

European 'Citizens' Summit'

The Civil Society Contact Group is organizing a Citizens' Summit to act a shadow discursive space to the European Summit in June 2013. The Citizens' Summit will look at the direction of the European Union, its impact on people living within its borders as well as its impact on global developments and democracy. The Summit will bring together leading civil society thinkers from across the EU, to exchange views on what Europe means for citizens and populations, as well as how we can move to a Europe that is delivering values and real progress for its populations, democracy and its role in the world. The discussions will look at the growing inequalities, xenophobia, populism as well as the underlying drivers and hoped-for outcomes from the political developments in Europe. The working method and participants to the Summit, ensuring gender parity and diversity, including in relation to age, will aim to break out of the "Brussels bubble" in the discussions on the future of the EU, to foster a dialogue by citizens for citizens and to create a common sense of ownership for the future. This will be the first of an annual Citizens' Summit.

Background

The Civil Society Contact Group (CSCG) brings together the largest coalition of civil society organisations. It represents a vast and diverse community made up of eight NGOs and sectoral networks and platforms, that between them represent thousands of local, national, European or international non-governmental organisations (CONCORDⁱ, Culture Action Europeⁱⁱ, the European Civil Society Platform on Lifelong Learningⁱⁱⁱ, the European Public Health Alliance^{iv}, the European Women's Lobby^v, the Green 10^{1vi}, the Human Rights and Democracy Network^{vii}, the Social Platform^{viii}).

Europe is facing challenges today that are not comparable to previous decades: loss of confidence amongst citizens in both political processes and the direction of society; financial insecurity and an increase in risk in both employment and life prospects; a rise in xenophobia and regional instability; vast inequalities, including gender inequalities and reductions in the safety nets designed to mitigate crises; short-term political solutions and re-trenched political thinking; threats to priorities and sectors which are drivers of well-being and healthy populations such as education, culture, art, sustainable development, social and care provisions, health promotion.

Objectives and methodology

One of the EU's overarching objectives is to generate economic prosperity, which was expected to increase well-being and social cohesion, create quality employment, reduce poverty and advance environmental protection. In addition, the economic crisis and the subsequent response of fiscal consolidation have created a situation where fundamental rights are portrayed by some as a luxury which can be suspended and "social" spending is being dramatically cut. This has created a schism between the 'European project' and the people which could prove fatal to the European construction. The 'Citizens' Summit' will address the question facing all those committed to a European project today, and attempt to meet the call by Commission President Barroso to increase the participation of citizens in Europe in the European debate.

The purpose of the Citizen's Summit is to bring together 400 leaders from our different sectors: civil society, partners, policymakers and journalists, young people and the media from across the European Union. The event will be organised partly based on the 'Open Café' methodology,

to foster dialogue amongst participants in order to generate the innovation and cross-fertilisation that emerges from diversity. It will bring together mostly non-Brussels based participants to interact with those in the 'Bubble' to generate recommendations that are applicable and understandable to those working outside of the policymaking environment.

A Unique forum for discussion

This event is different. The venue, Bozar is deliberately outside the traditional political Brussels EU sphere, a cultural centre which plays a central role in people's lives outside of the policymaking arena. The discussion format is deliberately more participatory, democratic and dynamic than traditional policy discussions. The participants are the discussants, therefore the "formal" part of the agenda deliberately has been kept short. The aim is to activate participants to allow a cross-fertilisation of ideas and the emergence of new solutions in order to make the best of the two-day Summit.

This event will aim to challenge the current state of play. Our social model aims to 'mop up' the inefficiencies and inequalities of our current economic model whereas we urgently need a socio-economic model that delivers social, cultural and environmental objectives. We cannot afford to lose the grounds that we have gained in freedoms, equality, including equality between women and men, life expectancy, education, solidarity with other countries and expression. We must look at the flaws and shortcomings in our public institutions, processes and ideologies that allowed us to reach a point of financial, economic and social crisis, as well as of raising tensions between the different groups in society in Europe.

The event will address different questions to those taking place elsewhere in Brussels. Whereas the official European Summit will mainly focus on short-term solutions, the Citizens' Summit will look at the long-term; where the prevailing economic and social model accepts inequality as an inevitable outcome of development, the event will discuss moving to greater societal well-being, equality and equity; whereas current EU policy focusses on its 500 million consumers, the event will focus on its 500 million citizens, and the many non-citizens living within the EU borders; as we may have reached the limit of competitiveness as a driving force for European development, this event will examine where the boundaries of the free market should lie; whereas the political focus is on cuts and growth, the event will focus on social cohesion, investment and development; finally where political debates skirt the issue on the growing anti-EU, anti-integration, anti-immigration sentiment, this event will tackle these issues directly and ask the question if not this EU, then what EU do we want and need?

