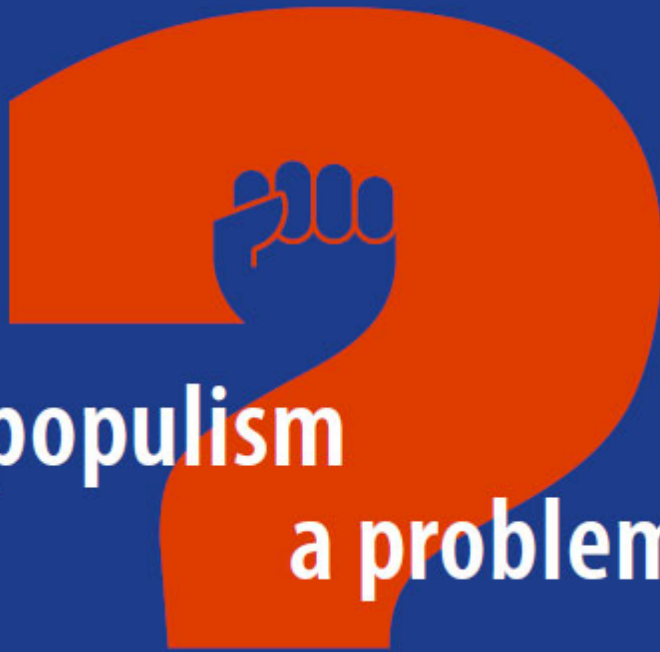




# World Forum for democracy



Is populism  
a problem



STRASBOURG  
**8 > 10**  
NOVEMBER

## PROGRAMME



#CoE\_WFD

## Summary of the programme

### Wednesday, 8 November

- 09.00-10.00 [Time for facts](#)
- 10.00-10.15 Lisa Simone, Jazz Singer
- 10.15-11.45 Plenary session 1: From democracy of parties to democracy of citizens?
- 11.45-13.15 [Plenary session 2](#): Media – friend or foe of democracy?
- 13.15-14.45 *Lunch break*
- 15.00-15.30 Welcome words
- 15.30-17.30 [Plenary session 3](#): Is populism a problem ?
- 17.30-18.00 Introducing the demonstration experiment of [Random Sample Voting](#)
- 19.00-20.30 Welcome reception, Blue restaurant Council of Europe (upon invitation)

### Thursday, 9 November

- 09.00-10.30 [Lightning talks](#)
- 09.00-10.30 [Panel 1](#): From Fake to fact
- 09.00-10.30 [Panel 2](#): Responding to populist discourse and action?
- 09.00-10.30 [Panel 3](#): Gender Equality and Political Empowerment of Women
- 10.30-11.00 *Break*
- 11.00-13.00 [Knowledge Café](#) (First session)
- 11.00-16.00 [Agora of Democracy](#)
- FIRST SERIES OF LABS
- 11.00-13.00 [LAB 1: Is hybrid democracy more inclusive?](#)  
[LAB 2: Corruption and Populism](#)  
[LAB 3: Fact checking](#)  
[LAB 4: Making votes count more](#)  
[LAB 5: Participatory democracy](#)  
[LAB 6: Citizens' disconnect](#)
- 13.00-14.30 *Lunch break*
- 14.30-16.00 [Knowledge Café](#) (Second session)
- 14.30-18.00 [Participants' Assembly](#)
- 14.30-18.00 [Networking session](#): Alliance against populism
- SECOND SERIES OF LABS
- 14.30-16.30 [LAB 7: Bursting social media echo chambers](#)  
[LAB 8: Corruption and populism](#)  
[LAB 9: Fake news](#)  
[LAB 10: Activism against populism](#)  
[LAB 11: Can democracy survive service media?](#)  
[LAB 12: Big data](#)  
[LAB 13: Civic education](#)
- 16.30-16.45 *Break*
- 16.45-18.00 [Storytelling](#)

### Friday, 10 November

- 09.00-10.30 [Plenary session 4](#): Multilateral responses to populism
- 10.00-12.30 [Closing session](#) and democracy innovation award

*The World Forum for Democracy is placed under the High Patronage of Emmanuel Macron, President of the French Republic*

## A word from the organisers

Populism may take many forms and vary in definition, but it is almost always a symptom of democratic malaise.

Democracy requires public trust and an institutional balance, enabling fair political competition, the alternation of power, and constructive political negotiation. This trust is being rapidly eroded. Many citizens now believe that the actors of liberal democracy – in particular traditional political parties, and the media, do not serve their interests. They feel that liberal democracy has failed them and they are looking for new opportunities for political participation.

This sentiment of powerlessness and desperation provides fertile ground for populism.

Some populists claim to make marginalised voices matter by formulating more equitable, fair, and sustainable policies. Others hijack the political debate with an aggressive, divisive rhetoric and attacks on liberal values. They claim to embrace democracy – but not of the liberal kind. They curb political pluralism and freedom of expression, and undermine the judiciary, media and multilateral institutions that can hold them accountable.

The liberal democratic consensus was born from the immense suffering of the Second World War. Mass political parties and the mass media were the guardians of liberal democracy in the industrial era. We need to profoundly rethink democracy in the age of the internet, big data, and social media and bring citizens to the heart of policy-making.

The World Forum for Democracy 2017 will enable political leaders, activists and change-makers from around the world to share solutions that can help stop authoritarian populism, now a pathology of democracy, from becoming the norm.

Thorbjørn Jagland, Secretary General of the Council of Europe

Jean-Baptiste Mattéi, Ambassador, Permanent representative of France to the Council of Europe

Jean Rottne, President of the Region Grand Est

Roland Ries, Mayor of Strasbourg

## Wednesday, 8 November 2017

### 9.00-10.00 Time for Facts

Council of Europe hemicycle  
Interpretation FR/EN/RU/ES/JAP

Moderator: Ms Claudia LUCIANI, Director of Democratic Governance, Council of Europe

Speakers:

Mr Andreas JOHANSSON HEINÖ, Sweden, Director of Publishing, Timbro Authoritarian Populism Index

Ms Olga KONONYKHINA, Russia, Quantitative sociologist and data scientist, Hertie School of Governance

Mr Wolfram SCHULZ, Germany, International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement

Mr Richard WIKE, USA, Director of Global Attitudes Research, Pew Research Center

10.00-10.15 Lisa SIMONE, Jazz Singer

### 10.15-11.45 Plenary session 1: From democracy of parties to democracy of citizens?

Council of Europe hemicycle  
Interpretation FR/EN/RU/ES/JAP/IT

Moderator: Ms Stella KYRIAKIDES, Cyprus, President of the Parliamentary Assembly, Council of Europe

Speakers:

Mr Reuf **BAJROVIĆ**, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Former Minister of Energy, Mining and Industry of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina

Mr Masazumi GOTODA, Japan, Member of the House of Representatives, Liberal Democratic Party of Japan

Mr Antonio MARTÍNEZ VELÁZQUEZ, Mexico, founder of the Pirate Party Mexico

Ms Carmen PEREZ, USA, Civil rights activist

### 11.45-13.15 Plenary session 2: Media - friend or foe of democracy?

Council of Europe hemicycle  
Interpretation FR/EN/RU/ES/JAP

Moderator: Mr Sven VAN VLIET, France/USA, Regional Director of LingoFacto

Speakers:

Mr Antonio FERNÁNDEZ-GALIANO, Spain, President and CEO of Unidad Editorial

Ms Maria MAGGIORE, Italy, Journalist, Investigate Europe

Mr Siddharth VARADARAJAN, India, Founding Editor of The Wire

Ms Jeta XHARRA, Kosovo<sup>1</sup>, Investigative journalist and head of the Balkan Investigative Reporting Network

13.00-15.00 Lunch break

<sup>1</sup> All references to Kosovo, whether the territory, institutions or population, in this text shall be understood in full compliance with United Nation's Security Council Resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.

