

EUROPEAN LIBERAL FORUM

ANNUAL REPORT 2016



WELCOME

ANNUAL REPORT 2016

EUROPEAN LIBERAL FORUM

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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

DR JÜRGEN MARTENS



The unpredictable and sudden political changes that 2016 brought caught all of us in Europe off guard. Brexit, the election of Donald Trump as President of the United States of America, the spread of populism and demagoguery around Europe threatening our Liberal European democracies, these are just some of the challenges we, as Liberals, have to respond to. An increasing number of European citizens are putting the European project into question. For them, it seems that the complexity of the European Union, coupled with the challenges of globalisation, digitalisation and security concerns do not offer a credible response anymore.

In such challenging times, Liberals need to stand up unanimously, with one voice. Europeans are gathering to join hands and work together throughout our continent to face these challenges. Liberals must now take a step forward to call upon European values, to speak up on this paramount project that is being criticised as it never before has been. A new European discourse is needed, and Liberals are leading this debate.

The discussion around Europe and its future has never been so intense. Liberals play a central role in this exchange of ideas, promoting the European values we have tirelessly fought for. We must convey a positive, yet concrete message: we shall defend the open societies we grew up in, and in the meantime, we shall offer a firm and European response to climate change, terrorism and migration issues. The tasks ahead offer intrinsic opportunities for deep and profound change, for more efficient in-

stitutions and for a way to move forward.

At ELF, we seek to inspire and support these developments. Our training and policy activities over the past year have once again given food for thought to European cit-

izens, policy-makers, experts and stakeholders. In the coming years we will continue to do so and remain a strong advocate for European democracy, integration and active citizenship.

2016 was also the year of my election as ELF President. I am grateful for the trust with which our member Organisations have awarded me. In these times, I feel even closer to the European project and I reiterate my support to Liberal and European values. In this regard, I will do my utmost to let ELF continue to strengthen the Liberal movement across Europe and to promote the values we hold so dear.

Dr Jürgen Martens
President

FOREWORD BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

SUSANNE HARTIG



In what has unanimously been seen as an eventful year, 2016 undoubtedly challenged many conventional ideas, while at the same time, opened new perspectives for Liberals across Europe. Despite challenging political conditions and a tense geopolitical context, Liberals ceaselessly encouraged discussion on the future of the European project and advocated for Liberal values.

ELF dedicated 2016 to the expansion of our policy work. With the support of our members, we have increasingly strengthened our role as a platform for Liberal stakeholders in Europe. We have been involved at different political levels and hosted several key Liberal stakeholders, such as former Estonian Prime Minister Taavi Roivas, Belgian Deputy Prime Minister Alexander de Croo and Czech Finance Minister Andrej Babiš, together with a number of Members of the European Parliament from the ALDE Party.

ELF counts on 37 member organisations from all over Europe, with whom we work hand in hand. Various projects and publications represent the tangible outcome of a pan-European dialogue and exchange. In 2016, ELF led initiatives around five main topic areas: security, migration and integration, European values, energy and environment and digitalisation. As part of Europe's Liberal family, ELF advocates for freedom, equality and human rights across the continent, as well as the continuous development of the European Union and its institutions toward further integration and democratisation. European Liberal Democrats believe in individual economic and political freedoms as the most effective system for ensuring future prosperity, encourag-

ing competitiveness and ensuring longer-term employment.

With the rapid transformation of Europe's security environment, a large proportion of ELF's work in 2016 was dedicated to security and defence policy. This began at the 2016

Munich Security Conference, where we hosted

a roundtable on public-private partnerships in cybersecurity as part of the official MSC programme. This kick-off event was followed by a series of roundtables, seminars and workshops across Europe, in which member organisations explored different aspects of the topic in more detail. The series contributed to a Liberal discussion on security and defence policy and to the creation of a network of likeminded stakeholders, which will support future initiatives in this field.

As we do our work, we are grateful for the unyielding support of our member organisations, the Board of Directors, the ALDE Party and our partners in the Liberal groups in the European Parliament, Committee of the Regions, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe and Liberal International, and we look forward to enriching our Liberal network. With our allies, we will continue to build a strong Liberal voice in Europe and contribute to a responsible, open, diverse and tolerant European civil society.

Susanne Hartig
Executive Director

2016

GET TO KNOW US

The EU alone has 500 million citizens, and ELF works both in the EU and in the European neighbourhood countries. Reaching as wide an audience as possible is our priority and you will find us on our website, as well as on social media and in print form. Click your way through to get to know us better!

OUR BROCHURES

EUROPEAN LIBERAL FORUM



RALF DAHRENDORF ROUNDTABLES



CONNECT WITH US



WEBSITE

Our website covers everything you could ever want to know about us. Read our event reports, download all our publications and find updated information about our Board, Secretariat and Member Organisations.



FACEBOOK

Liking us on Facebook allows you to stay up to date with our work on a daily basis, all year round. Catch the latest photos from our events as they become available, get notifications when we organise an event near you.



TWITTER

Do you have a question for us? Are you keen to follow the discussion at our events? Twitter lets you take part in an event, even if you aren't in the city where it is happening. Join the conversation!



YOUTUBE

Did you miss one of our events? Selected events are recorded and uploaded to our YouTube Channel. Check it out and you may be able to catch up with an event you couldn't get to in person.



LINKEDIN

Are you interested in staying in professional contact with ELF? Do you want to stay up to date with our activities? Follow us on LinkedIn at the click of a button.



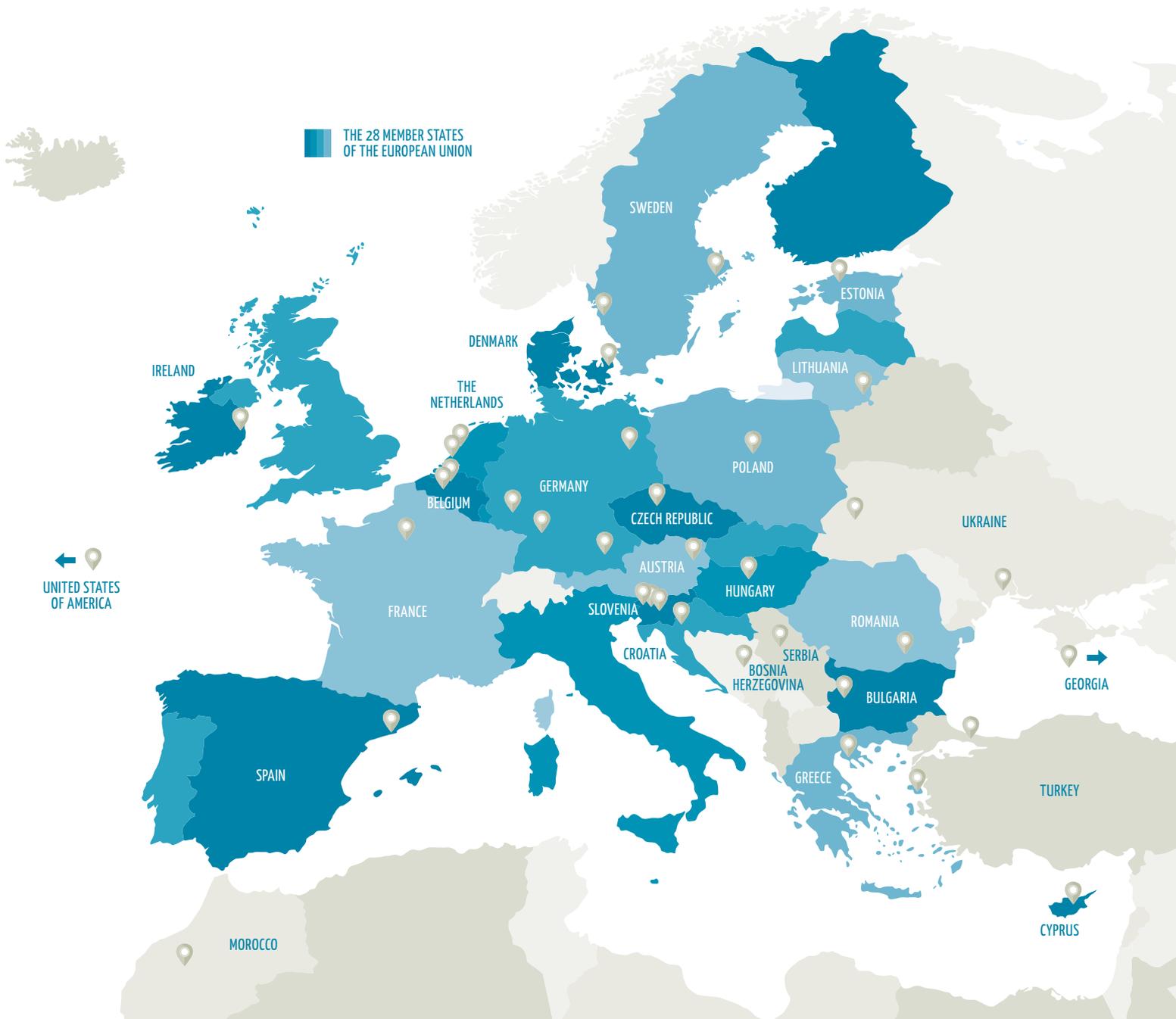
INSTAGRAM

If you would like to see what goes on behind the scenes at the ELF secretariat, follow our Instagram account, and you won't miss a thing! Satisfy your curiosity by clicking the link above!

WHERE DID YOU MEET US IN 2016?

ELF BRINGS EUROPEAN POLITICS CLOSER TO YOU

In 2016 we travelled Europe to host workshops, roundtables and conferences, with the aim of getting citizens talking about the major political issues facing the EU. By taking European issues beyond Brussels we link EU matters with local realities. This map gives you an overview of where you might have met us in 2016.



OUR FOCUS

ELF's work is organised around five thematic areas. These focus areas reflect core Liberal issues of strong relevance to Europe. They are:

1

SECURITY

2

ENERGY AND
ENVIRONMENT

3

MIGRATION AND
INTEGRATION

4

EUROPEAN
VALUES

5

DIGITALISATION

MAKING EUROPE SAFER FOR CITIZENS

Five ELF member organisations, namely the Friedrich Naumann Foundation – Prague Office, the Liberaal Kenniscentrum, the Academy of Liberalism, Svenska Bildningsförbundet (SBF) and the Institute for Politics and Society (IPPS), closely collaborated during 2016 in the field of security. The ELF project “Making Europe Safer for Citizens” launched a seminar and two workshops that took place in Brussels (at the European Parliament) and Tallinn.

