 2023, with French Ministry of Education approval, with special emphasis on cyberbullying. Their two-hour awareness-raising sessions and conferences for the general public aim to sow seeds of long-term reflection to promote inclusiveness in political decision-making and beyond.
                  Presenter: Emanouela TODOROVA

Initiative 2:   Local Conflict Management, Sozialpädagogisches Institut "Walter May"
                  Germany
Under the project "Local Conflict Management" project, Stiftung SPI supports 13 local authorities in Germany to adapt or enhance their conflict management structures and procedures, aiming at fostering local democracy, dialogue, and participation. Conflicts tackled at local level are likely to threaten peaceful democratic coexistence in our diverse modern society. These include (local) protest movements that display anti-democratic and anti-government tendencies, threats from right-wing extremist groups, conflicts evolving around topics such as migration, integration, and questions of (local) identity as well as conflicts related to the use of public spaces that exhibit tendencies to exclude certain groups. An analysis of local conflicts was carried out in each participating city while integrating different viewpoints. Local steering groups then developed targeted activities to address these conflicts. The project also includes a conflict management training programme for representatives of local administrations and civil society organisations. The project is funded by the German Federal Government.
                  Presenter: Julia RETTIG

Initiative 3:   Courageous Rhode Island, Media Education Lab
                  United States of America
Courageous Rhode Island (RI) is committed to preventing the rise of violence and extremism through authentic and respectful conversations, promoting active listening, media literacy, kindness and compassion, and community engagement to counter fear and hate. Courageous Conversations is an adult education initiative that critically analyses media, news, and popular culture, while exploring how hate spreads. It encourages deep listening to differing opinions, dialogue on difficult topics, and shares skills for recognising and resisting manipulative and provocative messages. In 2023, more than 1200 people took part in Courageous Conversations, a series of 22 online dialogues on topics including hoaxes and misinformation, social media influencers, conflict entrepreneurs, choosing whom to trust, targeted propaganda, freedom of expression, hate speech and censorship, preventing violent extremism and disrupting pathways to radicalisation. In 2024, a series of practical and supportive tools were developed to help hundreds of educators and students build tolerance, problem-solving skills, and an appreciation of different perspectives.
                  Presenter: Yonty FRIESEM

Initiative 4:   Unity in Journalism: Weekly Dialogues for Media Harmony and Democratic Progress in
                  Ethiopia, Editors Guild of Ethiopia
                  Ethiopia
Despite Ethiopia's century-long media history, polarisation has intensified with the proliferation of ethnic news outlets, generating divergent reporting and tensions. Platforms such as Facebook and Telegram amplify this polarisation through the dissemination of false information and hate speech, fuelling ethnic divisions and violence, as well as political instability, undermining public trust in the media and jeopardising democracy and social cohesion. To address these issues, the proposed initiative has brought together 32 major news editors from print, broadcast, and online platforms for regular dialogue sessions. Implemented during the 2023/24 season with support from International Media Support, this project laid a foundation for depolarising Ethiopian media and fostering solidarity among media gatekeepers. These sessions focused on countering information disorder in the digital space, conducting media self-regulation, engaging in collaborative action on media regulations, and promoting public interest journalism. By facilitating these dialogues, the initiative aimed at creating a more cohesive media environment that can collectively address challenges and support democratic processes in Ethiopia.
                  Presenter: Derese NIGATU

LAB 9: How can we guarantee diversity and trust in elections and democratic processes ?

ROOM: 8

Article 3 of Protocol No.1 to the European Convention on Human Rights states that everyone has the right to take part in elections for the government of his/her country by secret ballot. This right guarantees the free expression of citizens' political will, the representativity of elected officials and the legitimacy of legislative and executive institutions, and thereby, contributes to popular confidence in the institutions. Some Western democracies have seen their electoral process manipulated, sometimes violently, by political forces with a low respect for democratic values. More generally,doubt whether justified or not, that elections are unfaif, represents a major risk for democracy.