### 15.00-15.30 [Welcome words by the World Forum for Democracy organisers](#)

Council of Europe hemicycle  
Interpretation : FR/EN/RU

Moderator: Ms Daleen HASSAN, France, News editor and presenter, Euronews TV

Mr Thorbjørn JAGLAND, Secretary General of the Council of Europe  
Ms Nathalie LOISEAU, France, Minister in charge of European Affairs  
Mr Frédéric PFLIEGERSDOERFFER, France, President of the transfrontier and international relations  
Commission of the Region Grand Est  
Mr Roland RIES, France, Mayor of Strasbourg

### 15.30-17.30 [Plenary session 3: Is Populism a problem?](#)

Council of Europe hemicycle  
Interpretation : FR/EN/RU

Moderator: Ms Uduak AMIMO, Kenya, Journalist

Speakers:

Ms Nathalie LOISEAU, France, Minister in charge of European Affairs  
Ms Helen CLARK, New Zealand, Former Prime Minister of New Zealand  
Mr Stéphane DION, Canada, Prime Minister's Special Envoy for the EU and Europe  
Mr Kemal **KILIÇDAROĞLU**, Turkey, President of the Republican People's Party

### 17.30-18.00 [Introducing the demonstration experiment on Random Sample Voting and Evaluation Voting](#)

Council of Europe hemicycle  
Interpretation FR/EN/RU

Speakers:

Mr David CHAUM, United States, Founder of the Random Sample Voting Project  
Ms Herrade IGERSEIM, France, CNRS Associate Research Professor, BETA (UMR 7522)  
and University of Strasbourg

## Thursday, 9 November 2017

### 09.00-10.30 [Lightning Talks](#)

Room 1 – Interpretation FR/EN

Moderator: Mr Jeremy MOAKES, Directorate of Communications of the Council of Europe

Speakers:

Ms Paula GAVIRIA BETANCUR, Colombia, Advisor to President Santos  
Mr Hannes GRASSEGGER, Switzerland, Journalist, author, editor  
Mr Adolphus MAWOLO, Liberia, Journalist and producer at West Africa Democracy Radio

### 09.00-10.30 [Lightning Talks](#)

Room 2 – Interpretation FR/EN

Moderator: Ms Tina MULCAHY, Executive Director of the European Youth Centre Strasbourg

Speakers:

Ms Agnes CHOW, China, Standing Committee member of the political party "Demosisto"  
Mr Martin LOUSTEAU, Argentina, former Ambassador of Argentina to the USA, Member of Parliament  
representing the City of Buenos Aires  
Mr James WILLIAMS, United Kingdom, Nine Dots Prize winner and recipient of Google's Founders'  
Award  
Mr Antonio MARTÍNEZ VELÁZQUEZ, Mexico, founder of the NGO Verificado19S

9.00 – 10.30 **Panel discussion 1: From Fake to Facts: How to strengthen ties among Research, Policy, and Society to counter populism?**

Room 6 – Interpretation FR/EN

*Sponsored by the EU Horizon2020 study 'DANDELION' and the Cluster of Excellence "The Formation of Normative Orders", University of Frankfurt a. M.*

'Post-fact' politics is internationally fuelling concern, particularly in contested fields of public policy, such as social and minority rights, external relations and migration/refugee affairs, and, not least, counter-terrorism and -radicalisation. The interplay of value divergence and uncertainty has proved very vulnerable to opportunistic, simplistic discourses that blend out uncomfortable facts, disqualify opposing views, and polarise public opinion.

Under such circumstances, the relationship among science, policy making, and society is taking a new twist: In the face of proliferation of fake news via social media, and the spread and 'normalisation' of uncivil and manipulative behaviours in the public sphere by populist and extremist parties for political gain, the demand for evidence-based resistance has become visible.

While researchers, policy makers, and the media operate along different logics, interests, and time-frames for their action, there is a pressing need to re-examine responsibilities of research and academia, politicians and public administration, as well as the media and the organised civil society, and recast their strategic partnerships. A common objective thereby is to contribute to the self-defence capacity of democracy's 'immune reflexes' by providing evidence and facts to inform policy making both in the technical-scientific sense, and by promoting plausible counter-narratives in the social media and the public sphere in general.

**Moderator:** Mr Georgios KOLLIARAKIS, Greece, Political Scientist, University of Frankfurt, Cluster of Excellence "Normative orders"

**Panelists:**

Ms Rosemary BECHLER, United Kingdom, writer, journalist, and editor of OpenDemocracy  
 Mr Yuri BORGMANN-PREBIL, Policy Officer, DG Research & Innovation, European Commission,  
 Mr Titus CORLATEAN, Romania, Member of Parliament and Member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe  
 Mr Matjaz GRUDEN, Director of Policy Planning, Council of Europe  
 Mr Rinus PENNINX, Netherlands, Professor of Ethnic Studies at University of Amsterdam  
 Ms Anna KRASTEVA, Bulgaria, Professor of political sciences the New Bulgarian University

9.00 – 10.30 **Panel discussion 2: What responses to anti-migrant populist rhetoric and action?**

Room 1 – Interpretation FR/EN/RU

*Sponsored by the Network of Schools of Political Studies*

In recent years, populist and right-wing discourse has taken on an increasingly aggressive anti-refugee and anti-immigrant dimension, imposing this subject rather successfully on the political agenda in European countries. As a consequence, excessively restrictive measures adopted in many European countries are increasingly jeopardising fundamental values of our societies and the human rights of migrants and refugees.

What approaches and strategies can be drawn upon to develop a counter-narrative to this anti-immigrant rhetoric? How can political figures, civic leaders and media professionals share responsibility for building effective and compassionate asylum and integration policies?

The Network of the Council of Europe's Schools of Political Studies is committed to the defense of human rights and the fight against all forms of discrimination. The Schools engage with these concerns and explore how concrete initiatives such as the planned Council of Europe 'Academy for Democratic Leadership for persons with a refugee background' may contribute to countering the prevailing xenophobic discourse and improve the integration of refugees into European societies.

Speakers in this panel debate have come together earlier this year at an Alumni event of the Network of Schools to discuss matters relating to migration and asylum policies.

**Moderator:**

Ms Despina SYRRI, Greece, Director of the Civic School of Political Studies, "Symbiosis"

**Panelists:**

Ms Teresa BUCZKOWSKA, Poland, Integration Team Coordinator, Immigrant Council of Ireland  
 Ms Barbara JOANNON, France, Independent Expert on Migrations,  
 Mr Tomas JUNGWIRTH, Czech Republic, Policy Officer, Consortium of Organisations Assisting Migrants  
 Mr Takis PAPPAS, Greece, Recurrent Visiting Professor, Central European University of Budapest  
 Ms Anja VAN DEN DURPEL, Belgium, City Manager's Office, International Relations and Networking, European Policy on Social Inclusion and Welfare, City of Ghent

### 9.00 – 10.30 [Panel discussion 3: Gender Equality and Political Empowerment of Women: A Populist Reaction?](#)

Room 8 – Interpretation FR/EN

*Sponsored by the Community of Democracies, UNDP and International IDEA*

The advancement of Gender Equality and Political Empowerment of Women is an ongoing issue across nation states worldwide, with divergence in shades and levels in which these two concepts are approached, managed and used in politics, economics, and social and cultural interactions.

Unequal opportunities and conditions for political participation and representation between men and women still exist worldwide. Women remain under represented from the structures of governance that determine political and legislative priorities.

The low numbers of women's participation continue despite decades of efforts by international and regional organizations, as well as by national governments to eliminate discrimination against women and promote the empowerment of women. The International Parliamentary Union (IPU) data show that in the world's parliaments today, women hold 22 percent of the seats.

Organized by the Community of Democracies, UNDP and International IDEA as a part of the ongoing Advancing Women's Political Participation project, this session will discuss the main challenges and opportunities faced on the race to advance gender equality and political empowerment of women, in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. It will touch on the question of is gender equality a systemic goal or is it consider an instrument of the populist discourse?