While following up on a previous 2015 ELF project, the events aimed at fostering dialogue and raising awareness of citizens on the topic of a common European defence and military policy. Input was provided by prominent speakers, such as **Alexander Graf Lambsdorff MEP**, **Hilde Vautmans MEP** and **Urmas Paet MEP**, as well as security experts from all over Europe and the US (**Dr Stefanie Babst**, Head, Strategic Analysis Capability to the NATO Secretary General and Chairwoman of the NATO Military Committee; **Taavi Roivas**, then Prime Minister

of Estonia; **Dr John R. Deni**, Research Professor, Strategic Studies Institute, U.S. Army War College).

The discussion aimed to engage citizens in topical issues related to defence and security policies, and to share information with the participants. These policies are

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THE KEY IS, AND WILL REMAIN, GREATER COLLABORATION. ENERGY, TERRORIST AND HYBRID THREATS ARE ISSUES THAT DO NOT RESPECT NATIONAL BORDERS.

highly politically sensitive both on a European and on a national level, because they are closely related to national sovereignty, as Alexander Graf Lambsdorff MEP pointed out. For a long time, the absence of any military threat has inhibited any progress in genuine cooperation within the European Union. Yet, a new geopolitical context after

Alexander Graf Lambsdorff MEP interjecting on transatlantic and security policies in Brussels, Belgium.



1

MAKING EUROPE SAFER FOR CITIZENS



Estonian Prime Minister Taavi Roivas takes the stage at ELF event "Transatlantic Security Today: Facts and Perspectives" in Tallinn, Estonia.



The panel of speakers at ELF event "Transatlantic Security Today: Facts and Perspectives" in Tallinn, Estonia.

Brexit and the election of Donald Trump as President of the USA open a new window of opportunity. But who should take the lead in that integration? What should the role of NATO be after the election of Donald Trump and the unpredictability of his choices? The key is, and will remain, greater collaboration. Energy, terrorist and hybrid threats are issues that do not respect national borders.

The series produced a number of videos available on [ELF's Youtube channel](#), illustrating the speakers' contributions on the future of Transatlantic security.

DATE AND LOCATION

16 June 2016 · Brussels · Belgium
 12–13 October 2016 · Brussels · Belgium
 12 November 2016 · Tallinn · Estonia

SUPPORTED BY

[Friedrich Naumann Foundation](#) · [Studiecentrum Albert Maertens](#)
[Academy of Liberalism](#) · [Svenska bildningsförbundet r.f. \(SBF\)](#) · [Institute for Politics and Society](#)

PROJECT REPORTS BY

Václav Bacovský
 Laurens Bynens

EUROPE'S ENERGY FUTURE

HOW TO REDUCE TRANSPORT EMISSIONS AND INCREASE ENERGY SECURITY

Following up on a 2015 project, ELF gathered five member organisations to discuss energy and the environment, with a specific focus on transport. A series of three preliminary workshops and a final roundtable hosted by **Frederick Federley MEP** and **Gesine Meißner MEP** at the European Parliament resulted in a joint publication entitled *Europe's Energy Future: How to reduce Transport Emissions and Increase Energy Security*.

The discussion highlighted the challenges and opportunities of the European transport sector, and the presence of prominent experts, such as **Jakob Lagercrantz**, founder of the 2030-Secretariat, **Emily Rochon** from Greenpeace and **Philippe Guichard** from Total, benefitted the breadth of the discussion.

Though energy and transport are highly technical sectors and require specific knowledge, the speakers pointed out the need to raise the awareness of policy-makers,

so they have a broader picture of the technical solutions likely to have an impact on both climate and energy security. During the first and the second seminar, Jakob Lagercrantz and **Lovisa Källmark** from Fores advocated for concrete proposals to meet climate goals and higher

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THE FACT THAT EUROPE IS A NET IMPORTER OF ENERGY RAISES SOME QUESTIONS.

levels of energy security, while the third seminar focused on country case reports and discussed their relevance with a view to regional differences.

The fact that Europe is a net importer of energy, largely dependent on fossil fuels from the successor states of the former Soviet Union, raises some questions: what

Full attendance at the presentation of the ELF/Fores publication, *Europe's Energy Future* at the European Parliament with welcome speeches by Fredrick Federley MEP and Gesine Meissner MEP.



2

EUROPE'S ENERGY FUTURE

HOW TO REDUCE TRANSPORT EMISSIONS AND INCREASE ENERGY SECURITY



Roundtable discussion during the “Europe’s Energy – Energy Security and the Decarbonization of the Transport Sector” seminar in Vienna, Austria.



Launch seminar in Stockholm, Sweden.

is the current state of affairs; what alternatives are there for increasing fuel efficiency; what alternative fuels and transport systems exist, or will be developed in the future? With respect to energy security, there are two major risks involved: political risks and economic risks, such as the unstable relations with Russia and the Southern Mediterranean region, and the volatile prices of fossil fuels. However, there are ways out of this dependency: increasing energy efficiency and substituting conventional fuels with more sustainable alternatives.

Furthermore, citizens’ attitudes and behaviour play an important role: while raising awareness about the risks and the alternatives to fossil fuels already available, public participation based on (local) knowledge can lead to more sustainable energy solutions (biogenic renewables, solar energy and wind energy).

DATE AND LOCATION

2 March 2016 · Brussels · Belgium
 3 June 2016 · Stockholm · Sweden
 5–6 September 2016 · Vienna · Austria
 8 November 2016 · Brussels · Belgium

SUPPORTED BY

[Fores](#) · [NEOS Lab](#) · [Friedrich Naumann Foundation \(Project Office Sofia\)](#) · [Novum](#) · [CentreForum](#)

PROJECT REPORTS BY

Lovisa Källmark
 Ronald J. Pohoryles

EUROPEAN REFUGEE CRISIS

LIBERAL ANSWERS TO THE CHALLENGES ON SEA LIBERAL ANSWERS TO CHALLENGES ON LAND INTEGRATION THROUGH EDUCATION

Lesbos, Belgrade, Sofia and Stuttgart were all visited by participants in the ELF project dealing with the European refugee crisis implemented by Friedrich Naumann Foundation (Regional Offices of Bulgaria, Greece and Europe), together with Republikon, Novum, KEFIM, Centre for Liberal Studies and LibMov.

The challenges on sea and land brought about by this colossal humanitarian emergency is raising a need for Liberal answers. A group of young Liberals thus travelled through the Balkans and to the Greek island of Lesbos to visit the refugee camps and talk to the volunteers on the front line of engaging with asylum seekers.

The first seminar was held in Lesbos, Greece, where the group visited the camps of Kara Tepe and the Lesbos Solidarity Camp. There, they met with **Stavros Mirogiannis**, the manager of the Kara Tepe camp, and **Jean-Pierre**

Schembri, spokesperson for the European Asylum Support Office (EASO). They both called upon a global response as the only way to address the refugee crisis. **Shadi Martini**, a former Syrian refugee who is now a humanitarian activist

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EUROPE SHOULD WORK TOWARDS THE GRADUAL INTEGRATION OF REFUGEES IN OUR SOCIETIES BY PROVIDING THEM ACCESS TO THE LABOUR MARKET AND ENCOURAGING MUTUAL DIALOGUE WITH EUROPEAN CITIZENS.

and journalist, agreed. After welcoming the participants in Sofia, he explained that Europe should work towards the gradual integration of refugees in our societies by providing them access to the labour market and encouraging mutual dialogue with European citizens, so as to debunk the myths regarding refugees. He also affirmed that integration should

First meeting with volunteers in refugee camps in Lesbos, Greece.



3

EUROPEAN REFUGEE CRISIS

LIBERAL ANSWERS TO THE CHALLENGES ON SEA | LIBERAL ANSWERS TO THE CHALLENGES ON LAND
INTEGRATION THROUGH EDUCATION



The group visits a refugee camp in Krnjaca, Serbia, where about 470 people are being accommodated.



Speakers and organisers gather in Brussels, Belgium at the final event of the three-tier project on migration challenges.

not come at the price of security, and that the regulation of migration is a top priority.

After moving to Belgrade, where the group visited the Krnjaca facility and spent time listening the refugees' stories and playing with the children, the group met with the volunteers of the refugee camps in Belgrade. **Tajana Zadavec**, who works for Miksaliste Refugee Aid Centre, and **Dajena Ristic**, coordinator of Krnjaca Refugee Facility, confirmed that the camps are at their largest capacity, and that huge efforts are made on a daily basis to welcome every newcomer, and distribute basic needs such as food, water and clothes. After these testimonies, the participants worked in small groups to translate the outcomes of the previous roundtables into a preliminary study.

The project's final conclusions were drawn by **Angelika Mlinar MEP**, who stressed the need for a reform of the Dublin Convention and the willingness to work towards a common asylum and migration policy. While criticisms of the role of Frontex and the "web of institutions" that is has been tasked with managing migration flows were voiced, **István Dobo**, Policy Officer at the European Commission, acknowledged the action of Frontex, and called upon European institutions to increase and strengthen their support for this structure.

The final outcome of the project was a video, available on [ELF's Youtube channel](#), gathering what the participants saw during their workshops around the Balkans and Greece.

DATE AND LOCATION

5–7 May 2016 · Lesbos · Greece | 28 June – 1 July 2016 · Sofia · Bulgaria + Belgrade · Serbia
28 November 2016 · Mainz · Germany | 29 November 2016 · Brussels · Belgium
30 November 2016 · Munich · Germany | 30 November 2016 · Stuttgart · Germany

SUPPORTED BY

[Friedrich Naumann Foundation \(Regional Offices of Bulgaria, Greece, Germany and Europe\)](#) · [KEFIM Centre for Liberal Studies](#) · [LibMoy](#) · [Republikon](#) · [Novum](#)

PROJECT REPORTS BY

Boryana Atanassova · Charles du Vinage · Caroline Haury · Markus Kaiser · Melanie Koegler
Maximilian Rostam · Andrea Weigel

TALK FOR EUROPE

RALF DAHRENDORF ROUNDTABLE

The future of Europe is in the spotlight with **Guy Verhofstadt MEP**, president of the ALDE Group and **Andrej Babiš**, then Finance Minister of Czech Republic, as special guests of the ELF Ralf Dahrendorf Roundtable held in Prague, Czech Republic, on 19 September 2016 and implemented by the Institute for Politics and Society. The debate was moderated by Czech MEP **Pavel Telička**, Vice President of the European Parliament.

Since 2009, Europe has been facing a number of challenges. Economically, the past few years have been particularly difficult for the euro zone, and the sovereign debt crisis is only now showing some signs of alleviating. In terms of security, the situation on the EU's eastern border is once again the subject of much attention: Russian aggression in the Ukraine persists, challenges regarding the stabilisation of the Ukraine remain and EU's energy dependency on Russia remains a heated topic. More recently, Brexit has stolen much attention and promises to be on the agenda for some time, as does the refugee crisis, to which a

common European solution has yet to be found. Europe is going through a time of much soul-searching as divisions between the East and the West reappear.

