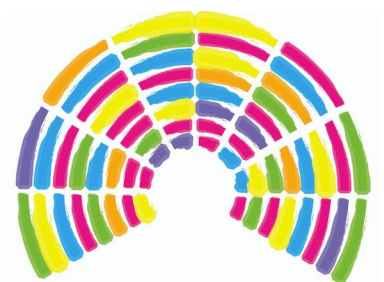
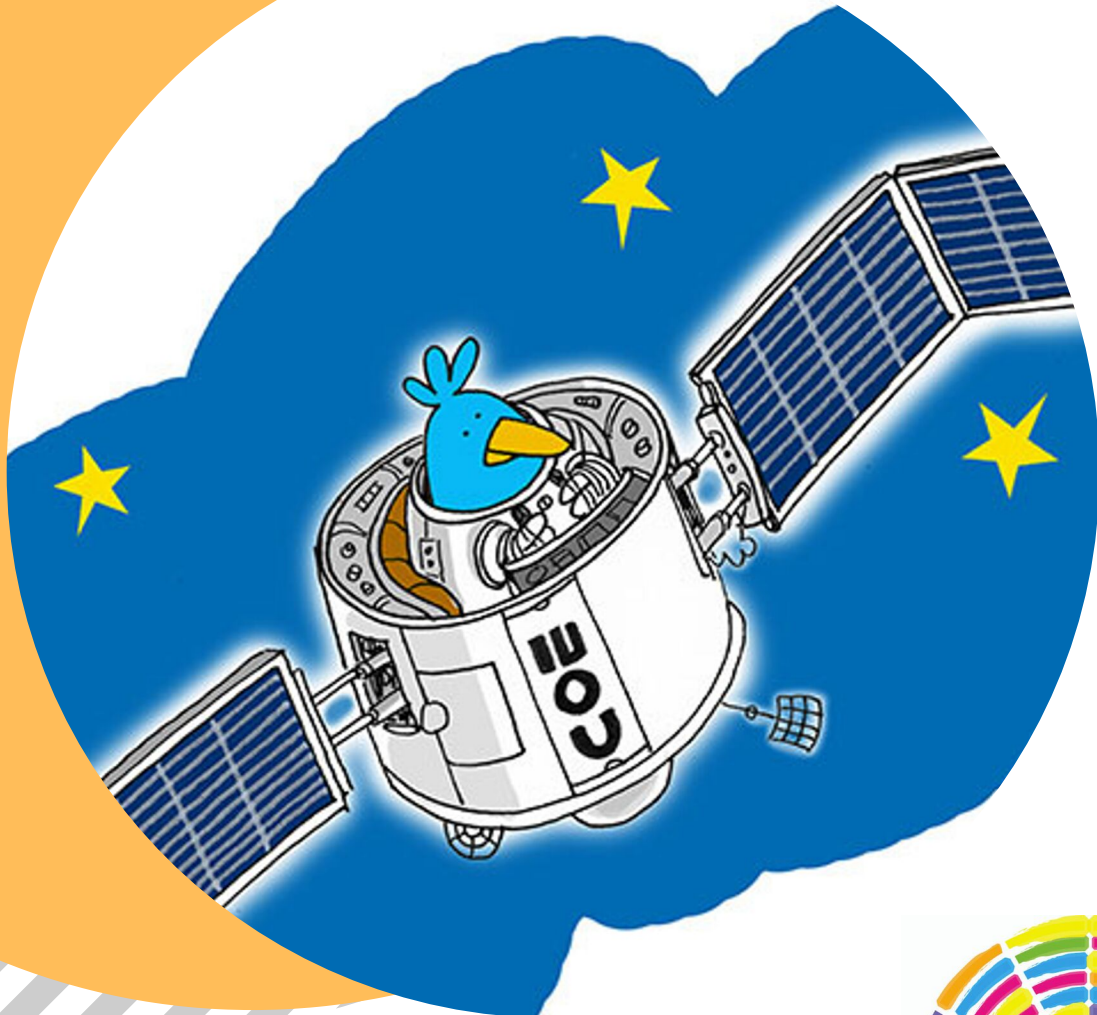


# Satellite Events

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Open call for  
expressions of interest



World Forum  
for  
Democracy  
STRASBOURG - 2019

# Open call

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Since 2012, the Council of Europe has organised the World Forum for Democracy with a view to promoting dialogue and innovation in democratic governance, based on its core values: democracy, human rights and the rule of law.


The Forum aims to address key challenges facing democracy, such as the growing disconnect between citizens and institutions or the impact of technology on political parties and the media. It offers a platform for interactive discussions with a highly motivated collection of policymakers, media representatives, academia and activists. It is open to initiatives coming from all horizons that may improve the functioning of democracy.

Every year the Forum addresses a specific theme. This year, the Forum will be dedicated to Information and Democracy, *Is Democracy in Danger in the Information Age?*, and is taking place on 6-8 November 2019 in Strasbourg, France.

Over the past decades, the media has moved drastically from traditional printed publications, television or radio, to fully accessible and online tools. Today, information spreads through websites, blogs and social media with just one click, touching millions of individuals around the world and exposing a growing number of citizens to disinformation, fake news or propaganda. Such democratization of sharing raises contemporary concerns on the quality of the information received by citizens in the digital age and their full capacity to take part in the democratic life (see the WFD concept note for more details).

The World Forum for Democracy provides an excellent opportunity to address all of these issues. Participants will debate on innovative ways to build healthy information ecosystems at the local, national and international levels, that guarantee a plurality of views and ensure the free flow of quality information in the future.

In order to reach out to a wider range of contributors and to enrich the debate, the Council of Europe is **seeking partners for the organisation of "satellite events"**. These might be by universities renowned in the sphere of political studies and international relations, non-governmental organisations, municipalities and other institutions.



The organising institutions are free to propose the dates and format of their event, the speakers and the specific topic(s). Possible formats include seminars or a seminar series, lectures in schools, surveys, social media campaigns, or radio/TV debates. The satellite events should take place between the date of their selection confirmation and up to 6 months after the Forum. The organising institutions will be asked to **send a final report of the event, along with various media content including videos and photos** that will be published on the website of the Council of Europe.

The Forum Secretariat is open to discuss any other format that the organising institutions would like to propose. The key for any satellite events and initiatives should be innovative ideas, models or prototypes, that are realistic, addressing current issues and problems, having a potential to be replicated in various countries, universities or other environments. Something that can lead to a positive change and to the improvement of democracies worldwide.

To that aim, the Council of Europe is launching the present call for expressions of interest to civil society organisations. **Potential organisers are expected to submit proposals for satellite events taking place prior June 30, 2020.**

Organising a satellite event and publishing the different satellite events findings on the CoE website can bring more visibility to your project/initiative. Your organisation will feature in the Forum's programme and your activities may receive additional media coverage. Participation in a Forum satellite event also presents an opportunity to network and build new synergies with like-minded organisations in order to increase the impact of your activities.

If you feel that your event may contribute to this year's Forum edition, please submit your proposals to **Oscar Danicher** ([oscar.danicher@coe.int](mailto:oscar.danicher@coe.int)) or **Claude Bernard** ([claud.bernard@coe.int](mailto:claud.bernard@coe.int)) at your earliest convenience.