Moderator: Mr Andrew BRADLEY, South Africa, Director, International IDEA's Office in Brussel

Speakers:

Ms Victoria IGNAT, Moldova, Project Manager – Women in Politics UNDP

Mr Luis José CONSUEGRA, Programme Officer for Partnership Development and Resource Mobilization at International IDEA

Ms Carolina LASÉN DIAZ, Head of the Gender Equality Unit, Council of Europe

Ms Anne REKANSEN, Finland, Ambassador-at-Large for Global Women Issues and Gender Equality Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland

Mr Jason WORLLEDGE, Planning Manager to the Secretary General of the Community of Democracies and coordinator for the CoD Working Group on Women and Democracy

### 11.30 - 13.00 [Knowledge Café - First round: "The Female Face of the Far Right – Country perspectives and progressive counter-strategies"](#)

Blue Restaurant, Palais de l'Europe – No interpretation

*Sponsored by the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, Germany*

Populism has been gaining ground in Europe. For a long time women seemed to be hardly inclined to support right-wing parties, neither as politically active members, nor as voters. In recent years however, women are much more present in the leadership of right-wing parties and they more frequently vote for them, and this although the parties are promoting a very traditional, anti-progressive female role model in combination with (ultra-) conservative family policies and the curtailing of individual rights, sometimes even aiming at limiting female reproductive rights.

The question thus is: Why are women increasingly attracted by these parties and what can progressive parties learn from this development? The Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung brings together a cross-section of representatives from parties, civil society organisations and academic experts from several European countries to discuss this question with participants during a Knowledge Café.

Speakers:

Ms Nasra ALI, Sweden, Chairman of the Social Democratic Students of Sweden

Ms Judith ALTHAUS, Germany, Policy advisor on Europe and Asia for Germany's Social Democratic

Ms Anikó FÉLIX, Hungary, Eötvös Lóránd Science University

Ms Maria GIANNAKAKI, Greece, Secretary General for Human Rights at the Ministry of Justice, Transparency and Human Rights

Ms Jessica GROUNDS, USA, Co-Founder of Mine the Gap

Ms Carmen PEREZ, Civil rights activist and part of the organizing team of the Women's March to Washington

Ms Ann-Cathrine JUNGAR, Sweden, Associate Professor at Centre for Baltic and East European Studies

Ms Guguli MAGRADZE, Georgia, Member of Parliament

Ms Christèle MARCHAND-LAGIER, France, Senior lecturer of Political Science

Ms Andrea PETŐ, Hungary, Full Professor at Central European University

Ms Alexandros SAKELLARIOU, Greece, Sociologist, researcher at Panteion University

Ms Fotini SIANOU, Greece, Activist for Peace, Human Rights and Gender Equality

Ms Karolina SKOWRON, Poland, Sociologist, Corporate Relations Manager Poland at the Albert Schweitzer Foundation

Ms Simone RAFAEL, Germany, Chief editor of Belltower News

Ms Elena ZACHARENKO, Poland, Policy Consultant

14.30 - 16.00 [Knowledge Café - Second round: "The Female Face of the Far Right – Country perspectives and progressive counter-strategies"](#)  
Blue Restaurant, Palais de l'Europe

11.00 – 16.00 [Design Session: AN AGORA FOR THE 21st CENTURY](#)  
Lobby of the Committee of Ministers – No interpretation

Throughout history, the different concepts of power, democracy, rule of law have been embodied by symbolic landmarks acting as an anchor in the mind of the citizens. This has been the case for Parliaments evoking the idea of deliberative democracy, Courts representing the idea of Justice, Rights and the Rule of Law, as well as other monuments. So it goes that, if participatory democracy wants to secure its space in minds and hearts, it should have its own landmark.

The aim of this design session is, therefore, to create, through a collaborative process involving all the participants to the WFD, a blueprint of how the ideal temple of participatory democracy would be. The blueprint would represent the "idea" of participatory democracy and its symbolic anchor in everyday life. It would lay the basis for the construction of different examples in every city on the basis of specific architectonic styles, space constraints and other local regulations and considerations.

Participants are encouraged to think in advance about the idea and even prepare sketches and/or initial models. Part of the discussion will be about finding a name for this new landmark.

Facilitators:

Mr Zeev DRUCKMAN, Israel, Architect and Head of the Master Programm in Urban Design, Bezalel Academy

Mr Rennen ZUNDER, Canada/Israel, Urban Designer

Ms Kelly McBRI DE, Ireland, Democratic Engagement Officer at The Democratic Society

11.00 – 16.00 [Design Session: L'Ososphère introduces voxpopuli.radio](#)  
Lobby of the Committee of Ministers – No interpretation

A workshop initiated by L'Ososphère to build a urban and radio programme questioning the processes of democracy in times of populism. In collaboration with Radio en construction and the World Forum for Democracy, the art compagny Des châteaux en l'air and the Conversons group, formed by architects, artistes and specialists of the public spaces and democratic debates. This workshop is open to all the participants of the World Forum for Democracy and will end with a participatory performance at 4.30 pm in the Lobby of the Committee of Ministers.

All day long, we will build up a live and in situ space and webradio, experimenting with cardboard bricks and a webradio broadcast. This time dedicated to a collective experiment aims to model the hypothesis of an urban and radio object, open to conversation and public debate around these questions.

According to you, what is « the people » ? Who is « the people » ? Which « people » are we ?

This workshop and its radio translation acts like a sort of sluice between the city and the World Forum for Democracy, a space for the representation of ideas, an open widow on the city. It is a processing space which allows the City to enter the Forum and the Forum to be heard above its own walls.

You have a singular and committed approach of democratic issues, you think that a better definition of concepts as « populism » could help to engage more individual and collectivve responsibilities: come and share your expertise, experience and insights with us for a few minutes, an hour or more.

Your contributions will allow the modelling of a performance through a participatory artistic performance at 4.30 pm with Des châteaux en l'air company and the Conversons group. This day of common experiment will also enrich the work of L'Ososphère and Radio en construction through their programme of « Cafés Conversatoires », which will continue regular public conversations around the buidling of the cities in Strasbourg's public space – the city being the perfect scale to for the making of our societies.

You can't be on the sport but you want to participate : Send us your images, thoughts, sounds concerning the people and populism via the hashtag #VoxPopuli on twitter and we will happily include your contritbution in our performance.

10.30-11.00 Break



## 11.00-13.00 First Series of Labs

### LAB 1: Is hybrid democracy more inclusive?

*Sponsored by the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe*

The lab will explore the effectiveness of e-participatory tools and their impact on decision-making, within the existing constitutional framework of representative democracy. It will discuss whether and how political parties can capitalize on these opportunities to hand back power to their supporters.

*Room 2 - Interpretation: FR/EN*

Moderators:

- ✓ Ms Gunn Marit HELGESEN, Norway, President of the Chamber of Regions of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe
- ✓ Mr Marko BOKO, Member of the Bureau of the Advisory Council on Youth

#ForzaNazzjonali, Malta

Malta's Partit Nazzjonalista has launched a new system of e-democracy to crowd-source proposals and new policy ideas. Introduced under the #ForzaNazzjonali brand, the e-democracy platform has crowd-sourced more than 900 ideas in just a couple of days. It's an online platform that allows users to interact directly with proposals and make suggestions of their own on how to amend them. They can also scrutinise and criticise the suggestions, and make entirely new suggestions of their own.

Presenters: Mr Franco CURMI, Malta, Digital Director for the Forza Nazzjonali party

Public Opinion Platform – POP, France

POP is designed to gradually build up real-time democracy within the existing constitutional framework of indirect democracy – without any need for legislative change. POP is a flexible mix: a platform in its substance – able to hold all people and all opinions – and a registered political party in its form. The main feature of POP is to invite the expression of real-time majority public opinion on important legislative and governing decisions. POP representatives in the legislature and in government are obliged to vote according to the majority public opinion as expressed by citizens. POP can be used at local, national and regional levels.

Presenter: Mr Geza TESSENYI, Public Opinion Platform – POP

Is media the next democracy platform?, Poll Town, USA

"Is media the next democracy platform?" explores how we can reinvigorate public debate through smart polls placed in news stories and social media. At the core of the idea is the belief that public opinion can change how leaders do their jobs, and that better forms of collecting and presenting data brings people into the political sphere, and grows a more active and aware citizenry. Case studies from the USA, Vietnam and Australia will show how simple and shareable questions can engage the silent majority to have their say.