Disappointed by the outcomes of the Bratislava summit, Andrej Babiš called for more action and competent

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EUROPE SHOULD DELIVER AND RECOVER
IN TIMES WHERE VOTERS ARE FED UP WITH
A 'EUROPE À LA CARTE'.

leaders to handle this historical “turning point”, as Pavel Telička MEP named it. He added that Europe should deliver and recover in times where voters are fed up with a “Europe à la carte”. Reforms are possible and necessary for the survival of the Union, argued Guy Verhofstadt MEP: “we need a common euro-zone governance, but

Czech Finance Minister, Andrej Babiš, and Guy Verhofstadt MEP, ALDE Group President, intervene during the “Talk for Europe”, moderated by Pavel Telička MEP, Vice-President of the European Parliament.



4

TALK FOR EUROPE

RALF DAHRENDORF ROUNDTABLE



ALDE Group President, Guy Verhofstadt MEP, and Pavel Telička MEP, Vice President of the European Parliament, are among the panellists of ELF RDR "Talk for Europe"



Full attendance at RDR "Talk for Europe" in Prague, Czech Republic.

we need fewer commissioners, fewer unimportant tasks; we need a small, effective EU government that deals with important issues such as defence and finance", and the sooner, the better. Unlike what one could think, he continued, events such as Brexit do not pose economic issues, but rather, geopolitical ones, with Europe left divided in a new age of empires.

This is one of the multiple challenges we are facing, but other questions remain unanswered: do any countries bear a responsibility to accommodate refugees? What distinguishes a refugee from an economic migrant? Do countries militarily involved in the Middle East such as the United Kingdom and France bear a greater responsibility than those uninvolved in the Iraqi/Syrian civil war? For how long, if at all, can Schengen survive under the current circumstances? Do migrants pose a threat to security?

DATE AND LOCATION

19 September 2016 · Prague · Czech Republic

SUPPORTED BY

[Institute for Politics and Society](#)

EVENT REPORT BY

David Radosta

DIGITAL SECURITY DUET

MAKING EUROPEAN CYBER DEFENCES MORE RESILIENT THROUGH PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS

The high-level Ralf Dahrendorf Roundtable (RDR) discussion organised by ELF on cyber security and public-private partnerships at the Munich Security Conference (MSC) in Munich, one of the most prestigious conferences on security policy, took the next step in developing ELF's network of defence and security experts.

The discussion was moderated by **Marietje Schaake MEP**. As member of the Global Commission on Internet Governance and as founder of the European Parliament Intergroup on the Digital Agenda for Europe, Marietje Schaake MEP is an authority in the field of governance of the digital world.

The speakers exchanged best practices on cybersecurity and the need for a fully-fledged international cooperation including the private sector, too. The expertise provided by private experts may afford smaller countries, such as Estonia, to develop cyber capabilities in every branch of

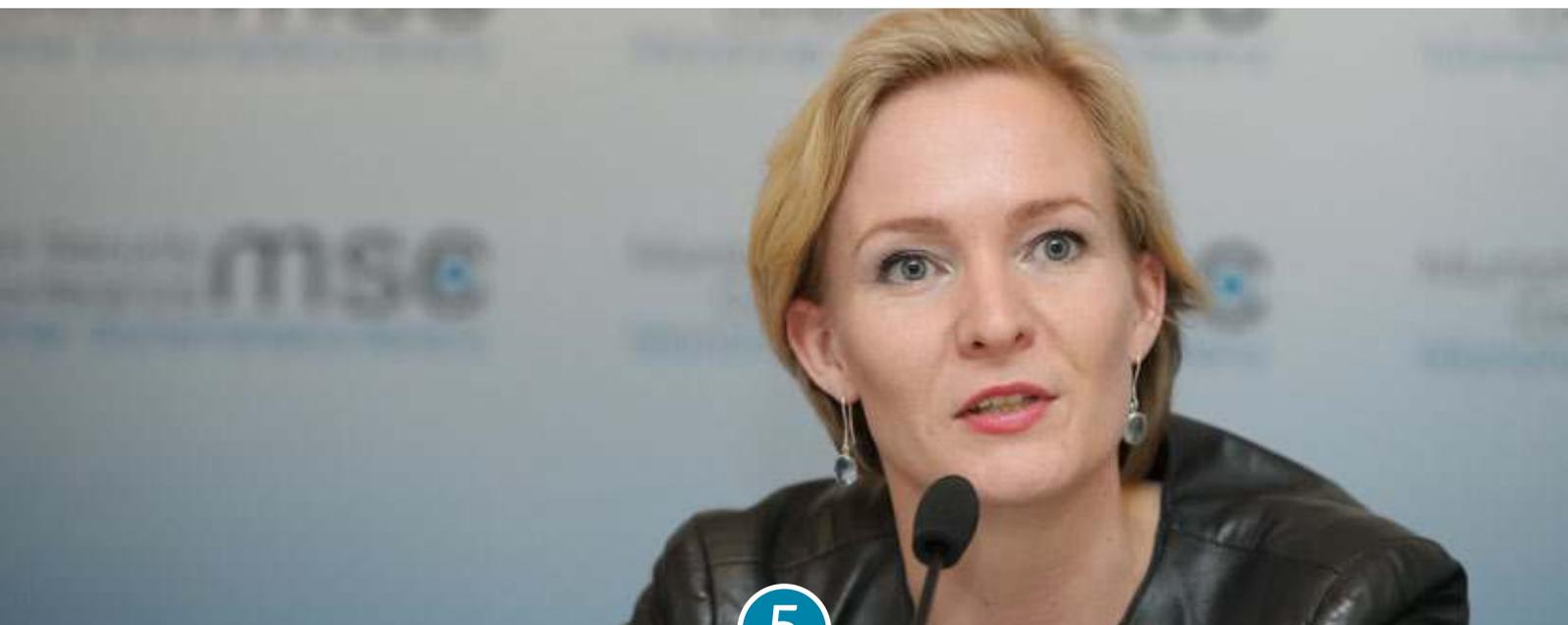
the government, as **Marina Kaljurand**, then Estonian Minister of Foreign Affairs argued. While not scared of a "Big Brother government", she expressed major concerns about the "Little Sisters, the small and big companies like Google and Microsoft", that control data on individuals and may manipulate them.

”

THE SPEAKERS EXCHANGED BEST PRACTICES ON CYBERSECURITY AND THE NEED FOR A FULLY-FLEDGED INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION INCLUDING THE PRIVATE SECTOR, TOO.

The second speaker, **Jan Neutze**, Director of Cybersecurity Policy at Microsoft and responsible for Europe, Middle East, and Africa, pointed out that public-private partnerships were both effective and fragile because they were based on mutual trust.

Marietje Schaake MEP speaking at at the ELF roundtable "Digital Security Duet". The event was integrated in the Munich Security Conference, held in Munich, Germany.



5

DIGITAL SECURITY DUET

MAKING EUROPEAN CYBER DEFENCES MORE RESILIENT THROUGH PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS



Felicita Medved welcoming participants at an ELF fringe event at the 2016 Munich Security Conference.



The speaker panel at the ELF Ralf Dahrendorf Roundtable on the fringes of the Munich Security Conference.

At Microsoft, he said, “we often saw the public and the private sector agreeing on which problems need to be solved, but that they did not work together to solve them”. When talking about accountability, Jan Neutze pointed out that the private sector is the one controlling most of the infrastructure but the governments are the ones who set the rules. He gave the USA as a good example of cooperation between the private and the public sector, and called for sharing more information over the Atlantic.

The third speaker was **Gerhard Eschelbeck**, Vice President Privacy and Security Engineering at Google. Even though threats are developing fast, he emphasised

that governments try to control the developments too much, and therefore essential information or innovations might not be shared in time. But there are also good practices to mention, like the German government organisation for information security, BSI.

One of the members of the audience was **Birgitta Jónsdóttir**, member of the Icelandic parliament for the Pirate Party. She emphasised that online civil rights should always be taken into consideration when implementing cyber security and data sharing policies, and the speakers lastly agreed on the need to focus on data integrity, and on the commitment to protect users’ rights.

DATE AND LOCATION

12 February 2016 · Munich · Germany

EVET REPORT BY

Gosse Vuijk

LIST OF ALL PROJECTS 2016

DEFENDING LIBERAL DEMOCRACIES BY DEFINING A EUROPEAN POLICY ON MIGRATION

DIGITAL FREEDOM SERIES

EU DEFENCE AND SECURITY POLICIES – MAKING EUROPE SAFER FOR CITIZENS

EUROPEAN LIBERAL WOMEN'S CAMPAIGN SCHOOL

EUROPE'S ENERGY FUTURE – ENERGY SECURITY AND CLIMATE TARGETS IN THE TRANSPORT SECTOR

FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS ENDANGERED. TURKEY, THE EUROPEAN HUMAN RIGHTS MECHANISMS (COE, EU),
AND THE MONITORING OF CIVIL LIBERTIES. THE LIBERAL PERSPECTIVE

FUTURE CONVENTIONS – IMPULSES FOR THE FUTURE

MEMBER STATE VIOLATIONS OF DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES

PARTICIPATION CAMP

POLICY AND LEADERSHIP TRAINING FOR YOUNG LIBERALS

POLITICAL CAMPAIGNING TRAINING – INNOVATIVE TOOLS AND EMOTIONAL MESSAGING

PROGRAM FOR YOUNG LIBERALS IN THE WESTERN BALKANS

PROMOTING LIBERALISM IN THE WESTERN BALKANS PART II – OVERCOMING THE STATUS QUO

RE-DESIGNING PUBLIC SERVICES FOR THE 21ST CENTURY (E-GOVERNANCE IN BULGARIA)

REGIONAL ACADEMY FOR LIBERALISM: CAPACITY-BUILDING FOR LIBERAL PARTIES IN THE WESTERN BALKANS

REGIONAL LEADERSHIP ACADEMY FOR LIBERAL WOMEN OF SOUTH-EAST EUROPE

THE EUROPEAN REFUGEE CRISIS: LIBERAL ANSWERS TO CHALLENGES ON LAND

THE EUROPEAN REFUGEE CRISIS: LIBERAL ANSWERS TO CHALLENGES ON SEA

THE EUROPEAN REFUGEE CRISIS: INTEGRATION THROUGH EDUCATION

THE FUTURE OF EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME MOBILITY IN EUROPE

THE TRADITION OF SOCIAL LIBERALISM. MEANING AND POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS

LIST OF RALF DAHRENDORF ROUNDTABLES 2016

A VISION FOR THE EUROPEAN DIGITAL SOCIETY

CONSTITUTIONAL STRUGGLE:
HOW POLITICAL PARTIES IN CENTRAL EUROPE TRIED TO LIMIT CONSTITUTIONAL COURTS

CYBER SECURITY: HOW TO DEAL WITH THREATS FROM ABROAD?