Dates and venue

24-25 June 2013

The event will be held over two half days in order for participants to be able to network during the evening of the 24 June, to reflect on discussions as well as travel to and from Brussels. The venue is the Bozar in central Brussels, close to the Grand Place and Gare Central.

Political processes

This event builds on the political momentum of three processes and in response to the **call of Commission President Barroso** to win the 'hearts and minds' of EU citizens:

- The **call of the European Parliament** asking *'the Commission to ask civil society and social partners to contribute an annual shadow report on the progress of the Member States regarding the headline targets and the implementation'*, in its resolution of 1 December 2011 on the European Semester for Economic Policy Coordination (2011/2071(INI))
- The **call of the Cypriot Presidency** to involve social partners and NGOs *"in the monitoring of the implementation of the strategy and throughout the process of the European Semester but also at national level, in the formulation and implementation of the National Reform Programmes.'*
- The **European Commission recognition** that the implementation of the Europe 2020 strategy should be based on partnerships that extend to *'EU committees, to national parliaments and national, local and regional authorities, to social partners and to stakeholders and civil society so that everyone is involved in delivering on the vision'*.
- The **2013 European Year for Citizens**.

Format

Day 1: Europe – revolution or evolution?

13.00-13.20	Introduction and welcome by Vice-President of European Parliament for Civil Society, Isabelle Durant ²
13.20-13.30	Short introductory film
13.30-13.50	Monika Kosińska, Chair Civil Society Contact Group <i>Assessment of the main challenges and suggestions for solutions: How is Europe impacting on the different sectors? What are the questions for how to move forward? What can Europe do? What Europe do we need?</i>
13.50-14.30	Opening statements to raise questions and set the scene for discussion Saskia Sassen - Professor of Sociology, University of Columbia - <i>challenges to societies and economies</i> Janis Emmanouilidis - European Policy Centre - <i>The New Pact for Europe</i>
14:30-15:00	Questions and clarifications
15.00-15.30	Coffee break
15.30-17.30	Parallel discussions <i>Participants will be split into four workshops in order to generate debate and ideas to take forward recommendations. Groups will be mixed from across the sectors and include members of the Brussels bubble – policymakers, journalists and civil society. This will take the form of an open space/world café format with professional facilitation.</i>
19.00- End	Evening event (dinner and cultural event for all delegates)

² Alternate: I. Video speech

Day 2: MORNING SESSION: Towards a sustainable Europe

- 09.00-10.30 Breakout into the four parallel groups to continue previous days' discussions.
- 10.30-11.00 Coffee
- 11.00-12.30 Presentation from groups and discussion (moderated by facilitator)
- 12.30-13:00 Closing session with feedback on Europe we want by 2020
Open discussions
Closing statement from **Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso**³

³ Alternate: P. Nikiforos Diamandouros, The European Ombudsman

ⁱ **CONCORD is made up of:** 27 national CONCORD platform members, ActionAid, ADRA, APRODEV, Caritas Europa, CARE International, CBM International, CIDSE, EU-CORD, Eurostep, Handicap International, IPPF European Network, Islamic Relief Worldwide, Oxfam International, Plan International, Save The Children International, Terres des Hommes IF, Solidar, World Vision International

