

## The Europe we want, the Europe we need!

Join us on March 20th at ULB (Place Flagey, 19 – 1050 Brussels) to share your visions of Europe!

In May 2019, Europeans will vote their representatives for the next European Parliament (2019-2024).

Given the current state of the integration process and the challenges ahead, discussing the visions of our common future in Europe is more necessary than ever.

In this context, the OpenEUDebate Jean Monnet network and its partners (University Autónoma Madrid, Université libre de Bruxelles, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Agenda Pública and the National School of Political Science and Public Administration in Bucharest) seek to create a forum for debating the future of the EU.

What citizens think about Europe matters. We believe the current debate on alternatives and reforms of the European integration project is weak and monopolised on the media by those who are able to raise their voices higher, hence losing the possibility of a real and constructive debate.

Our aim is to create a framework for deeper engagement to discuss the future of Europe in a meaningful way. We want to discuss issues that are timely, challenging and relevant for us European Citizens!

**When?** March 20, 2019

**Where?** At the ULB (Place Flagey, 19)

**How? Conference format:**

- we invite citizens, civil society organisations and students from different EU member states to share collectively their visions of Europe;
- large groups of dialogue (in a format called ‘world café’\*) will be organised during the conference; each group will bring 10 to 15 people to discuss;
- this collective brainstorm seeks to bridge the gap between real and perceived problems, local and European contexts and to generate innovative ideas about Europe
- three topics will be proposed for discussion
  - **European leadership:** What is your message for the next president of the European Commission?
  - **European policies:** What are the main problems of Europe today?
  - **European priorities:** What should be the main priorities of the EU after 2019?
- participants will discuss each topic for 25 minutes. When time is up for the first topic, participants will move to another table to discuss the second topic; this movement is repeated until participants discussed the 3 topics proposed;
- in each group, the discussion will be moderated by an academic or a journalist, who will serve as rapporteur (summarizing the conclusions of each discussion group);
- the different discussions will be followed up by a concluding plenary to wrap-up the discussions and challenge the guest speakers

**Online Survey:** An online survey will help us collect ideas in a bottom up process and allow those who are not able to attend the event to respond to the main topics proposed for discussion. With this survey, we invite citizens and students from different EU member states to share their visions of Europe.

Do you want to share your ideas and express your concerns?

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScIEHLw\\_aFuqx1134so1Q3dABFGQmfB8RSdSUz4Pte8tWm\\_2Q/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScIEHLw_aFuqx1134so1Q3dABFGQmfB8RSdSUz4Pte8tWm_2Q/viewform?usp=sf_link)



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### **9:00 Registration**

### **9:30 Welcome session**

Chair: Judith le Maire, ULB, Vice Rector, International Relations and Development Cooperation

Caroline Pauwels, VUB, Rector

Elena García Guitián, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, OpenEUDebate Jean Monnet Network coordinator

Charles Picqué, President of the Brussels Parliament

### **10:00-11:00 Keynote speech**

#### **Lance Bennett 'Participation 3.0'**

Chair: Elena García Guitián, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, OpenEUDebate Jean Monnet Network coordinator

Moderator: Prof. Luis Bouza, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, OpenEUDebate Jean Monnet Network member

### **11:00-12:30 World cafés. Group discussions around the following topics**

**European leadership:** What is your message for the next president of the European Commission?

**European policies:** What are the main problems of Europe today?

**European priorities:** What should be the main priorities of the EU after 2019?

### **12:30-13:30 Lunch**

### **13:30-14:30 World cafés. Plenary session – wrap up**

Rapporteurs/presenters: Miruna Butnaru-Troncotă (SNSPA) and Alvaro Oleart (ULB)

### **14:30-17:00 Contrasting futures for Europe**

Moderators: Ramona Coman (ULB) and Luciano Morganti (VUB)

#### **14:30-16:00**

Tremeur Denigot, CIVICO. Communications Director #WeEuropeans Project Manager

Louise Hoon, VUB

Maebh McMahon, Euronews, Euronews

#### **16:15-17:30**

Marie Arena, MEP-PS

Saskia Bricmont, Ecolo

Petra De Sutter, Groen

Luis Garicano, ALDE