DIGITAL FREEDOM SERIES: MOBILE IS EVERYTHING – TOWARDS DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION OF INDUSTRIES

DIGITAL FREEDOM SERIES: TRANSATLANTIC DIGITALISATION – HOW TECHNOLOGY IS CHANGING OUR SOCIETIES

DIGITAL SECURITY DUET: MAKING EUROPEAN CYBER DEFENCES MORE RESILIENT
THROUGH PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS

EUROPAFORUM: LIBERAL RESPONSES TO POPULISM AND RENATIONALISATION

GREECE SERIES: MAKING EUROPE FIT FOR OUR GENERATION

FREEDOM OF CHOICE – SCHOOL EDUCATION ACROSS EUROPE

FREEDOM, SECURITY AND THE RULE OF LAW – THE DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY OF THE 21ST CENTURY

LGBTI RIGHTS IN THE RESTLESS EUROPE

LIBERAL REALPOLITIK?

LIFE AFTER BREXIT – A NEW WAY FORWARD FOR THE EU

POST-FACTUAL TIME. POST? FAKT!

PUBLIC SECURITY AND INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM

TALK FOR EUROPE

TOWARDS A NEW ECONOMIC STRATEGY FOR EU AND CYPRUS

UKRAINE SERIES: SUBSIDIARITY AS GUIDING PRINCIPLE OF DECENTRALISATION

UKRAINE SERIES: THE ROLE OF REGIONS AND CITIES IN IMPROVING ENERGY EFFICIENCY

2016

PHOTOS

PHOTOS



MARCH 2016: First seminar during ELF/Fores project on Europe's Energy Future in Brussels, Belgium.



MARCH 2016: Ilhan Kyuchyuk MEP opens the debate on a new economic strategy for Cyprus and the EU at the ELF Ralf Dahrendorf Roundtable "Towards a new Economic Strategy for EU and Cyprus" in Nicosia, Cyprus.

PHOTOS



MAY 2016: Listening to Liberal answers to the refugee crisis in Lesbos, Greece.



MAY 2016: Group picture of the delegation attending ELF/ALDE Party study trip to Washington D.C., USA.

PHOTOS



JUNE 2016: Javier Nart MEP talking about security at ALDE Party council in Vilnius, Lithuania.



JUNE 2016: Tackling the migration crisis during a small group discussion in Belgrade, Serbia.

PHOTOS



JULY 2016: Works start at ELF seminar on e-governance in Bucharest, Romania.



JULY 2016: Explaining the successes of e-governance in Estonia at an ELF seminar in Bucharest, Romania.

PHOTOS



JULY 2016: ELF hosts a Ralf Dahrendorf Roundtable on the topic “Transatlantic Digitalisation: How is Technology changing our societies”, at the fringes of the Democratic National Convention in Philadelphia, USA.



SEPTEMBER 2016: Former ELF Board of Directors passes the baton to the newly elected Directors at Autumn General Assembly in Brussels, Belgium.

PHOTOS



SEPTEMBER 2016: Representatives of ELF member organisations vote at the Autumn General Assembly in Brussels, Belgium.



SEPTEMBER 2016: ELF President, Dr Jürgen Martens, makes a welcome speech at the University of Leiden, Netherlands.

PHOTOS



OCTOBER 2016: Young Liberals discussing the future of the neighbourhood policy in Bucharest, Romania.



NOVEMBER 2016: Regional Leadership Academy participants group picture in Bled, Slovenia. ELF advocates for women in politics.

PHOTOS



NOVEMBER 2016: An attentive audience attending ELF event on “Social entrepreneurship in Europe: Supportive Environment for innovative types of ownership” in Maribor, Slovenia.



DECEMBER 2016: Sophie In't Veld MEP advocating for democratic values during the Ralf Dahrendorf Roundtable “Creeping Coup? The Polish Constitutional Crisis One Year Later” in Warsaw, Poland.

2016

ABOUT US

ELF is the foundation of the European Liberal Democrats (ALDE Party).
We are made up of three pillars:

1

MEMBER
ORGANISATIONS

2

THE BOARD OF
DIRECTORS

3

THE
SECRETARIAT

2016

1

MEMBER ORGANISATIONS

Membership is open to think tanks, political foundations and institutes that promote Liberal ideals and values.

NEOS LAB – DAS LIBERALE FORUM

NEOS LAB – THE LIBERAL FORUM



lab.neos.eu



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twitter.com/neoslab_eu

NEOS Lab is the political academy of the liberal grass-roots movement NEOS, and an open laboratory for new politics. NEOS Lab's main objective is to contribute to enhancing political education in Austria by providing a platform for knowledge exchange and liberal political thinking on the key challenges to, and pathways for, democracies and welfare states in the 21st century. Particular emphasis is placed on the core topics of education, a more entrepreneurial Austria, sustainable welfare systems and democratic innovation.

NEOS Lab views itself as a participatory interface between politics and society, insofar as it mediates on diverse policy issues between interested citizens, citizen experts with practical knowledge and academics with scientific knowledge, who all take part in the Lab's "think and do" tank work.

Additionally, NEOS Lab provides several services, such as political education and training, workshops and conferences, and a rich portfolio of inter- and transdisciplinary research at the interface between science, politics, economy and society.

NEOS Lab is the successor of the Liberal Future Forum, which was also a member of ELF.

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neos LAB

CENTRE JEAN GOL



cjpg.be



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twitter.com/CentreJeanGol

Opened in December 2004, the Centre Jean Gol is, at one and the same time, the guardian of the archives of the Reformist Movement and a number of its directors; an interdisciplinary library boasting over 4,000 volumes (seminal liberal writings, but also less well-known works); a design office; a think tank and research unit; a publisher of numerous collections; a proactive political force; a centre for training the Reformist Movement's representatives; and an organiser of events, seminar, conferences and symposiums.

The Centre Jean Gol's objective is to generate discussions on important social issues, thereby enabling the Reformist Movement to promote new ideas as part of a message that is accessible to all. In other words, the Centre Jean Gol allows the Reformist Movement to express itself as a vital creative force.

Apart from reference works on liberalism, the Centre Jean Gol publishes *Cahiers*, the fruit of an interdisciplinary discussion process involving political authorities and experts from academic and socio-economic spheres or from civil society. It updates a database of electoral results since the early 1990s, from which it produces in-depth analyses. It also places itself at the disposal of the Reform Movement's elected representatives to carry out surveys and work on specific election projects.

Finally, the Centre Jean Gol has a website, designed to serve as a communication tool for the activities and publications of the centre. It offers online access to our library catalogue and to the inventory of our archives; the option to download certain parts of our publications free of charge; a "Liberal Portal" providing several hundred links to other websites (Liberal or otherwise) of interest; plus a section entitled *La Pensée Libérale*, which gives access to analyses of major liberal works, bibliographical references, etc.

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Centre Jean Gol

STUDIECENTRUM ALBERT MAERTENS (SAM)

Studiecentrum Albert Maertens (SAM, in English: Research Centre Albert Maertens) is the policy institute of the Flemish Liberal Party (Open Vld). It aims to define Liberalism in the 21st century and to put important topics on the political agenda.

SAM seeks to respond proactively to the varying challenges of the near future. In this way, we seek to lay the foundations for political Liberalism in Flanders, Belgium and Europe.

SAM aims to formulate a clear vision of today's Liberalism in an era marked by great challenges, such as globalisation, ageing of the population, migration and climate change.

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ALBERT MAERTENS

LIBERAL INSTITUTE FOR POLITICAL ANALYSES (LIPA)



lipa.bg

LIPA is a Bulgarian non-governmental organisation, a think tank, with the non-profit purposes of promoting the expansion of liberal democracy and active civil society in Bulgaria, supporting the proper integration of Bulgaria within the EU, contributing to EU cohesion and strengthening European citizenship and identity on the merits of freedom, personal responsibility and the rule of law.

Our mission is to:

- Demonstrate how the change in our mentality results in a change of our lives
- Support the development of conditions for a civilised dialogue in society
- Contribute to tolerance and continuity in politics
- Show the primacy of classical liberalism over leftism, populism and extremism
- Encourage political parties in Bulgaria to embrace the values of classical liberalism

We debate and analyse current socio-political issues and propose alternatives for the development of a society of free and responsible individuals.

We organise public forums and publish political, economic and social studies defending personal freedom and the rule of law.

We provide training on:

- Leadership and public communication for young politicians and leaders of tomorrow
- Rights and responsibilities of European citizens
- Working with EU institutions and non-governmental organisations
- Election campaigns, internal party development and communication
- Local government and modern local self-governance

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MEĐUNARODNI EDUKACIJSKI CENTAR

INTERNATIONAL EDUCATIONAL CENTRE (IEC)



akademija.hns.hr



goo.gl/aDaJvJ



twitter.com/PoliticalAcadem

International Educational Centre (IEC) is a civil society organisation which works to advance the political education of Croatian citizens and develop a tolerant and democratic political culture in Croatian society. The IEC adheres to universal values such as personal liberty, equality, economic freedom and individualism, which we consider to be the cornerstones of western civilization. Due to our liberal background, much of the IEC's activity is more specifically aimed at strengthening liberalism in Croatian society and politics.

The IEC was founded by members of the Croatian People's Party – Liberal Democrats (HNS) to bring its Political Academy closer to the public and add a new international dimension to its educational work. Since then, the IEC has continued to open new avenues for international cooperation for the Academy by joining networks of likeminded organisations and foundations, while recently branching out to actively participate in projects by providing invaluable technical support.

As their respective names would suggest; the primary concern of the IEC and the Political Academy is education, which is the most valuable capital a person can possess. We are of the firm belief that for liberal democracies to function, their citizens must be politically engaged as well as adequately educated. Both formal and informal education should equip citizens with the ability to critically think of political and social ideas, thus producing autonomous individuals capable of deciding for themselves what their definition of "a good life" is and how to successfully and responsibly achieve it within an open society. Such individuals are ever more likely to safeguard liberty, rather than succumb to the call of populism which, once again, seems to be taking root in Europe.

The IEC and the Academy, through their activities, continue to strengthen liberalism in Croatia by providing training opportunities to members of HNS, while sharing knowledge and expertise with other Liberal parties in the region. In addition, by holding roundtables and conferences which discuss major issues on the political agenda, the IEC promotes liberal views in the public and provides Croatian citizens with a chance to further educate and inform themselves on important issues in society. In the near future, the IEC hopes to establish itself as a liberal think-tank in the region, bringing together theorists and practitioners to discuss and propose solutions to critically important public policy issues.