Moderator:
Tamar TALIASHVILI, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Georgia to the Council of Europe

Discussant:
Goran MILETIC, member of the Conference of the INGOs
Rowan MAC SWEENEY, Ireland

Initiative 1:   Founder, I Lead Climate Action Initiative
                  Nigeria

Lead Climate Action (LCA) focuses on the interaction between climate action, peace, and democracy, particularly in the Lake Chad basin region. One of their key initiatives involves initiating legislative deliberations on climate change in the National Assembly. In parallel, LCA has established a democratic institute to stimulate national debates on climate change, peace, security, and the environment. The organisation points out that climate change threatens democracy in Africa, disrupting electoral processes and exacerbating poverty and food insecurity. Climate-induced forced displacement often deprives citizens of their right to vote, forcing them to leave their homes and abandon their electoral registrations. Consequently, as Nigeria's only climate-focused civil society, it implements initiatives such as the disarmament of local government areas in Nigeria to strengthen democracy. By collaborating with entities such as Amnesty Nigeria, LCA seeks to mobilise local communities to promote inclusive and democratic climate solutions while strengthening the resilience of local populations in the face of growing climate challenges.
                  Presenter: Adenike Titilope OLADOSU

Initiative 2:   Mine, yours, our vote, Aurora Institute for Human Rights
                  Brazil

"Mine, yours, our vote" is a Brazilian project developed by the Aurora Institute for Human Rights, in collaboration with various Brazilian organisations. The project is aimed at young people of different origins and identities, particularly those voting for the first time. Its primary goal is to foster a culture of respectful dialogue on responsible voting, politics, democracy, and human rights in a context of polarisation. In addition, the initiative promotes care for the community, emphasising the importance of considering the well-being of vulnerable members. It also advocates diversity and inclusive political representation, with the aim of creating a more inclusive and participatory democracy. The initiative includes dialogue sessions focusing on human rights education, and has launched a podcast, "Our Vote", as well as a digital mural. E-books have been produced with the dialogue scripts for the 2020 and 2022 editions. Partnerships have also been formed with the Public Ministry, social organisations, educational institutions, and First Nations leaders.
                  Presenter: Michele BRAVOS

Initiative 3:   The Democratic Commons, Make.org
                  France

The "Democratic Commons" is the first global research programme to build AI in service of democracy: a two-year programme aimed at tackling the biases of generative artificial intelligences and understanding how they behave on democratic platforms such as those run by European civic tech Make.org. The organisation aims to use and modify AI innovations to make democracy more participatory and resilient. Part of a call for projects issued by the French Public Investment Bank (BPI), the initiative is coordinated by Make.org and brings together the CNRS, Sorbonne University and Sciences Po, four leading players in their fields: participatory technologies, machine learning and social sciences. Accompanied by various expert partners and scientific supervisory advisors, the aims are to develop a system for evaluating generative AI languages to identify their biases, and to generate a new open source LLM (large language model), compatible with democratic processes. It contributes to improve citizens' access to quality information, fostering a more informed and diverse public opinion.
                  Presenter: David MAS

Initiative 4:   Civic Education to Disabled Tanzanians Towards General Election 2025, Brilliance Family
                  Tanzanie

People with disabilities are generally forgotten and their needs neglected. They face difficulties in accessing various social services due to limitations caused by disabling conditions and the availability of intervention services. The experience of people with disabilities during previous general elections in Tanzania has shown that greater citizenship education is needed. As bona fide countrymen, they have the right to participate in matters affecting them and the entire nation as well. The organisation therefore wishes to use the time available before the general elections in Tanzania in 2025 to engage people with disabilities to enable them to use their democratic rights. Its engagement will cover all regions of Tanzania and involve a variety of activities, including public meetings, seminars, capacity-building training, and radio/TV programmes. People with disabilities need plenty of space to express their own feelings and emotions in the same way as everyone deserves.
                  Presenter: Isaac MUTHENGI

LAB 10: Education for democratic citizenship and diversity: what can be done?

ROOM: 7

Sponsored by the European Collectivity of Alsace

Improving the way we prepare young people for democratic citizenship in diverse societies is an essential concern for our contemporary democracies. Faced with the challenges posed by cultural diversity and social tensions, it is crucial to develop innovative educational approaches that encourage mutual understanding and respect for differences, by promoting a multiperspective approach. What pedagogical tools - innovative educational programmes or concrete projects aimed at training committed and open-minded citizens - can be put in place to strengthen the role of education in promoting a more inclusive and democratic society?