Presenter: Ms Keren FLAVELL, USA, Founder and CEO of Poll Town

Discussants:

- ✓ Mr Alfred HEER, Switzerland, Member of Parliament and Member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe
- ✓ Mr Chakshu ROY, India, Head of Outreach, PRS Legislative Research
- ✓ Ms Rosaleen O'GRADY, Ireland, Councillor, Sligo County Council

Rapporteurs:

- ✓ Mr Florian WOLF, Germany, Secretariat of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe
- ✓ Ms Lucie MENNA-GUETTAA, France, Stras'Diplomacy

## LAB 2: "Corruption and populism: can the international community help?"

*Sponsored by the Group of States against Corruption and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe*

You can't understand the world today if you do not understand corruption. While its cost and impact are manifold, corruption can certainly be linked to current low levels of trust in the political institutions of many countries, feeding into populist trends. In this lab, we ask how to strengthen the integrity of, and trust in, parliamentarians and other elected officials. The lab offers an opportunity for participants to discuss these questions with representatives from international organisations (the Council of Europe's Group of States against Corruption (GRECO), its Parliamentary Assembly (PACE) and the OSCE's Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR))

*Room 9 - Interpretation: FR/EN/RU*

Moderator: Mr Michele NICOLETTI, Italy, Member of Parliament and Member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, Rapporteur on "Promoting integrity in governance to tackle political corruption"<sup>2</sup>

Integrity of elected politicians, OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights – ODIHR, Poland

The initiative aims to promote the adoption of codes of conduct by national parliaments, in order to set high ethical standards for members of parliament in due consideration of their duties towards the state and the society. The codes also contribute to building public trust in parliaments and help MPs to perform their duties in an honest and dignified manner. Observing ethical norms by MPs is one of the main components of good governance and it improves accountability towards the society. ODIHR has been supporting more than 12 national parliaments in recent years across the OSCE region in their process of adoption of codes of conduct, following the methodology outlined in the ODIHR Background Study: Professional and Ethical Standards for Parliamentarians.

Presenter: Mr Jacopo LEONE, Italy/United Kingdom, Democratic Governance Officer, OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR)

Group of States against Corruption - GRECO of the Council of Europe

Preventing corruption in the legislative and executive branches of power, and increasing the transparency and supervision of political financing are among GRECO's top priorities. Many significant reforms are being conducted in member States (on declaratory obligations, financial transparency, rules of conduct, management of conflicts of interest, gifts and other benefits, lobbying and other third party contacts, effective supervision, etc). The process can be lengthy and cumbersome, but the reforms are essential in the current context. The combination of efforts of international organisations and of domestic institutions and civil society is instrumental.

Presenter: Mr Christophe SPECKBACHER, Administrator Officer at the Secretariat of the Group of States against Corruption - GRECO

Discussants:

- ✓ Ms Gülsün BILGEHAN, Turkey, Member of Parliament and Member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe
- ✓ Mr Finn HEINRICH, Germany, Director of Programmes, Democracy Reporting International

Rapporteur:

- ✓ Mr Ivan KOEDJIKOV, Head of Action against Crime Department, Council of Europe
- ✓ Ms Juliette BURTSCHER, France, Open Diplomacy

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.assembly.coe.int/nw/xml/News/News-View-EN.asp?newsid=6708&lang=2&cat=8>

### LAB 3: Fact checking: is it worth the effort?

*Sponsored by the International Organisation of La Francophonie*

The lab will discuss if fact-checking makes a difference, and will explore possible solutions to expand the outreach once facts are checked.

*Room 8 - Interpretation: FR/EN*

Moderator: Mr Bertrand LEVANT, France, International Organisation of La Francophonie

#### Cross Check, First Draft, France/United Kingdom

CrossCheck France was launched in February 2017 to create a real-time collaborative verification service before the French presidential election. It brought together 37 local, regional and national newsrooms in France, as well as three from the UK (including the BBC) and one from Belgium. CrossCheck debunked 64 stories on their website in French and English and spread infographics and videos on their Facebook page and Twitter account. The project trained 12 project editors, who were selected among final year or recently graduated journalism students. They were placed in twelve of the partnering newsrooms, and they were managed by an editor-in-chief. The overall editorial partner was Agence France Press and further partners included French newspaper "Le Monde", Google News Lab and the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC).

Presenter: Ms Marie BOHNER, France, Project coordinator of CrossCheck France

#### Africa Check, Senegal

Africa Check is a non-profit organisation set up in 2012 to promote accuracy in public debate and the media in Africa. The goal of its work is to raise the quality of information available to societies across the continent. To do this effectively, Africa Check applies the best practices in fact-checking, recognised by the top non-partisan fact-checking organisations around the world and adhering to their fundamental principles of impartiality, transparency and accuracy.

Presenter: Mr Robert HOLLOWAY, United Kingdom, Chairman of the board of Africa Check

#### Discussants:

- ✓ Mr Jamal Eddine NAJI, Morocco, Director General of Audiovisual Communication
- ✓ Mr Gotson PIERRE, Haiti, Editor of AlterPresse

#### Rapporteurs:

- ✓ Mr Allan LEONARD, United Kingdom, Editor, FactCheckNI
- ✓ Mr Pierre-Marie LAMOUR, France, Stras'Diplomacy

## LAB 4: Making votes count more

The lab will look into alternative voting rules and systems and explore their potential impact on voter turnout.

Room 6 - Interpretation: FR/EN

Moderator: Mr Paul ROWSELL, Chair of the European Committee on Democracy and Governance

Balanced Ballot, Negative Vote Association, China

A Balanced Ballot is a ballot where voters have the option to vote AGAINST or FOR a candidate. The AGAINST vote would be counted as minus one. The winner is the person who receives higher net positive votes. Each voter still has only one vote. The initiative aims at improving all election systems in the world by incorporating the option to vote against. Researchers have shown that this would increase voter participation significantly, and that so-called "populist" candidates would receive net negative votes.

Presenter: Mr Sam CHANG, China, President of Negative Vote Association,

President 21, Institute for Democracy 21, Czech Republic

This online civic game is a real time voting app, where citizens can nominate and vote for their ideal presidential candidate using the Democracy 21 voting system. As of now, the game has over 100.000 active users and it is expected to produce an ideal candidate, acceptable for the majority of voters due to the nature of the system. Each voter can cast up to three positive votes of equal value and up to one negative vote. The voter must use at least two positive votes to be able to cast the negative vote.

Presenter: Mr Jonáš **VNOUČEK**, Czech Republic, Community manager and analyst, Institute for Democracy 21

Discussants:

- ✓ Mr Nicolas K. BLANCHARD, France, Random Sample Voting Project and Public Opinion Platform
- ✓ Ms Herrade I GERSHEIM, France, CNRS Associate Research Professor, BETA (UMR 7522) University of Strasbourg
- ✓ Ms Adele GAMBARO, Italy, Member of Parliament and Member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe

Rapporteurs:

- ✓ Ms Armony LAURENT, Stras'Diplomacy
- ✓ Mr Clément CARREAU, France, Open Diplomacy

## LAB 5: Participatory democracy: an antidote to populism?

*Sponsored by the Conference of the INGOs*

The lab will look into examples of participatory democracy to identify the best ways to involve citizens in political decision-making processes.

*Room 1.- Interpretation: FR/EN/RU*

Moderators:

- ✓ Ms Anna RURKA, Poland, President of the Conference of the INGOs of the Council of Europe
- ✓ Mr Marko **GRDOŠIĆ**, Croatia, Chair of the Joint Council on Youth and the Advisory Council on Youth
- ✓ Mr Nastimir ANANIJEV, Bulgaria, Former Member of the Bulgarian Parliament - Presentation of the conclusions from the simulation exercise implemented by the Bulgarian School of Politics during the Forum.

Citizen participation in public hearings to strengthen democracy, Defender of the Public of Audiovisual Communication Services, Argentina

The Argentinean Defender of the Public of Audiovisual Communication Services held 20 regional Public Hearings, three national meetings, and countless training courses to ensure citizens participation. 4,940 people attended the Public Hearings and 10,866 took part in the stages related to its organisation since 2013.

Participation Public Hearings are spaces for citizen participation, where people can express their opinions about media functioning. It is the first time in Argentine history that a public organisation has systematically called upon citizens to voice their opinions about media and taken their comments into consideration when defining public policies. It is a concrete way to strengthen the bond between the State, citizens, and media.