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INTERNATIONAL
 EDUCATIONAL
 CENTER

CENTRUM LIBERÁLNÍCH STUDIÍ

CENTRE FOR LIBERAL STUDIES (CLS)



libcentrum.cz

The Centre for Liberal Studies (CLS) was established in 1994 as a foundation and then re-established in 1999 as a civil society organisation. It is a non-governmental, non-partisan, non-profit think tank. The main objectives of the CLS is to develop contacts between exponents of liberal thought, to contribute to clarifying the definition of liberalism and to define its place in contemporary society, and to apply this liberal approach to the political, economic and social transition of the Czech Republic.

Due to a historical absence of any stable liberal political party in the Czech political landscape, the CLS, along with the Liberal Institute, long remained the only promoters of liberal ideas in Czech society. The CLS is open to cooperation with all interested institutions, organisations and individuals.

The CLS mainly works in the three following areas:

- **Policy advocacy** in areas such as tax system reform, social insurance, rent deregulation, healthcare system reforms etc.
- **Education:** Panel discussions, roundtables, conferences, awarding grants to undergraduates and graduates, sponsoring degree papers and translations
- **Cooperation with established experts** (university teachers, scholars, government officers etc.) and with other think tanks such as Liberal Institute and FNF

In 2011, the CLS was actively involved in designing the website www.4liberty.eu, which serves as a platform for liberal-oriented think tanks in Central and Eastern Europe to communicate with media and decision-makers.

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INSTITUT PRO POLITIKU A SPOLEČNOST

INSTITUTE FOR POLITICS AND SOCIETY



politikaspolecnost.cz



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goo.gl/d8Kxux

The mission of the Institute is to cultivate the Czech political and public sphere through professional and open discussion and to create a living platform that defines problems, analyses them and offers recipes for their solution in the form of cooperation with experts and politicians, international conferences, seminars, public discussions and political and social analysis available to the whole of Czech society.

We believe that open discussion with experts and the recognition of the causes of problems is a necessary prerequisite for any successful solution to political and social problems.

The main themes are social change, foreign and security policy, defence, European matters, sustainable development and adaptation to the coming climate change, education, schooling, digitalisation, energy policy and its new forms, urbanisation, public life, and last but not least, matters of values in politics and human rights in our country and abroad.

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INSTITUTE FOR POLITICS
AND SOCIETY

LIBERALISMI AKADEEMIA

ACADEMY OF LIBERALISM



liberalism.ee



facebook.com/LiberalismiAkadeemia

The Academy of Liberalism is an independent Liberal think tank founded by members of the Estonian Reform Party in 2006. It has a 12-person board, including Ministers, Members of Parliament and entrepreneurs. The purpose of the Academy is to promote a liberal worldview to oppose socialist and anti-liberal ideas in society. The Academy of Liberalism is focused on civic education and research projects to promote Liberalism in Estonia and the EU neighbourhood countries.

The Academy of Liberalism is active in many fields of think-tank work. Among the activities we pursue are:

- Publishing: translations of acknowledged works into Estonian (Editors: Claudia Aebersold Szalay, Gerd Habermann & Gerhard Schwarz, *Vabaduse raamat. 111 teost liberaalsest vaimuloost*) and publishing books in Estonian (Andrus Ansip, *Pühendumus*) and publications on topical issues
- Events
- A sophisticated training programme: The Youth Academy
- Academy of Liberal Future: Seminars for young Liberal political leaders aged 20 to 30
- The Day of Liberalism
- Liberal of the Year Award
- Think tank in Estonia for Russians
- Round tables, conferences, training series on liberalism: Topics range from liberal economics, government spending and economic growth, state intervention in the economic crisis, etc.
- Cooperation: various joint projects with other think tanks (ELF, Institute for Market Economics – IME, FNF, 4liberty.eu etc.)

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EDISTYSMIELISEN TUTKIMUKSEN YHDISTYS R.Y. E2

THINK TANK E2



e2.fi



goo.gl/X1QrUc

The Society for Progressive Research (Editysmielisen tutkimuksen yhdistys ry) was established in 2006 in order to oversee the management of think tank e2. The director of the organisation, which is based on progressive values and liberal ideals is Karina Jutila, D.S.Sc. The focus of e2 is on research; on generating social scientific knowledge for the needs of organisations, businesses, the media, and political decision-making.

Think Tank e2:

- Focuses on research and generates social scientific knowledge for the needs of organisations, businesses, the media, and political decision-making
- Initiates dialogue on current issues and introduces new themes for open debate
- Aims to foresee social phenomena outside the field of daily politics
- Contributes to the strengthening of think tank activities in Finland and improving contacts with think tanks in other countries

Think Tank e2 focuses on two primary subjects:

- The state and future of democracy
- Environmental sustainability (including, for example, the bio economy in the Baltic Sea)

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SVENSKA BILDNINGSFÖRBUNDET R.F. (SBF)



bildningsforbundet.fi



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twitter.com/bildningsf

The Swedish People's Party, together with its women's and youth league, formed Svenska Bildningsförbundet (SBF) in 1973. The initial goal of SBF was to organise local workshops and provide training for candidates and campaign staff in fields relating to the mission of the party. Today, the role of SBF has grown and matured to an organisation that provides broad political and ideological support in a wider sense. SBF wants to drive the conversation in society by creating spaces where political and societal matters are being discussed from a liberal point of view.

As a strong advocate of liberal solutions to today's societal challenges, SBF hosts seminars, both short weekday seminars and full-day, more comprehensive seminars on a wide range of topics. SBF also publishes books and pamphlets on important political issues and commissions surveys to gain a better understanding of how society views different topics.

SBF runs an internship programme, Liberal Praktik, which gives young people the opportunity to grow at high-level organisations in Cape Town, London, Brussels, Berlin and Washington D.C.

SBF also runs a leadership development programme, Ledarskapsakademin (the Leadership Academy), aimed at developing the skills of young adults as they mature into leadership roles in society. The programme focuses on international relations, competitiveness, global trade, sustainable development and a wide range of other topics.

In 2016 Svenska Bildningsförbundet founded a think tank called Agenda. Its main task is to find out ways of promoting new long-term policies that are going to shape Finland and Europe. Agenda publishes research papers made by leading experts in Scandinavia.

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TANKESMEDJAN MAGMA

THINK TANK MAGMA



magma.fi



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twitter.com/TankesmedMagma

Magma is a Finnish think tank founded in 2008. It supports liberal values and is independent of party politics. Since the beginning Magma has focused on issues such as integration, minorities, media, and the consequences of structural and economic change. Magma's activities are based on the fact that Finland has two official languages, Finnish and Swedish, and on the understanding that multilingualism and ethnic diversity are important features of today's Finland and Europe.

Magma performs an analytical function and serves as an arena for discussion. Our studies, as well as our impact and risk analyses, provide a basis for decision-making. Magma also organises conferences and seminars. The results are presented on our website, in our own publications, in articles and at public events. Magma also undertakes comparative studies within a European context and cooperates with think tanks both in Finland and abroad.

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FRIEDRICH-NAUMANN-STIFTUNG FÜR DIE FREIHEIT

FRIEDRICH NAUMANN FOUNDATION FOR FREEDOM (FNF)



freiheit.org
fnf-europe.org



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The Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom is the foundation for Liberal politics in the Federal Republic of Germany. It aims to promote the principles of freedom and dignity of all people and in all areas of society, both in Germany and abroad. Through civic education and dialogue programmes, sponsorship of the talented, research and political consultation and archive work, the Friedrich Naumann Foundation contributes to shaping the future in a Liberal way.

In Germany the Foundation offers diverse forums, especially for young people, to exchange information and experience and discuss current and future political and societal developments. Its main focus is to promote a greater understanding of politics and to inspire citizens to take part in the political process.

Abroad, the support of human rights, rule of law and democracy in more than 60 countries form the core of our work. Furthermore, we assist in the sustainable development of democratic and constitutional structures by supporting Liberal parties and groups. A strong network of associations of democratic parties, human rights organisations and academic institutions offers a strong basis of our activities abroad. The Foundation's central idea, both at home and abroad, is the promotion of freedom and responsibility.

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Friedrich Naumann
STIFTUNG **FÜR DIE FREIHEIT**

ΕΚΕΝΤΡΟ ΦΙΛΕΛΕΥΘΕΡΩΝ ΜΕΛΕΤΩΝ 'ΜΑΡΚΟΣ ΔΡΑΓΟΥΜΗΣ'

LIBERTY FORUM OF GREECE – MARKOS DRAGOUMIS (KEFIM)



libertyforum.gr



facebook.com/libertyforum.gr



twitter.com/kefimgr



youtube.com/user/kefimgr

KEFiM – Markos Dragoumis is an independent think tank based in Athens, aiming to increase the influence and support for policies that promote individual freedom. We believe in the principles of classical liberalism, free economy and an open society under the rule of law.

Founded in November 2011, KEFiM serves as an independent resource for government officials, business executives, journalists, academia and students, civic leaders, and politically conscious citizens. We engage in research projects, translations, publications and events and are proud member of numerous, prestigious global organisations.

We maintain our rigorous integrity by solely relying on our international network of partners, our members, staff and volunteers.

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REPUBLIKON FOUNDATION FOR SCIENCE, EDUCATION AND RESEARCH (REPUBLIKON FOUNDATION)



republikon.hu



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Republikon Foundation for Science, Education and Research (Republikon Foundation) is a liberal think tank organisation based in Budapest, focusing on analysing Hungarian and international politics, formulating policy recommendations and initiating projects that contribute to a more open, democratic and free society.

The goal of the Foundation is to promote discussion and implementation of liberal ideas, approaches and policies. Republikon Foundation believes that Hungarian politics can take a turn for the better only if liberal ideas and opinions are formulated in policy and public discourse.

Republikon Foundation has played an important role as a think tank in Hungary: independent from any political party, but committed to liberal values, it has been endeavouring to shape policy thinking and public debate with its innovative approach to politics and policy. It is Republikon's mission to articulate new ideas and to find ways of making the values of liberal democracy, human rights and tolerance more popular.

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SZABADSÁGÉRT ALAPÍTVÁNY

FOR FREEDOM, FOR LIBERAL THINKING FOUNDATION

The For Freedom Foundation was brought to life on 23 January 2012 with the primary goal of promoting and facilitating the dissemination of liberal thinking in Hungary. Its main objective is to strengthen liberal values, so that fundamental human rights and liberties can become part of the everyday life of all members of society. In the course of its activity, the Foundation fights against segregation and for the strengthening of an open, tolerant and receptive society.

The Foundation gives special attention to minorities; primarily the challenges faced by the Roma community and its goal is to facilitate equal opportunities for disadvantaged groups. The Foundation is committed to the cause of environmental protection. It seeks to reinforce the right to the pursuit of individual happiness.