Moderator:
Mehdi AHMED, Head of the European Affairs service, European Collectivity of Alsace, France

Discussant:
Marwa, Afghan refugee
Jean-Luc CONSTANTINE, Saint Lucia

Initiative 1:   Education, Health, Justice, Water: 4 paths to Peace, ALEC Network
                France
The initiative is based on four multi-disciplinary and international projects (Argentina, Brazil, Spain, France, Guatemala, Mexico, Peru, and Venezuela), designed to have a concrete impact on public and environmental policies. The first project (right of access to education), carried out in Mexico, creates a university for the elderly in the state of Hidalgo, promoting social inclusion and intergenerational links. The second (right of access to health), in partnership with the Guatemalan Ministry of Health, focuses on the sexual and reproductive health of women and girls, in line with the guidelines of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. The third (right of access to justice), in collaboration with IFD (Integral Family Development) and the Salamanca National Human Rights Commission, is developing an assistance protocol for families affected by homicides, feminicides and kidnappings. Finally, the fourth (right of access to water) cooperates with the Guatemalan Ministry of the Environment to strengthen the link between land and water, while respecting natural and landscape values. These initiatives aim to improve access to education, health, justice, and natural resources, while promoting inclusion and sustainability.
                Presenter: Dominique GAY-SYLVESTRE

Initiative 2:   Skopje Climate Assembly, Citizens' association ZIP Institute for Policy and Good
                Governance
                North Macedonia
The Skopje Climate Assembly is an innovative democratic platform that engages citizens in open dialogues to formulate recommendations on air pollution and environmental policies. By fostering inclusive, informed, and transparent decision-making, the Assembly paves the way for more effective policies and solutions. Traditionally, citizen involvement in North Macedonia's political process has been limited to voting, confining climate change discussions to elite circles. The Assembly seeks to democratise this dialogue, empowering citizens to directly influence decision-making processes. The main objective is to formulate 20 to 30 recommendations for government action to combat air pollution. In three months, six sessions were held, including interventions by experts, and ended with the presentation of recommendations to officials of the city of Skopje and the Ministry of the Environment. The 65 participants, faithfully representing the population of Skopje, chose to focus on energy, mobility, and public health. This project is backed by the Council of Europe, the EU's Horizon 2020 programme, the European Climate Foundation, DBU, Real Deal, Nexus Institute, and the city of Skopje.
                Presenter: Ivana SIMJANOSKA

Initiative 3:   Bijak Demokrasi, Think Policy
                Indonesia
Think Policy is a unique solution to improve the ecosystem of Indonesia's policy-making process towards a climate-resilient, digital, and socially inclusive economy. Think Policy launched Bijak Memilih (Vote Wisely) in 2022. It is a platform-based movement to help young voters make informed decisions for the 2024 election. The team behind Think Policy and Bijak Memilih is a melting pot of product engineers, policy experts and community organisers. They are young people (aged 20 to 35) from a variety of professional backgrounds, including for-profit companies, technology startups, NGOs, government agencies, think tanks and multilateral organisations. The Bijak Demokrasi initiative expands the Bijak Memilih initiative by developing an ecosystem aiming to reach 10 million people by 2029, promoting citizen participation through four key steps: informing on policies, encourage public expression, mobilise communities to influence government decisions, and train young professionals in public policy through the Sekolah Bijak platform. These initiatives are designed to strengthen democracy by enabling citizens to play an active role in governance, while promoting inclusive and sustainable policies.
                Presenter: Andhyta UTAMI

Initiative 4:   Action by Artists for Development and Human Rights Education, *AARMOC*
                Chad
Action by Artists for Development and Human Rights Education is an initiative of the Chad-based organisation AARMOC, which has been using art and culture as engines of social transformation for the past decade. Through a variety of innovative artistic and cultural programmes, AARMOC aims to promote peace, social cohesion, and human rights education, targeting diverse groups such as teenagers, women, and children. The initiative, entitled "Raising awareness and educating voters to promote free, credible, transparent and inclusive elections in Chad", was conceived at a time when Chad was going through a period of political transition, preparing to organise a presidential election for a return to constitutional order. The aim was therefore to prepare citizens for this electoral deadline, by strengthening their democratic participation, and by raising their awareness and training them on the importance of their role in the electoral process.
                Presenter: Clairette Paola MBANG NGOUTANE