Presenter: Ms Paula CASTELLO, Argentina, Training and Participation Department Chief, Defender of the Public of Audiovisual Communication Services

The Citizens' Assembly, Ireland

The Citizens' Assembly is an exercise in deliberative democracy, placing the citizen at the heart of important legal and policy issues facing Irish society today. With the benefit of expert, impartial and factual advice the 100 citizen members consider topics such as abortion rights, demographic changes climate change etc. Their conclusions form the basis of a number of reports and recommendations that will be submitted to the Houses of the Oireachtas, the legislature of Ireland, for further debate by the elected representatives. Members of the Assembly were chosen at random to represent the views of the people of Ireland, and are meant to be broadly representative of society with regards to age, gender, social class, regional spread etc.

Presenter: Ms Sharon FINEGAN, Ireland, Secretary to the Citizens' Assembly

The Plan C, for a citizen-generated Constitution, France

The initiative aims to show that ordinary citizens can read and criticize their constitutions, by encouraging them to write amendments they would like to see ratified Once the population is thus prepared to reflect personally and concretely on its constitution, "Le Plan C" aims to promote a constituent assembly drawn by lot.

Presenter: Mr Etienne CHOUARD, France, Professor of Economics and Management

Discussant :

- ✓ Mr Joseph SPIEGEL, France, Mayor of Kingersheim

*This lab will flow into in the participants' assembly, taking place the same afternoon from 14:30 to 18:00. All interested participants will have the opportunity to directly experience deliberative democracy, by debating and voting for a key recommendation of this year's Forum.*

*Like in real citizens' assemblies, Forum' participants will take seats in the hemicycle, the heart of the Council of Europe's decision making process, to deliberate on an issue of global importance.*

Rapporteurs:

- ✓ Mr Jean-Michel CAUDRON, France, Director of Communication and Lobbying of the International Federation of Elderly People (FIAPA), Member of the Bureau of the INGO Conference of the Council of Europe
- ✓ Mr Emil MELLA, Dominican Republic, advocate and researcher, Youth Department's youth delegation

## LAB 6: Citizens' disconnect: can parties open up?

The lab will consider the attractiveness of political parties and movements that are based on different forms of participatory democracy. It will explore opportunities for traditional parties to transform themselves and develop new political narratives enhancing citizens' trust in policy making.

Room 5 - Interpretation: FR/EN

Moderator:

- ✓ Mr. **Răzvan** RUSU, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Romania to the Council of Europe
- ✓ Mr Mohammad SHARIFI, Netherlands, ICAN youth activist, Youth Department's youth delegation

Organisational transformation through democracy innovation, PASOK, Greece  
Throughout its 40 years, drastic transformations occurred in the party organisation of PASOK. The initiative "Organisational Transformation" introduced numerous actions promoting the Participatory functioning of the Movement. Among them, «Open Meetings» were established and organised at the local level, in close collaboration with local authorities and civil society organisations, with the aim of adopting consultation processes and participatory decision-making processes on issues of, mainly, local interest. These Open Meetings are not only open to the subscribed party members, but are also open to the whole citizenry.

Presenter: Mr Antonios SAOULIDIS, Greece, Supreme Court Lawyer, Member of the Political Cabinet and of the Central Political Committee, PASOK

Four years of a direct Democracy Party in Argentina, Net Party, Argentina

The Net Party is a political party in Argentina, with 1500 formal members and about 100 active members involved in daily decisions. Their goal is to elect deputies in the legislative elections that make decisions according to decisions voiced by regular people, through a software (DemocracyOS) that gathers opinions and votes. The deputies vote according to the decision taken by online participants, thus promoting "liquid", "hybrid" and "direct" democracy.

Presenter: Mr Alejandro INTI BONOMO, Argentina, Member of the Executive board of Net Party

Changing the dynamics of politics. Citizenship as an engine of change, Coalició Compromís, Spain  
Coalició Compromís is a political party from the Spanish region of Valencia. They think that the best way to combat populism in politics is by promoting transparency and ethics in the performance of public institutions, together with stimulating the participation of citizens in order to address their disaffection with politics. The party is based on the idea of political openness both in terms of its organisational structure and decision-making processes. They aim to perform with the utmost transparency and encourage citizen's debate through education, i.e. explaining how policies are developed, and exposing alternatives to involve citizens, in order to find a general consensus. As a consequence, party officials, militants and sympathizers decided together on the list of candidates for elections, the public salaries of their representatives were published online, etc. Since they participate in the regional government, the regional Ministry of Transparency, Accountability, Participation and Cooperation has been founded. Its main aims are to ensure transparency of public activity and to promote citizen participation.

Presenters:

Ms Àgueda MI CÓ, Spain, Compromís co-spokesperson

Ms Daría TERRÁDEZ, Spain, General Director for Relations with the European Union and the State in the Presidency of the "Generalitat Valenciana"

Discussants:

- ✓ Mr Ebrahim ADIA, UK, elected Councillor in the Municipal Council of Bolton, Greater Manchester
- ✓ Mr Augustine MAGOLOWONDO, Netherlands, Netherlands Institute for Multiparty Democracy c/o Malawi Centre for Multiparty Democracy

Rapporteur:

- ✓ Ms Anja VAN DEN DURPEL, Belgium, City Manager's Office, International Relations and Networking, European Policy on Social Inclusion and Welfare, City of Ghent
- ✓ Ms Pauline MONTEAU, France, Open Diplomacy

13.00-14.30 Lunch break

## 14.30-16.00 Second series of labs

**LAB 7: Bursting social media echo chambers**

The lab will examine the detrimental effects of social media filter bubbles and algorithms, and will also explore solutions to make readers more aware of their reading habits and help them to integrate different worldviews.

*Room 5 - Interpretation: FR/EN*

Moderators:

- ✓ Ms Corina **CĂLUGĂRU**, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Moldova to the Council of Europe
- ✓ Ms Mukunda NEPAL, Nepal, communication professional, Youth Department's youth delegation

Empowering users and community by opening Facebook echo chambers, "Tracking Exposed", Italy  
The initiative has created a browser extension that discloses personalization algorithms. These tools, commonly used for commercial purpose, customize information according to its importance for a specific user. On the basis of a users' identity and interactions, specific bits of information are preferred while other are hidden from his or her view. With the help of the extension, users can visualize their own newsfeed with infographics and statistics about the time spent on social media, and the number of friends effectively populating one's newsfeed, etc.

Presenter: Mr Claudio AGOSTI, Italy, Founder of Tracking Exposed

A Toolbox for Digital Citizens, Nupinion, United Kingdom

Nupinion is a free news discovery and search tool that improves access to quality journalism and information. It enables citizens to compare news from multiple sources and countries while helping to identify the credibility and political slant of sources. Citizens stay easily informed by following news boards on topics, outlets or people they choose. Based on these choices, Nupinion recommends different opinions, highlights key stakeholders and offers tools to investigate media coverage on the issue. Nupinion's goal is to support democracy by fostering media literacy, fighting fake or heavily biased news, and bursting media echo chambers online.

Presenter: Dr Denise XIFARA, Greece, Co-founder and Data Scientist, Nupinion

The Read Across The Aisle app, USA

The app allows people to see, in real time, whether their reading habits are skewing left or right. Through the app, users can read news from a variety of sources, and it shows them the political orientation of each source. The app also shows the cumulative political orientation of a user's reading history. Most importantly, the app detects when users are just reading from one side of the aisle and occasionally reminds them to check out news from another angle.

Presenter: Mr Nick LUM, USA, Co-founder of The Read Across The Aisle app

Discussants:

- ✓ Ms Khedir MABROUKA, Tunisia, video journalist, correspondent and reporter for Deutsche Welle
- ✓ Ms Milena SANTERINI, Italy, Member of Parliament and Member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe

Rapporteurs:

- ✓ Ms Holly RICHARDS, USA, Public Affairs Manager, OECD Public Affairs and Communications
- ✓ Ms Saikal MURATBEK KYZY, Kyrgyzstan, Youth Department's youth delegation

## LAB 8: Corruption and populism: can citizen watchdogs help?

*Sponsored by the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe*

The lab will consider the impact of citizens' monitoring initiatives on corruption and their potential influence on tackling populist trends through strengthening the integrity of, as well as trust in, parliamentarians and other elected officials.