It cooperates with and supports every organisation whose objectives correspond to its own. In order to reach its goals, the Foundation makes full use of publicity and the media.

The Foundation carries out the following:

- Educational programmes, training and lectures
- Exhibitions and cultural events
- Publications
- Scholarships for organisations and individuals
- Awarding individual support or grants

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SZABADSÁGÉRT



ALAPÍTVÁNY

ASSOCIAZIONE LIBMOV, MOVIMENTO LIBERALE (LIBMOV)



libmov.it



goo.gl/CruJHv

LibMov is a new think tank, formed by Italian ALDE associate members, with the aim of promoting liberalism in Italy and of gathering together all Italian Liberals who believe it is high time for their renewed presence in the Italian public debate and in the Italian political system. LibMov was not born in contrast or in opposition to any existing Liberal organisations.

We think the preliminary step should be to elaborate a raft of political principles and reform proposals capable of coalescing the diverse traditions and cultural sensitivities within the Italian Liberal family that has for years been scattered across many different political organisations, and is therefore much weaker today than it could be.

Given that European integration has been – in the last 150 years – the common ground for almost all Italian Liberals, we think that making direct reference to our European common family could be an effective approach to gain supporters.

In addition to this, we have set four basic principles more directly related to the present Italian public debate: the resumption of the traditional role of Italy in promoting

European integration (a role miserably neglected in the past two decades); turning the page on the two muddy decades marked by political populism, continuous breaches of the rule of law and indecent public ethical standards; a resolute modernisation and liberalisation of the Italian economy, also as a means to curb corruption, patronage and vested interests; and, separation of state and religion and related individual freedom.

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FONDAZIONE CRITICA LIBERALE



criticaliberale.it



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twitter.com/CriticalLiberale

Fondazione Critica Liberale is a non-profit foundation established in 1994 with the aim of promoting liberalism in Italy and acting in the fields of democracy, civil liberties and human rights, social and economic policies.

Fondazione Critica Liberale organises and sponsors conferences, workshops and seminars, as well as research studies and a wide range of publications. The foundation runs the three-monthly review *Critica Liberale* (published since 1969, before the foundation came into existence) and its online supplements *criticaliberalepuntoit* (weekly), *Gli Stati Uniti d'Europa* (The United States of Europe, advocating European federalism) and *Novae9* (a cultural interdisciplinary review).

The foundation supports, and is a partner of, institutions and activities with parallel aims, such as Consulta Laica of Rome and Coordinamento Nazionale delle Consulte Laiche of Italy. In 2007 the foundation and CGIL trade union office, Ufficio Nuovi Diritti, launched the Observatory on Secularisation. The Observatory publishes an annual Report on secularisation in Italy and organises a series of meetings called *Conversazioni laiche*; it also edits a yearly report on religious information in the Italian media, funded by the Italian Waldensian (Protestant) Church.

Fondazione Critica Liberale is a member of the Coordination of Italian Cultural Reviews (CRIC).

The foundation is one of the founding members of the Pannunzio Society for Freedom of Information.

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fondazione critica liberale

LATVIJAS NAKOTNES FORUMS

FORUM FOR LATVIA'S FUTURE (FLF)



nakotnesforums.lv



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Forum for Latvia's Future was founded as a non-governmental non-profit organisation in March 2012 in Riga. The organisation was created by a group of high-ranking Liberals, including well-known politicians and entrepreneurs, in order to promote Liberalism and bring together experts and young leaders to promote public policy solutions for Latvia based on free market, free society, European values and rule of law. The other very important aim of FLF is to support strategically and assist the party Latvijas Attīstībai in its effort to advocate for the values of liberalism in Latvian society.

FLF believes in a strong Latvia as a part of a strong Europe. We have been realising our European aspirations with the help of other European Liberal organisations from the beginning of our existence. FLF is uniting a number of European think tanks, political foundations, and institutes with which FLF share values, ambitions and ideas. Organisations that believe in sustainable growth, a free market, a stronger Europe, in protecting the rights of minorities, the right of free speech and religions, gender equality and protecting freedom across Europe and the world.

Previously known as the society "For Latvia's Development", FLF aims to create a wide, authoritative, classical-liberal platform for ideas and discussion to develop proposals for purposeful, sustainable and dynamic development of Latvia.

Since its foundation, the society has held numerous discussions on Latvia's development since its foundation involving entrepreneurs and industry professionals. The discussions have focused on economics, education, science, justice, public administration and other significant fields. We have led in-depth analysis on the necessary changes in Latvia's tax policies, higher education, energy, forestry, healthcare and introduction of the euro.

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LATVIJAS
NĀKOTNES
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ATVIRA VISUOMENĖ IR JOS DRAUGAI

OPEN SOCIETY AND ITS FRIENDS



atviravisuomene.lt

Founded in 2005, Open Society and Its Friends is a non-profit organisation that aims to spread liberal ideas and values, stimulate the development of an open civil society, extend and deepen democratic traditions, promote citizenship and strive for more private-sector involvement in public administration.

Apart from the implementation of various projects and initiatives, we mainly aim to provide an opportunity for other people and organisations to reach their mutual goals together. Therefore, our organisation is often a supporter of ideas and initiatives as well as a partner in projects.

However, we always pursue our goals and, before we consider taking part in any initiative, we ask ourselves the following questions:

- Will it disseminate liberal ideas and values?
- Will it promote citizenship?
- Will it strengthen the culture and awareness of democracy?
- Will it encourage public and political activity?
- Will it build political intelligence?

The organisation is involved in disseminating liberal ideas on an ongoing basis and in their implementation. With our goals in mind, we initiate research on important social, political and public issues; create concepts for liberal reforms; organise conferences, discussions and public lectures; carry out opinion polls and finance the publication of academic literature.

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LAISVĖS STUDIJŲ CENTRAS (LSC)

CENTRE FOR LIBERTY STUDIES



laisvesstudijos.lt

Laisvės studijų centras (LSC) is a Liberal think tank aiming to promote individual freedom and responsibility as the most important values in a democratic society. LSC is committed to the following goal of fostering the emergence of young leaders, popularising liberal values, promoting civil liberties and providing a platform for every citizen to engage in the democratic process.

LSC has as its primary interest the strengthening of civil society by means of organising educational activities. Examples of such activities include visits and open lectures for high-school students, leadership and political communication training for young citizens, and more generally, for the liberal community in Lithuania.

Our most notable current project is our ongoing dialogue on the meaning of freedom, liberalism and the future of the European Union in the context of Lithuania.

LSC aims to establish itself as a profound institution of public policy analysis. Having a wide network of reformers across Lithuania, we seek to contribute in various spheres of public policy, including education, health and public administration in particular.

One of the key objectives for LSC is to build a long-lasting training platform for public sector leaders, not only from Lithuania, but from across Europe.

In all our activities we closely cooperate with the Liberal Movement of Lithuania, as well as other liberal organisations, both in our own country as well as abroad.

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HAYA VAN SOMEREN STICHTING/ VVD INTERNATIONAAL



international.vvd.nl



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Haya van Someren Stichting is responsible for the international activities of the Dutch Liberal Party (VVD) and is based at the headquarters of the VVD in The Hague, The Netherlands.

The Haya van Someren Stichting concentrates on supporting non-profit activities that strengthen liberal-minded political parties and groupings in Central and Eastern Europe. This is facilitated by the Political Parties funding of the Matra Programme set up by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Matra Programme aims to support the transition to a multi-form, constitutional society in countries in Central and Eastern Europe and North Africa. Haya van Someren Stichting/VVD Internationaal has nearly twenty years' experience in the field of capacity-building of political parties in Eastern and Southeast Europe.

The parties and/or political groups we support should emphasise liberal principles and ideas. Preferably they are, or intend to be, a member of Liberal International, and/or the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE) Party. Certain other conditions also apply. The political party or group should aim to strengthen the rule of law, guaranteeing the individual rights of man and promoting peaceful relations with neighbouring countries.

The Haya van Someren Stichting works on a demand-driven basis and organises and facilitates several training programmes:

- Training on various party-related subjects
- Regional seminars, providing keynote speakers
- Visitors' programmes in the Netherlands
- Regional and national discussions fora

Projects have been successfully implemented in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Egypt, Georgia, Kosovo, Libya, former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Moldova, Morocco, Romania, Serbia, Tunisia, Turkey and Ukraine.

More information about VVD International and the activities it organises in cooperation with its international partners can be found on its [website](#) or [Facebook](#) page.

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PROF.MR. B.M. TELDERSSTICHTING



teldersstichting.nl



twitter.com/TeldersTweet

The Prof.mr. B.M. TeldersStichting is a Dutch liberal think tank affiliated to the VVD political party. The foundation is named after Benjamin Telders, who was a legal scholar and philosopher and chair of the Liberal State Party (a predecessor of the VVD party). During World War II he was arrested by German (Nazi) occupiers. He died in the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp shortly before the Netherlands were liberated.

The Prof.mr. B.M. TeldersStichting was founded in 1954 as a completely independent liberal think tank by a board under the chairmanship of Johan Witteveen, a professor in economics who was to become Vice-Prime Minister of the Netherlands in the 1960s and Director of the International Monetary Fund in the 1970s. In 1972, the Prof.mr. B.M. TeldersStichting established a link with the VVD, although as an organisation and in its policy formulation, the think tank remained independent. The current Chair of the Board is Robert Reibestein, who was previously a partner of McKinsey & Co. consulting services company. The current Director of the foundation is Patrick van Schie, a historian who wrote his dissertation on the history of Dutch liberalism from 1901 to 1940.

The Prof.mr. B.M. TeldersStichting publishes policy papers and books on all kinds of political and societal topics, from the market economy to environmental issues, from fighting crime to defence policy. In addition, together with a commercial book publisher, the foundation publishes books for a wide audience on the history of liberalism and its leaders, the political philosophy of liberalism and the leading thinkers in liberal (political and economic) theory. Each year, several conferences and seminars on various topics are organised. Also, an annual Telders Lecture is held. Talented students from Dutch (and Belgian) universities are selected to take part in the Prof.mr. B.M. TeldersStichting Liberal Summer School. The quarterly journal of the foundation is *Liberaal Reveil*, which is edited by Charlotte Maas. The TeldersCommunity, an online platform for

discussion as well as a digital library for all our publications was launched in 2014. Most of our publications and debates are in Dutch, although some are available in English.

The Prof.mr. B.M. TeldersStichting does not adhere to one particular variant of liberalism, though liberalism's classical thinkers always appear to be an important source of inspiration. For us, the freedom of the individual is the most fundamental point. We therefore consider it essential that a free and democratic society, in which there is no accumulation of power and public power is always democratically controlled and legitimised (via checks and balances), continues. It is not the US-type of liberalism, as it has developed in recent decades, that we embrace, but a liberalism that is vigorously opposed to socialism, religion-based politics and other kinds of communitarianism.