ⁱⁱ **Culture Action Europe is made up of:** ACCR – European Network of Cultural Centres-Historic Monuments, AEC – European Association of Conservatoires, Agence luxembourgeoise d’action culturelle (Luxembourg), AMATEO - European Network for Active Participation in Cultural Activities , AMI, ARCI (Italy), Ars Progress (Belgium), ARTeria (Poland), Arty Farty (France), Asociacija (Slovenia), Associació de Professionals de la Gestió Cultural de Canarias, Association Française des Orchestres, Baltic Sea Culture Centre (Poland), Banlieues d’Europe (France), Belarus Free Theatre (Belarus), BJCEM - Biennale des Jeunes Créateurs de l’Europe et de la Méditerranée, BKJ - German Federation for Arts Education and Cultural Learning, BOZAR (Belgium), Budapest Observatory (Hungary), Bundesvereinigung -German socio-cultural centre, Center for Media Activities (Macedonia), CEATL – European Council of Associations of Literary Translators, Cimetta Fund, Cluature Network (Croatia), Contemporary Visual Arts Network (UK), Creativity, Culture & Education, Cultuurnetwerk (The Netherlands), Culture et Démocratie (Belgium), Culture Clinic (Sweden), Cultuur Ondernemen (The Netherlands), Cyprus Centre of the ITI , Nord-pas-de-Calais French region, ECCOM - European Centre for Cultural Organisation and Management (Italy), ECHO - European Concert Hall Organisation, EBLIDA - European Bureau of Library, Information and Documentation Associations, EDUCULT (Austria), EFA – European Festivals Association, ELIA - European League of Institutes of the Arts, EMC – European Music Council, ENCC – European Network of Cultural Centres, ETC - European Theatre Convention, European Jazz Orchestra - Swinging Europe, Europe Jazz Network, EUBO - European Union Baroque Orchestra, European Choral Association - Europa Cantat, European Museum Forum, EWC – European Writers Council, Eurozine, Fédération nationale des arts de la rue (France), FILL - Fédération interrégionale du livre et de la lecture, Fabryka Sztuki (Poland), FUSIC – Arts and Culture Society (Spain), GAI - Italian young artists association, HKW – House of World Cultures (Germany), HALMA Network, IAMIC – International Association of Music Information Centres, IETM – International network for contemporary performing arts, IGBK – the International Association in Art (Germany), IG Kultur Österreich, Institut Français, Institut für Kulturkonzepte (Austria), Interarts (Spain), Intercult (Sweden), International Cultural Centre Krakow (Poland), La Ligue de l’enseignement (France), L’interlude Theater (France), ISIS Arts (UK), ITI Germany, JMI - Jeunesses Musicales Internationales, Kibla (Slovenia), Kulturrat Österreich, Kunstconnectie (The Netherlands), Kunsten '92 (The Netherlands), Kunstfactor (The Netherlands), KupoGe - Kulturpolitische Gesellschaft (Germany), LAF - Litterature Accross Frontiers, Locus (Belgium), Mahler Chamber Orchestra, Manifesta, Musique & Santé (France), NEMO - Network of European Museum Associations, NCK - Nordic Centre for Cultural Heritage Learning, NRTF - National Rural Touring Forum (UK) Non Serviam, ONDA - Office National de Diffusion Artistique (France), On-the-Move, Opera Europa, PEARLE - Performing Arts Employers Association League Europe, Performing Arts Hub Norway (formerly Norwegian Association for Performing Arts) Perypezye Urbane (Italy), POGON - Zagreb Center for Independent Culture and Youth, RAB/BKO - Réseau des arts a Bruxelles/Brussels Kunstenoverleg, Red de Organizadores de Conciertos Educativos - ROCE (Spain), Relais Culture Europe (France), Res Artis - International Network of Arts Residencies, RESEO – European Network for Opera and Dance Education, Riksteatern (Sweden), SCCA - Centre for Contemporary Arts (Slovenia), SICA - Service Centre for International Cultural Activities, SMartBE (Belgium), SNSP - Syndicat national des scènes publiques, SYNDEAC – National Syndicate of Artistic and Cultural Companies (France), TEH - Trans Europe Halles - European Network of Independent Cultural Centres, Theatre Institute Bratislava, TILLT (Sweden), TRAP (Norway), UNITER (Romania), UFISC (France), VAN – Voluntary Arts Network, Virtueel Platform, Visarte, Visual Arts Ireland, VVC - Association of Flemish Culture Centre, Wales Arts International

ⁱⁱⁱ **EUCIS-LL is made up of:** European Students’ Forum (AEGEE), CONTACT 2103, Democracy and Human Rights Education in Europe (DARE), European Association for the Education of Adults (EAEA), European Association of Institutions of Non-Formal Education for Children and Young People (EAICY), European Council for Steiner Waldorf Education (ECSWE), European Distance and E-Learning Network (EDEN), European Educational Exchanges – Youth for Understanding (EEE-YFU), European Federation for Education and Culture (EFEC), European Forum for Freedom in education (*effe*), European Federation for Intercultural Learning (EFIL), European Forum of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (E_FVET), European Parents’ Association (EPA), European School Heads Association (ESHA), Erasmus Student Network (ESN), European Training and Development Federation (ETDF), European University Continuing Education Network (EUCEN), European Association of Institutions in Higher Education (EURASHE), European Association of History Educators (EUROCLIO), European Vocational Training Association (EVTA), European Federation for Catholic Adult Education (FEECA), European Federation of Professional Circus Schools (FEDEC), International Federation of Training Centres for the promotion of new education (FICEMEA), International Association of Educating cities (IAEC), International Sport and Culture Association (ISCA), The Organising Bureau of European School Student Unions (OBESSU), SOLIDAR, Association of Community Colleges (ACC), European University Foundation – Campus Europae (EUF-CE), Foundation of European Regions for Research in Education and Training (FREREF), MENON Network.