*Room 2. - Interpretation: FR/EN*

Moderators:

- ✓ Mr Jean-Baptiste MATTEI, France, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of France to the Council of Europe
- ✓ Ms Aline ZUNZUNEGUI, Mexico, Founder of Ollin, Youth Department's youth delegation

**Vouliwatch: "Empowering Democracy", Greece**

Vouliwatch has developed an online interactive parliamentary monitoring platform which is equipped with a series of digital applications aiming at facilitating citizen control and monitoring over the Greek legislative process whilst enabling citizen participation and direct communication with their elected representatives. This is a legislative monitoring tool which records all votes that take place in parliament whilst breaking down legislation in layman's terms. It includes profiles for all Greek MPs/MEPs where citizens can monitor their individual activities (including their financial interest statements) & question them publicly as well as send them their own policy recommendations (MPs responses are published on their profiles). It also features a comparative tool which analyses each political party's stance on given policy areas. A news feed with the latest parliamentary news is also included, as well as access to and analysis of parliamentary data (including a budget tracker) in machine readable/open format.

Presenter: Mr Stefanos LOUKOPOULOS, Greece, Director of Vouliwatch

**Partidos Públicos, Fundación Ciudadano Inteligente, FCI, Chile**

In a context of deep distrust and disaffection between citizens and political parties, Partidos Públicos emerges as an innovative proposal to strengthen this relationship. It seeks to push political parties to comply with greater transparency and the best democratic practices that citizens are demanding. This project aims to provide citizen participation tools and channels to strengthen transparency and accountability in political parties, through a digital platform for the publication and display of information on their finances, decision-making, organisational structure and relationship with other entities.

Presenter: Mr Pablo COLLADA CHAVEZ, Mexico, Executive Director of Fundación Ciudadano Inteligente

**Cumuleo, Cumuleo.be / Anticor.be / Transparencia.be, Belgium**

Cumuleo.be is a monitoring tool for the accumulation of political mandates. It aims to achieve greater transparency and to fight against conflicts of interest and corruption. The site publishes all the mandates, functions and public or private professions exercised by the political representatives and certain senior Belgian officials.

Presenter: Mr Christophe VAN GHELUWE, Belgium, Founder of Cumuleo.be

Discussants:

- ✓ Ms Anne BRASSEUR, Luxembourg, Member of Parliament and Member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe
- ✓ Ms Gunn Marit HELGESEN, Norway, President of the Chamber of Regions of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe
- ✓ Mr Paul MAASSEN, Netherlands, Director for Civil Society Engagement at the Open Government Partnership

Rapporteurs:

- ✓ Mr Constantin BECK, Secretariat of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe
- ✓ Ms Lisa CLAUSSMANN, France, , Stras'Diplomacy



## LAB 9: Fake news: does fact checking work?

*Sponsored by the Region Grand Est*

The lab will look into examples of fact checking methodologies to identify the most effective approaches in cracking down on fake stories.

*Room 1 - Interpretation: FR/EN/RU*

Moderators:

- ✓ Mr **Erdoğan İŞCAN**, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Turkey to the Council of Europe
- ✓ Mr Conor McARDLE, United Kingdom, Youth Department's youth delegation

Protection of democratic values through fact-checking journalism (sut.am), "Union of Informed Citizens" NGO, Armenia

The initiative aims to increase public support for democratic values through fact-checking journalism. It fights against disinformation that undermines the activity of NGOs, democratic values, human rights, freedom of expression, and political reforms. The NGO intensively cooperates with other NGOs to produce its materials. Currently, its publications have 5000 to 7000 views online on average and according to the Google Analytics report, readers spend 3 minutes on its website, suggesting that its materials are read until the end.

Presenter: Mr Daniel IOANNISYAN, Armenia, Founder of Union of Informed Citizens

EUCHECK: Journalism schools for fact-checking, an impartial network, European Journalism Training Association (EJTA), the Netherlands

EUCHECK strives to be a reference point for fact-checking EU policies and politics, while promoting European studies and developing fact-checking. Over 15 EJTA journalism schools work on the project. EUCHECK aims to support quality journalism and journalism education while testing new cooperative arrangements, to enhance credibility of media; to contribute to the accuracy of European political statements; to engage European citizens as well as to create incentives to spread fact-checked information on social media; to develop a European open educational resource (OER) methodology; and to establish cooperation with quality national fact-checkers. For the 2019 European parliamentary elections, EUCHECK intends to bring all their national platforms together in one pan-European portal.

Presenters:

Ms Catherine SHANAHAN, Ireland, senior lecturer and Head of Journalism and Communications, Dublin Institute of Technology;  
Ms Carien J. TOUWEN, the Netherlands, International officer and senior lecturer journalism research, HU University of Applied Sciences in Utrecht

The Insider, Russia

The Insider is an investigative newspaper that seeks to provide its readers with information about the current political, economic and social situation in Russia, while also promoting democratic values and shedding light on issues related to human rights and civil society. In addition, the Insider implements the "Antifake" project, with the objective of systematically debunking fake news in Russian media, and to help its audience to distinguish relevant information from fake news and propaganda.

Presenter: Mr Roman DOBROKHOTOV, Russian Federation, editor-in-chief of The insider

Discussants

- ✓ Mr Simas **ČELUTKA**, Lithuania, Director of European Security Programme at Vilnius Institute for Policy Analysis
- ✓ Mr Gunnar GRÍMSSON, Iceland, Visionary at Better News and Co-founder of Citizens Foundation

Rapporteurs:

- ✓ Mr Paul BRAI THWAITE, United Kingdom, Building Change Trust
- ✓ Ms Nora JUSUFI, Kosovo, Researcher at GAP Institute, Youth Department's youth delegation

## LAB 10: Artivism against populism

### *Sponsored by the City of Strasbourg*

The lab will explore the role of arts and culture in shaping political ethics and values, and their impact on generating social and political change.

*Town Hall - Interpretation: FR/EN*

#### Moderators:

- ✓ Ms Nawel RAFIK-ELMRINI, France, Deputy Mayor of the City of Strasbourg
- ✓ Mr Suhaib AL-SHROSH AL-MASEDIN, Jordan, Founder of "Haweytna", Youth Department's youth delegation

#### School for Creative Activism, USA

The first rule of guerrilla warfare is to know your terrain and use it to your advantage. Today's political landscape is one of signs and symbols, stories and spectacles. Populist demagogues understand this. Unfortunately, most democratic political parties and civic actors do not. The School for Creative Activism is a training workshop to help activists effectively – and ethically – navigate the contemporary political terrain using techniques drawn from artistic practice and popular culture. Tapping into their own creativity, civic actors learn to use the cultural language of the present to conjure up progressive dreams of the future.

Presenter: Mr Stephen DUNCOMBE, USA, Co-Director of the School for Creative Activism

#### Fearless Collective, India/Pakistan

Shilo Shiv Suleman is an Indian artist whose work lies at the intersection of magical realism, technology, art and social justice. She started the Fearless Collective in 2012. Nida Mushtaq is an activist from Pakistan whose work focuses on programming for social development embedded in critical narratives of local relevance. Together they run the Fearless Collective from both sides of the border, united by their love for poetry, beauty and imagination.

Presenter: Ms Shilo SHIV SULEMAN, India, Co-Founder of the Fearless Collective (tbc)

#### Boiling Point, Mouka Filmi Oy/Boiling Point campaign, Finland

Boiling Point is not only a documentary directed by Elina Hirvonen and produced by Mouka Filmi. It's also a campaign linked to the film. The goal was to inspire constructive dialogue with the help of the film so that Finnish people would continue to show respect to one another and engage less in hate-mongering. The documentary was shot during 2016 and premiered at DocPoint - Helsinki Documentary Film Festival in January 2017. It was also screened at international film festivals and on the Finnish Broadcasting Company YLE's TV channel in spring 2017. Because the goal of the film was unique, it was screened also in an exceptional way: anybody with an internet connection could arrange a screening at home or publicly during a time period between February and May by ordering a password from the Boilingpoint.fi website. The end result was 738 screenings in Finland and in 20 other countries.