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TeldersStichting

omdat kennis ertoe doet

MR. HANS VAN MIERLO STICHTING



mrhansvanmierlostichting.nl



twitter.com/VMStichting

The Mr. Hans van Mierlo Stichting works as a broker of knowledge, expertise and ideas for the Dutch Liberal Democratic Party D66 (Democraten 66).

With four staff members, the main focus of our work is to deepen and develop our liberal-democratic (also often referred to as social-liberal) thinking.

Our Foundation was originally founded in the 1970s, when it served as a traditional research centre. At the turn of the 20th century, our approach changed to that of a broker, but our aim has remained the same: to generate concepts and ideas that strengthen the intellectual profile of D66 and to be a place where political thinkers can look at societal development in a more considered manner.

Nowadays, the organisation employs dozens of volunteers, working on projects varying from very concrete policy advice to fundamental studies of the basic social-liberal principles of D66. We also publish a magazine called *Idee*.

Furthermore, we act as secretary to D66's permanent programme committee, which is charged with writing the party programmes for both national and European elections. It is in this arena that the link is forged between ideological awareness and everyday practice.

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**Mr. Hans
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Stichting**

STICHTING INTERNATIONAAL DEMOCRATISCH INITIATIEF (STICHTING IDI)



internationaal.d66.nl/partners



facebook.com/D66Internationaal



twitter.com/D66Int

Stichting IDI is an important pillar in D66's international work. In 1989, IVSOM, the Central and Eastern Europe Foundation of the D66 party was founded to support democratisation and economic transition in Central and Eastern Europe. In October 1997, IVSOM was renamed the Stichting Internationaal Democratisch Initiatief (Stichting IDI). The Foundation is independent but also forms an integral part of the political party D66. Its office is located at the D66 Party Bureau.

Over the years IDI's field of operation was expanded to include countries outside Central and Eastern Europe. Nowadays, the IDI Foundation is mainly active in Eastern Europe, the Western Balkans, Turkey and the MENA (Middle East and North Africa) region. Furthermore, the IDI Foundation maintains and develops relationships with likeminded political organisations in many countries around the world. IDI cooperates with liberal-democratic parties and organisations that respect human rights and the rights of minorities.

Democratic movements and progressive or social-liberal political parties are natural partners for the IDI Foundation. The relationships are mutually beneficial. On the one hand,

IDI offers practical knowledge for political partners in the project countries. On the other, ideas and experiences from abroad deepen and strengthen the liberal concept D66 adheres to, while at the same time D66 learns from the tactics and strategy employed by likeminded parties. The Matra Political Party Programme of the Dutch Ministries of Foreign and Home Affairs financially support most IDI projects.

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EUROPEAN LIBERAL YOUTH (LYMEC)



lymec.eu



facebook.com/EuropeanLiberalYouthLYMEC



twitter.com/lymec

The European Liberal Youth, abbreviated as LYMEC, is a pan-European youth organisation seeking to promote Liberal values throughout the EU as the youth organisation of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE Party) and its parliamentary group in the European Parliament (ALDE, Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe).

Involving about 160,000 members from 50 organisations in about 30 countries, LYMEC is composed of member organisations and individual membership and it is active across the breadth and diversity of the European continent. Our central aim is the creation of a Liberal and federal Europe.

LYMEC was established in 1976 as the Liberal and Radical Youth Movement of the European Community. As a youth organisation, LYMEC supports the development of political and educational understanding of young people throughout Europe. LYMEC strives to play a political role within Europe by cooperating with other Liberal and Radical organisations – such as ALDE – and to represent Liberal interests in European youth movements.

In brief, our organisation aims to:

- Create a Liberal and federal Europe
- Educate its member organisations and individual members through seminars, publications, group travel, symposia, courses and meetings
- Increase the common understanding of Liberal ideas among young people throughout Europe
- Promote tolerance between cultures and individuals
- Increase the level of political awareness and involvement of young people in politics, including the promotion of active citizenship

Recent activities include seminars organised in various European countries, conferences organised in the European Parliament, workshops, capacity-building seminars and publications.

We gather for Congresses twice a year (Spring and Fall) and for our Young Leaders Meeting in September various locations throughout Europe during the year to exchange ideas and meet our fellow Liberal colleagues.

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FUNDACJA INDUSTRIAL



findustrial.pl



facebook.com/liberteworld



twitter.com/MagazynLiberte

Fundacja Industrial (Industrial Foundation) is a think tank and a civil society organisation founded in 2007 in Poland. Our mission is to promote an open society, liberal economic ideas and European integration, and to organise a social movement around these ideas in Poland. The main focus of our activities is publishing expert, ideological, socio-political magazine *Liberté!* – a quarterly magazine in print and an online magazine www.liberte.pl. The Foundation is an experienced organiser of events, conferences and workshops such as, for example, Freedom Games; as well as social campaigns like Secular School.

The organisation's main objective is to create a viable Liberal alternative to mainstream conservative attitudes in Poland in the form of a comprehensive and interdisciplinary institution capable of influencing Polish citizens in a bid to bring about a Liberal change in the country and society as a whole.

Furthermore, we coordinate the 4liberty.eu platform together with the Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom. This is a joint project of several think tanks from

Central Europe and the Baltic States, with a number of them (including Poland's Fundacja Industrial, FOR, Fundacja Projekt: Polska, Slovakia's INESS, Hayek Foundation, Hungary's Republikon Institute, the Czech Republic's Liberalni Institut, Lithuania's LFMI, Estonia's Academy of Liberalism, Germany's Liberales Institut and Bulgaria's IME) regularly publishing analysis and comments, focusing mainly on free market economics.

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FUNDACJA PROJEKT: POLSKA

FOUNDATION PROJEKT: POLSKA



projektpolska.pl



facebook.com/projektpolska



twitter.com/projekt_polska

The mission of Fundacja Projekt: Polska is to bring together experts and young leaders to promote public policy solutions for Poland based on the free market, free society, European values and the rule of law.

Fundacja Projekt: Polska is a joint initiative between two different groups. The first group consists of business and media people who were in their teenage years shortly after the collapse of Communism and the second consists of young people from Liberal youth and student associations.

We think that public life in Poland needs more projects and constructive ways of thinking. Each project has precise aims, costs and profits. Each has a timetable and it is therefore possible to evaluate how successful it has been. A project can only be successful when it is created and implemented by competent people.

We want to act as a platform to give young people the chance to professionalise and to prepare – in a politically impartial way – to take part in public life. We also want to give young professionals and business people who entered the labour market since 1989 the chance to get involved in politics and civil society, in turn passing on their skills and knowledge to the next generation. We support and advocate changes in Poland by establishing unique and independent think tanks. The main goal of our foundation is to initiate changes in Poland with the help of professionals, think tanks and projects promoted with the support of our partners.

Fundacja Projekt: Polska has created the państwomiasto, a multidimensional hub in central Warsaw. It is a vibrant coworking space for NGOs and create professionals and a place where members of civil society can develop their projects and present their results. A gallery and café complete the facilities.

Additionally, Fundacja Projekt: Polska invited preeminent Polish experts to join forces in the creation of Centrum Cyfrowe (Digital Centre), offering expertise and know-how on the use of information and communication technologies (ICTs) to enhance social capital in Poland, civic engagement and public efficiency.

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MOVIMENTO LIBERAL SOCIAL (MLS)



liberal-social.org



facebook.com/movimentoliberalsocial



twitter.com/mliberalsocial

MLS, which was officially founded in 2005, aims to promote social liberalism in Portugal. The movement is a platform for individuals who believe that the old left-right dogma makes little sense today and that it is possible to secure a different and more constructive type of politics in Portugal.

In summary, MLS stands for:

- The sovereignty of the individual: the inalienable right to live one's life and to seek happiness
- A fairer society, based on merit, where everyone can freely exercise their talents and develop their potential, free from any control or pressure, in an environment of solidarity and respect between individuals
- Equality before the law, always with respect for the right to differ
- A state that focuses on the essential things, but ensures (in a sustainable way and following the principle of subsidiarity) the defence of the individuals and of society, private property, justice, the existence of basic healthcare and social security services, high-quality education and the protection of cultural and environmental heritage

- The market economy, but always with state control as a corrective mechanism to counter inevitable disequilibria

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INSTITUTE FOR LIBERAL STUDIES (ISL)



isl.ro



facebook.com/institutuldestudiiliberale

The Institute for Liberal Studies association was created by a group of high-ranking Liberals, including several cabinet ministers and the Prime Minister of Romania, in order to promote Liberal values in Romanian society. These distinguished figures close to Romanian and European Liberal values established the Institute as a specialised apparatus for the administrative and ideological education of Romanian citizens, as well as to provide research to the benefit of Romanian Liberalism.

The Institute organises public debates and conferences on the latest issues concerning Romania and the EU agenda. At the same time, it organises seminars, workshops on liberalism, EU institutions, public administration and media campaigns throughout the country.

The Institute also focuses on social-political research on current events.

In the long term, the Institute aims to continue its research on public administration, political science and history, while also issuing its own studies and monographs.

The Institute for Liberal Studies is a founding member of ELF and works closely with the Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom as well as with the Murray Rothbard Centre for Political Economy and Business as domestic partners and many other international Liberal partners.

In 2007, the Institute for Liberal Studies was declared an association of public utility.

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NOVUM – INŠTITUT ZA STRATEŠKE IN APLIKATIVNE ŠTUDIJE

NOVUM – INSTITUTE FOR STRATEGIC AND APPLICABLE RESEARCH
(INSTITUTE NOVUM)



inovum.si

Institute Novum is a non-profit, educational and policy research organisation established in Ljubljana, Slovenia. It aims to support the political decision-making process, to promote democracy, to foster public dialogue, to communicate new policy ideas and to develop new methods and approaches in political advertising.

Institute Novum pursues high standards of research and discourse. Through its activities, which include conceptual studies, public education and administrative and technical assistance, the institute contributes to the stock of knowledge available to political parties, policymakers and a targeted audience in Slovenia and abroad.

We promote and protect liberal values, which include: democracy, the rule of law, good governance, respect for and protection of human rights, economic and social development and sustainable development.

The Novum Institute disseminates its research findings through its website, the media, publications, seminars, roundtables, workshops, forums and conferences.

The Novum Institute is registered as an NGO under Slovenian law. Its board consists of ten members with economic, political, public and scientific backgrounds, which helps to make the Novum Institute a powerful advocacy group.

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INSTITUTE

ZAVOD ZA SOŽITJE IN NAPREDEK (ZAVOD 14)



zavod14.si



facebook.com/zavod14



twitter.com/stirinajst

Zavod 14, Zavod za sožitje in napredek, is a non-profit organisation established in October 2013 with its headquarters in Ljubljana.

Zavod 14 promotes social-liberal ideas (balancing between individual liberty and social justice) and protecting liberal values (eg. democracy, the rule of law, social development, good governance, etc.) Zavod 14's mission is to strengthen civil society, encourage the integration and cooperation of interested parties, transmit the perspectives of stakeholders to state and other institutions, cooperate in the preparation and implementation of politics, and contribute in joining the civil society initiative in international integration.

Values that are part of the primary objectives of Zavod 14 include the development of civil society, freedom and democracy, intra-sectoral integration and cooperation of individuals and organisations, solidarity and knowledge. A guiding principle of Zavod 14 is social responsibility, rule of law, innovation, and sustainable development.

Within the framework of its registered activities, Zavod 14 shall above all:

- Strengthen civil initiatives in the preparation and implementation of politics on local, regional, national and European level
- Analyse and contribute to the discussion on local, regional, national and European public affairs, e.g. economy, social services, environmental protection, ethics, politics, law and the process of European integration
- Set the basis and framework for the participation of national experts, associations, politics, and academic Governing Council at local, regional, national and European level
- Deliver and support seminars, conferences, discussions and periodicals in the fields mentioned above, at local, regional and national level
- Publish periodicals

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ZAVOD14
zavod za sožitje in napredek

ASOCIACIÓN GALEGA PARA A LIBERDADE E A DEMOCRACIA (GALIDEM)

GALICIAN SOCIETY FOR FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY (GALIDEM)



facebook.com/galidem



twitter.com/galidem

GALIDEM has two main purposes: First, to encourage serious debate on Galician public policy issues by proposing ideas grounded in academic research; second, to promote education by organising seminars and publishing non-technical reports and articles, as well as publishing teaching materials on liberalism and economics to be used by students.

Our idea of liberalism stems from our confidence in individuals, each freely pursuing his/her own interest as the way to best improve society as a whole. This is based on a long academic tradition in economics, found in the writings of British liberal thinkers such as Adam Smith and John Stuart Mill.

In order to accomplish our goals, we organise conferences, book presentations and meetings, publish articles in the media and issue non-technical reports, as well as student teaching materials. In the past, GALIDEM has partnered

with ELF to organise a Southern European School of Liberalism, together with partners such as Movimento Liberal Social, Forum for Greece and FNF. The event targeted college students interested in liberal policies and ideology.

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FUNDACIÓ CATALANISTA I DEMÒCRATA (CATDEM)

CATDEM FOUNDATION



catdem.cat



facebook.com/fundacio.catdem



twitter.com/catdem



goo.gl/p0kKgL

The CatDem Foundation (Catalanist and Democrat Foundation) is a private non-for-profit platform that generates ideas and encourages and fosters democratic values so that the Catalan people can move towards a society of freedom, democracy, economic progress and social justice.

To reach these objectives, we consider essential the construction of our own State of Catalonia.

We seek an independent Catalonia in order to achieve:

- Our own State
- A new and radical democracy
- A reformed welfare State that fosters social justice and economic progress
- An active role in international politics as an EU member State

To achieve this, we organise public conferences, debates, seminars and publish a wide-ranging array of documents, such as reports, journals and electronic newsletters.

Since it was born in 1994, the CatDem Foundation has worked to foster political Catalanism, becoming a reference point in the creation of political thought in Catalonia, based on our values of democracy, economic progress and social justice.

CatDem Foundation is a member of ELF and the European Network of Political Foundations (ENOP).

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FUNDACIÓ
CatDem

BERTIL OHLIN INSTITUTET

BERTIL OHLIN INSTITUTE



ohlininstitutet.org



twitter.com/ohlininstitutet

The Bertil Ohlin Institute is a foundation founded in 1993 and named after Bertil Ohlin. Ohlin led the Liberal Party of Sweden (Folkpartiet) between 1944 and 1967.

The purpose of our institute is to initiate research and debate on important social and political issues. We regularly organise lectures, debates and conferences open to the public. We also commission research reports and other publications. Most of our activities are in Swedish, but some of the papers are written in English. They can be found or ordered on our website.

In 1977, Bertil Ohlin was awarded the Nobel Prize in economics, in recognition of his academic achievements. The institute maintains close contact with prominent university departments, with four out of nine seats on our board reserved for scholars from relevant fields, mainly the social sciences.

Although the institute's founders are affiliated with the Liberal Party of Sweden we operate independently of parties and interest groups, organisationally as well as financially. Our activities are mainly financed through grants from Liberal foundations.

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CENTRE PARTY INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION (CPIF)

CENTERPARTIETS INTERNATIONELLA STIFTELSE (SWEDEN)



www3.centerpartiet.se/Lokal/cis



facebook.com/CenterpartietsInternationellaStiftelse



twitter.com/Centerpartiet

The Centre Party International Foundation (CPIF) is a Swedish Party-Affiliated Organisation established in 1995 by the Swedish Centre Party. It shares the same core values as the Centre Party, a social-liberal, green party with a strong emphasis on sustainability and decentralisation.

Our mission is to strengthen democracy and human rights, with a focus on gender and environmental issues, in collaboration with political parties and organisations working to strengthen liberal values and local democracy, also outside large population centres.

CPIF works with support to the following organisations:

- Nasa Stranka: a Liberal party in Bosnia and Herzegovina
- PWWSD – Palestinian Working Women Society for Development: a civil-rights organisation in Palestine working for women's rights
- Our House: a civil-rights organisation in Belarus
- AAEP: a civil-rights organisation in Burkina Faso.

We also run two academies for young politicians:

- PYPA – Program for Young Politicians in Africa: this is a multi-party program for young politicians from seven countries in Western Africa: Benin, Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger, Togo, Senegal and Cote d'Ivoire.
- RLPA – Regional Liberal Political Academy: a programme for young Liberals from five countries in the Western Balkans: Macedonia, Montenegro, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia.

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CENTRE PARTY
INTERNATIONAL
FOUNDATION

FORUM FÖR REFORMER OCH ENTREPRENÖRSKAP (FORES)

FORUM FOR REFORMS, ENTREPRENEURSHIP
AND SUSTAINABILITY (FORES)



fores.se



facebook.com/ForesSverige



twitter.com/fores_sverige



youtube.com/tankesmedjanfores

Fores – Forum for Reforms, Entrepreneurship and Sustainability – is a green and Liberal think tank. We want to renew the debate in Sweden with a belief in entrepreneurship and opportunities for people to shape their own lives.

Some of the issues we are working on include: market-based solutions to climate change and other environmental challenges, the long-term benefits of migration and a welcoming society, the gains of increased levels of entrepreneurship, the need for modernisation of the welfare sector and the challenges of the rapidly-changing digital society.

We hold seminars and roundtable discussions in town halls, parliaments and board rooms, we publish reports, books and policy papers, we put together and chair reference groups around policy issues, we participate in the media debates, and we support policy-makers with relevant facts. We act as a link between curious citizens, opinion-makers, entrepreneurs, policy-makers and researchers, always striving for an open-minded, inclusive and thought-provoking dialogue.

The Fores board consists of experienced people from varied professional and political backgrounds. The composition of the board guarantees a strong independence from special interests and partisan politics.

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SWEDISH INTERNATIONAL LIBERAL CENTRE (SILC)



silc.se



facebook.com/SILCfDemocracy



twitter.com/silcfdemocracy

Swedish International Liberal Centre (SILC) supports activism for democracy and human rights. Current programmes are focused on Belarus, Russia, Ukraine, Georgia, Serbia, Egypt, Tunisia, Cuba and Venezuela.

SILC has its own publishing house, SILC Publishing, which publishes two books a year on the work of democracy activists in challenging environments.

SILC takes a visible part in the Swedish debate on development aid and foreign policy.

Headquartered in Stockholm, SILC currently has a staff of fourteen, of which four are working from the programme office in Vilnius, Lithuania. SILC's annual turnover is approximately EUR 2.4 million (2015).

SILC is organisationally associated with the Swedish Liberal party (Folkpartiet Liberalerna).

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LIST OF ALL MEMBERS

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AUSTRIA

NEOS Lab – Das Liberale Forum/
NEOS Lab – The Liberal Forum

BELGIUM

Centre Jean Gol
Studiecentrum Albert Maertens (SAM)

BULGARIA

Liberal Institute for Political Analyses (LIPA)

CROATIA

Međunarodni edukacijski centar/
International Educational Centre (IEC)

CZECH REPUBLIC

Centrum Liberálních Studií/Centre for Liberal Studies
Institut pro politiku a společnost, z.s.
(Institute for Politics and Society)

ESTONIA

Liberalismi Akadeemia/Academy of Liberalism

FINLAND

Edistysmielisen tutkimuksen yhdistys r.y. e2/
Think tank e2
Magma
Svenska bildningsförbundet r.f.

GERMANY

Friedrich-Naumann-Stiftung für die Freiheit/
Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom

GREECE

Liberty Forum of Greece –
Markos Dragoumis (KEFIM)

HUNGARY

Republikon Foundation for Science, Education and
Research (Republikon Foundation)

Szabadságért Alapítvány/
For Freedom, for Liberal Thinking Foundation

ITALY

Fondazione Critica Liberale
LibMov

LATVIA

Latvijas Nakotnes Forums/
Forum for Latvia's Future (FLF)

LITHUANIA

Atvira visuomenė ir jos draugai/
Open Society and Its Friends

Laisvės studijų centras/
Centre for Liberty Studies

THE NETHERLANDS

Haya van Someren Stichting/
VVD Internationaal

Mr. Hans van Mierlo Stichting

Prof.mr. B.M. Teldersstichting

Stichting Internationaal Democratisch
Initiatief (IDI)

PAN-EUROPEAN

European Liberal Youth (LYMEC)

POLAND

Fundacja Industrial

Fundacja Projekt: Polska

PORTUGAL

Movimento Liberal Social

LIST OF ALL MEMBERS

ELF CURRENTLY HAS 37 MEMBER ORGANISATIONS

ROMANIA

Institute for Liberal Studies

SLOVENIA

NOVUM – Institute for strategic and applicable research

Zavod za sožitje in napredek (Zavod 14)

SPAIN

Asociación Galega para a Liberdade e a Democracia (GALIDEM)

Fundació Catalanista i Demòcrata (CatDem)

SWEDEN

Bertil Ohlin Institute

CentreParty International Foundation

Forum för reformer och entreprenörskap/
Forum for Reforms, Entrepreneurship and Sustainability (FORES)

Swedish International Liberal Centre (SILC)

2016

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THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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President of the Supervisory Board of the Creative Cluster Zlín, Czech Republic



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Former Secretary General of LYMEC – European Liberal Youth

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2016

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THE SECRETARIAT

THE SECRETARIAT



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