Presenter: Ms Riikka KÄMPPI, Finland, Campaign manager of Boiling Point

#### Discussants:

- ✓ Mr Raphaël COMTE, Switzerland, Member of Parliament and Member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe
- ✓ Ms Natalie JEFFERS, UK, Black Lives Matter

#### Rapporteurs:

- ✓ Ms Gloria MANNAZZU, Project Officer, Co-operation and Capacity Building Division, Education Department, Council of Europe
- ✓ Ms Caroline FELDNER, France, Open Diplomacy

## LAB 11: Can democracy survive without public service media?

### *Sponsored by the European Broadcasting Union*

The rise of the so-called populist parties in Europe has been accompanied, since its beginning, by attacks to the national public service media. While in some countries, where the so called populist movements went to power, the attack was aimed at shrinking the public service (its remits, its resources, its capacity to compete on the market), in other countries it was aimed at occupying the public service media and at appointing managers more in line with the new ruling party or coalition.

The lab will discuss the threat populism represents to public service media and how can international standards protect these media.

### *Room 7 - Interpretation: FR/EN*

Moderator:

- ✓ Mr Matjaz GRUDEN, Director of Policy Planning, Council of Europe

#### BBC and Brexit

"During the UK's EU referendum, the country was deeply split and the BBC's coverage of the campaign heavily criticised by all parties. The BBC impartiality guidelines state the broadcaster must be "inclusive, considering the broad perspective and ensuring the existence of a range of views is appropriately reflected". What can be learned from the BBC's coverage of the Brexit campaign about the role of PSM in a polarised society?"

Presenter: Mr Richard SAMBROOK, United Kingdom, Professor of Journalism at Cardiff University, former Director of news at BBC

#### The Polish example

Soon after the elections 2015, the Law and Justice Party (PiS) as a parliamentary majority passed a new Broadcasting Law December 2015 giving the government, through the Minister of Treasury, control of the public broadcast media. The heads of the Polish Radio and Television Board resigned, and the media community was split as it had not been before.

Before the reform the process of the elections of the public media executives was organised or supervised by the National Broadcasting Council as a constitutional and independent regulatory body. It required conducting open and transparent competitions. When on 22 June 2016, the Act on the National Media Council was passed this competence has been transferred to the new body. All of these changes are raising concerns about the loss of independence of the regulatory body and public media.

Presenter: Prof. Stanislaw JEDRZEJEWSKI, Poland, Kozminski University

Discussants:

- ✓ Ms Uduak AMIMO, Kenya, Journalist
- ✓ Mr José Cepeda García de León, Spain, Member of Parliament and Member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe
- ✓ Mr Jean Paul PHILIPPOT, Belgium, President of the European Broadcasting Union, administrator-general of the Radio Télévision Belge de la Communauté Française (RTBF)

Rapporteur:

- ✓ Mr Garnik GONDJAN, Stras'Diplomacy
- ✓ Mr Nicolas KASPAR, France, Open Diplomacy

## LAB 12: Big data: campaigning or manipulation?

The lab will debate how big data affects democracy and how citizens can be made aware of its possible misuses. It will also explore possible regulations to secure privacy rights online.

*Room 9 - Interpretation: FR/EN*

Moderators:

- ✓ Mr Bjorn BERGE, Secretariat of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe
- ✓ Mr Fausto GERNONE, Italy, Youth Department's youth delegation

Next Generation Engagement Through Direct Grassroots Investment, USA  
Millennials are America's largest generational group. However, only half of eligible voters aged 18-29 cast ballots in the 2016 US Election. This disengagement is largely due to the deliberate disinclination of Millennials for electoral politics. Therefore, the mission of this initiative is to engage the Millennial generation in the political process through grassroots fundraising or, "direct grassroots investment".

At its core, and what I have found, is the promise that when young people make their first financial investments in campaigns, even at nominal amounts, (i.e., \$20.16, symbolic of the 2016 election), that investment leads to a committed engagement as new activists, volunteers, and voters.

Presenter: Mr Dan J. KESSLER, USA, MBA Candidate at MIT Sloan School of Management

Discussants:

- ✓ Ms Alice-Mary HIGGINS, Ireland, Member of Parliament and Member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe
- ✓ Ms Lisa-Maria NEUDERT, Germany, Researcher at the Computational Propaganda Project, Oxford Internet Institute

Rapporteurs:

- ✓ Mr Lee HIBBARD, Internet policy Coordinator, Media and Internet Governance, Council of Europe
- ✓ Mr Chowdhury SADMAN JAHAN, Bangladesh, Youth Department's youth delegation

## LAB 13: Civic education – how does it increase resilience to populism?

Citizenship education, defined as educating people to become clear-thinking and enlightened citizens who participate in decisions concerning society, is considered a lever to prevent populist upsurges. However, even societies that have invested considerably into citizenship education, were hit by the populist phenomenon. Therefore, this lab will focus on the way Germany's political foundations have responded and do respond to the populist upsurge in the country

*Room 8 - Interpretation: FR/EN*

Moderators:

- ✓ Mr Irakli GIVIASHVILI, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Georgia to the Council of Europe
- ✓ Mr Bakary FATTY, Gambia, Administrative Secretary of the National Youth Parliament of the Gambia

Democracies need democrats, Konrad Adenauer Stiftung

Civic education was indispensable in building a liberal democracy in the Federal Republic after 1945 and in reunited Germany after 1989. While there was an immediate link to the experience of totalitarian rule in the early days, civic education is today confronted by new challenges, in particular the rise of political extremism. Our democratic order cannot work without civic involvement: each generation needs civic education and governmental support for the active involvement of people in societal life.

The Konrad Adenauer Stiftung aims to empower citizens in order for them to promote parliamentary and representative democracy and to assume an active role in politics and society.

Presenter: Dr. Ludger GRUBER, Konrad Adenauer Foundation, Acting Director for Political Education

Discussants:

- ✓ Ms Konstantina E. BOTSI OU, Greece, General Director at Konstantinos Karamanlis Institute for Democracy
- ✓ Mr Boriss CILEVIČS, Latvia, Member of Parliament and Member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe
- ✓ Mr Augustine MAGLOWONDO, the Netherlands, Netherlands Institute for Multiparty Democracy c/o Malawi Centre for Multiparty Democracy

Rapporteurs:

- ✓ Ms Sarah KEATING, Head of the Division of Co-operation and Capacity Building, Council of Europe
- ✓ Ms Maria Pia NAPOLETANO, Italy, Youth Department's youth delegation

## Parallel sessions

### 14:30 – 18:00 [Participants' assembly](#)

Council of Europe hemicycle – Interpretation FR/EN/RU

Moderator: Ms Sharon FINEGAN, Ireland, Secretary to the Citizens' Assembly

Experts:

Mr Grigory DI KOV, lawyer of the Secretariat of the Venice Commission (here acting on his individual capacity)

Mr Yves MATHIEU, France, Founder and Director of Missions Publiques

Ms Grainne McMORROW, Ireland, Member of the Venice Commission (here acting on her individual capacity)

Mr Robert WILSON, United Kingdom, Independent researcher

Have you ever experienced deliberative democracy? Do you want to leave your mark on the World Forum for Democracy? Join the Participants' assembly!

This assembly will offer participants an experience of deliberative democracy by asking them to debate and vote the key recommendation of this year's Forum.

Forum participants will take seats in the hemicycle, the heart of the Council of Europe's decision making process, to deliberate on an issue of global importance.

Rapporteur: Ms Ellen STEWART, Ireland, Citizens' Assembly Secretariat

### 14:30 – 18:00 [Networking session: "Antidotes to populism: connecting people and politics"](#)

Restaurant Palais de l'Europe – No interpretation

Facilitator: Mr Titus ALEXANDER, United Kingdom, Founder of Democracy Matters

Speakers:

Mr Cédric BISCHETTI, France, Makers for change

Ms Valentina CORBUCCI, Italy Ars for Progress

Prof. Dr Rafael DE MIGUEL, Spain, EUROGEO/University of Zaragoza

Mr Gerhard ERMISCHER, Germany, Civilscape

Ms Alia IBRAHIM, Daraj initiative

Ms Magdalena HEINEVETTER, University of Münster

Ms Alfiia KAZARGULOVA, Russia, National Youth Council of Russia

Mr Jonas KRISCHKE, University of Münster

Mr Luc MARTENS, Belgium, Municipal Councilor of Roeselare

Ms Olga NILOVA, Russia, National Youth Council of Russia

Mr Anthony PAPADIMITRIU, Belgium, Café Babel

People are attracted to authoritarian and demagogic populists when they feel powerless, when elites don't listen and the political system doesn't meet their needs. To address the causes of populism, people need more power over their conditions of life and a political system that meets their needs.

This networking session enables participants to share experiences, projects and ideas to create an action plan to strengthen democratic participation as an antidote to authoritarian populism. It is also a chance to work more closely and make connections with other participants.

16.30-16.45 Break

### 16.45-18.00 [Storytelling](#)

Room 1 – Interpretation FR/EN

Moderator: Ms Camelia NISTOR, freelance trainer, coach and consultant

Speakers:

Mr Miguel SYJUCO, Philippines, Writer and activist

Ms Leyla **SAHIN** USTA, Turkey, Member of Parliament, Turkey, AKP

Mr Salai David VAN BAWI MANG, Burma, Founder of the Ethnic Youths Development Center (EYDC)

### 16.45-18.00 [Storytelling](#)

Room 2 – Interpretation FR/EN/

Moderator: Mr Nik PADDISSON, Independent freelance trainer/writer/consultant/copy editor in the European youth field

Speakers:

Mr Joshua VIRASAMI, UK, Black Lives Matter

Mr Manuel CUESTA MORÚA, Cuba, Human Rights Activist

Ms Inna SHEVCHENKO, Ukraine, FEMEN activist

## Friday, 10 November 2017

09.00-10.30 **Plenary session 4: Multilateral responses to populism?**  
Council of Europe hemicycle – Interpretation FR/EN/RU

Moderators:

Ms Gabriella BATTAINI-DRAGONI, Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe  
Mr Marko **GRDOŠIĆ**, Chair of the Joint Council on Youth and the Advisory Council on Youth

Speakers:

Ms Anda FILIP, International Parliamentary Union, Director for Member States and External Relations  
Mr Terje RØD-LARSEN, Norway, International Peace Institute,  
Mr Yves LETERME, Secretary-General of International IDEA,  
Mr Kevin RUDD, Australia, former Prime Minister and Foreign minister of Australia and chair of the Independent Commission on Multilateralism  
Ms Thea TSULUKIANI, Georgia, Minister of Justice of Republic of Georgia

10.30 – 12.30 **Reporting and Democracy Innovation Award**

Council of Europe hemicycle – Interpretation FR/EN/RU

The Council of Europe's Democracy Innovation Award is given each year to the World Forum for Democracy's most popular initiative, which was presented in the labs, voted upon by the Forum participants.

Moderators:

Ms Snežana **SAMARDŽIĆ-MARKOVIĆ**, Director General for Democracy  
Mr Marko **GRDOŠIĆ**, Chair of the Joint Council on Youth and the Advisory Council on Youth

Rapporteurs:

Ms Rosemary BECHLER, United Kingdom, writer, journalist, and editor of OpenDemocracy (tbc)  
Mr Fernando CASAL BERTOIA, Spain, Assistant professor in Comparative Politics, The University of Nottingham  
Mr Andries DU TOIT, South Africa, Director of the Institute for Poverty, Land and Agrarian Studies (PLAAS)

The Democracy Innovation Award is presented by Mr Thorbjørn JAGLAND, Secretary General of the Council of Europe

12.00-12.30 **Closing Performance**

The duo Manushan, Iran  
Council of Europe hemicycle

The song of the forbidden and the exile.

## Art Events

### 8 November 2017

- 08.00-16.00: **Dan 23** (France), Forecourt of the Palais de l' Europe  
 After many years of painting musical artists with watercolour, Dan23 opened his gallery in Strasbourg in 2006. His first solo show took him not only to galleries but also to concert stages and festivals around the world, where he performed live paintings. In 2013, Dan23 decided to abandon the stage and intervene more intensely in the street by placing luminous portraits here and there... bearing the name of a song. The Tour Paris 13 project opens the doors to recognition, which allow him to be present in 2014 at events such as Djerbahood, In situ art Festival or the Nuit Blanche and to create a solo show at the Mathgoth urban art gallery in Paris.
- 10.00-10.15 Musical Performance by **Lisa Simone**, USA, Council of Europe hemicycle  
 Lisa Simone is the daughter of the well-known artist Nina Simone, who was also one of the greatest civil rights activists in the United States. Due to the frequent travels of her mother, Lisa grows up moving from one continent to another. At the age of 18, Lisa decides to join the US Air Force and consequently becomes a veteran of the war in Iraq. A meeting with the Spanish star Raphael makes her to branch off and focus on singing. Several years of world tours follow.  
 At the age of 55, Lisa Simone sings telling us about her happiness to have finally found her place in the world. Through her experiences and encounters, she has transcended past sufferings and today wishes to share with the public a deep joy, a new serenity...
- 18.30-19.00 **"Ensemble Shavnabada"**, Georgia, Council of Europe hemicycle  
 Folk ensemble "Shavnabada", directed by Davit Tsintsadze (Tbilisi), was founded in 2005. They have been singing together since 2005, but individually have been schooled in two children's folk singing choirs called "Martve" and "Bichebi". The idea of their late getting together was a special love for Georgian folk music. Ever since their goal has been to promote and preserve Georgian folk and church music. Preserve it as singers and also using any other possible cultural way. "Shavnabada" has successfully participated in many different folk festivals and concerts and in 2005 was conferred the rank of "laureate" in a nomination for 'Preserving Georgian polyphonic songing'. So far, Shavnabada has released 9 CD albums in total, both folk songs and church songs

### 10 November 2017

- 12.00-12.30 **The duo Manushan**, Iran, Council of Europe hemicycle  
 The song of the forbidden and the exile.  
 Aida Nosrat is a professional violinist. At the age of 17 she joins the Symphony Orchestra of Tehran. Babak Mobasher is a guitarist. They share a common passion - gypsy music, which Aida likes to sing. However in Iran, her country of birth, women are forbidden to be on stage singing solos. (The female singers must express themselves in duets or choirs). The election of the moderately liberal President Hassan Rohani in 2013 did not change this situation. But Aida did not want to give up. With Babak they decided to take the exile path - departure for Paris in November 2015. They created a band "Les Manushan" with Aida on vocals and violin and Babak on guitar. Their compositions are sometimes in Persian, sometimes in English with a universal emotional impact.

*The Democracy Innovation Award presented by the Secretary General of the Council of Europe to the most popular initiative of the World Forum for Democracy is an original work of the artist Ilana Isehayek.*

Ilana Isehayek began her career as an artist in Canada before settling in France twenty years ago. Her origins and journey appear in her constant attention to the question of roots, travel, and cultures of origin and of adoption. One of her main concerns is to create a link between the past and the present, history and experience, defining the role of the public in the work, the appearance or the physical approach of the place. In paintings, sculptures or installations, she develops a very personal language.

*All plenary sessions will be illustrated live by the caricaturist and cartoonist Laurent Salles.*

Caricaturist and cartoonist, Laurent Salles was born in Nîmes in 1972. After obtaining a degree in Applied Arts, he joined the Art Deco Strasbourg in 1990 and made his debut on television when he was still a student. His sharp pen and his caustic humour were quickly noticed, particularly in the show "the SALLES Drawings", a weekly column of cartoons in the Alsatian regional news. Since 2010, his cartoons appear in the daily newspapers L'Alsace, Le Bien PUBLIC and JSL (Journal de Saône-et-Loire) and you can find him every month in the comic "Cucaracha, scholarly cockroach". In 2016, he joined international network of committed press cartoonists, "Cartooning for Peace".

## Partners

The World Forum for Democracy is organised by the Council of Europe in partnership with the City of Strasbourg, the Region Grand Est, and the French Government.