^{iv} **EPHA is made up of:** ACTIS-Norwegian Policy Network on Alcohol and Drugs, AGE Platform Europe, Alcohol Action Ireland, Alcohol Focus Scotland, Armenian Public Health Union, Association for Natural Medicine in Europe, Association Nationale de Prévention en Alcoologie et Addictologie (ANPAA), Association Net+/Udruga Pet+, Association of European Cancer Leagues, Baltic Region Healthy Cities Association - WHO Collaborating Centre for Healthy Cities and Urban Health in Baltic Region, British Heart Foundation Health Promotion Research Group (BHF HPRG), Bulgarian Association for Patients' Rights Defence, Cancer Research UK, Center for Regional Policy Research and Cooperation (Studiorum), Center Women and Modern World (CWMW), Coalition of Association of Healthcare (KUZ-CAH), Council of Occupational Therapists for the European Countries, Croatian Association for Sanitary Engineering - Chamber of Sanitary Engineers & Technicians (HUSI), Cyprus Turkish Medical Association (CTMA), Dachverband Komplementärmedizin, EUROPA DONNA - The European Breast Cancer Coalition, European AIDS Treatment Group (EATG), European Alcohol Policy Alliance (Eurocare), European Child Safety Alliance (Eurosafe), European Association of Hospital Managers (EAHM), European Association of Hospital Pharmacists (EAHP), European Association of Senior Hospital Physicians (AEMH), European CanCer Organisation, European Central Council of Homeopaths (ECCH), European Chiropractors' Union (ECU), European Committee for Homeopathy (ECH), European Council of Doctors for Plurality in Medicine (ECPM), European Council of Optometry and Optics, European Federation of Homeopathic Patients' Associations (EFHPA), European Federation of National Organisations Working with the Homeless (FEANTSA), European Federation of Nurses Associations (EFN), European Federation of Patients' Associations for Anthroposophic Medicine (EFPAM), European Federation of the Associations of Dieticians (EFAD), European Heart Network (EHN), European Hematology Association (EHA), European Institute of Womens Health (EIWH), European Medical Students' Association, European Network for Smoking and Tobacco Prevention (ENSP), European Region of the World Confederation for Physical Therapy (ER-WCPT), European Respiratory Society (ERS), European Roma Rights Centre (ERRC), European Scientific Working Group on Influenza (ESWI), European Shiatsu Federation (ESF), European Society of Intensive Care Medicine (ESICM), Fundación de Ciencias del Medicamento y Productos Sanitarios (Fundamed), Health Action International - Europe (HAI), International Centre of Health Protection (HERA), International Council of Medical Acupuncture and Related Techniques (ICMART), International Diabetes Federation - European Region (IDF), International Federation of Anthroposophical Medical Associations (IVAA), International Planned Parenthood Federation - European Network (IPPF - EN), Italian Institute for Quality of Life (IVQ), Life Quality Improvement Organisation (FLIGHT/LET), Malta Health Network (MHN), Mental Health Europe - Santé Mentale Europe (MHE-SME), Médecins du monde (Mdm) – Doctors of the World International Network Head Office, National Health Alliance of Serbia and National Association of Emergency Medical Staff of Serbia (NAZS and NAZHMP), North of England Regional Health Office, Patient Fertility Association (CHEN), Pharmaceutical Group of the European Union (PGEU), PIN for Health, Polish Society for Health Programs (PSHP - PTPZ), Romtens Foundation, Royal College of Nursing (RCN), Royal College of Physicians of London (RCP London), Royal National Institute of Blind People (RNIB), SALUS Charitable Foundation, Slovenian Coalition for Tobacco Control and Public Health (SCTC), Smoke Free Partnership (SFP), SOS Health Association, Sustainable World Foundation, Thalassaemia International Federation (TIF), The Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Union (ASPHER), The European Mens' Health Forum (EMHF), The Genesis Association, The Health and Europe Centre, The Union of Lithuanian Health Psychologists (ULHP), Turkish Pharmacists' Association, Universal Education Foundation (UEF), Wiener Internationale Akademie fur Ganzheitsmedizin (gamed), World Cancer Research Fund International (WCRF)

^v **The European Women's Lobby is made up of National Coordinations in the 27 EU Member States and 3 of the candidate countries and 21 large international or European networks:** AUSTRIA : Österreichischer Frauenring ; BELGIUM : Coordination belge pour le LEF ; BULGARIA: Bulgarian Women's Lobby; CROATIA: Women's Network Croatia; CYPRUS: Cyprus Women's Lobby; CZECH REPUBLIC: Czech Women's Lobby; DENMARK : The Women's Council in Denmark; ESTONIA: Estonian Women's Associations Roundtable; FINLAND : NYTKIS – The Coalition of Finnish Women's Associations; FRANCE : CLEF – Coordination Française pour le Lobby Européen des Femmes ; GERMANY : Deutscher Frauenrat; GREECE : Coordination of Greek Women' NGOs for the EWL; HUNGARY: Hungarian Women's Lobby; IRELAND : National Women's Council of Ireland; ITALY : Coordinamento Italiano EWL; LATVIA: Women's NGO co-operation of Latvia; LITHUANIA: Lithuanian Women's Lobby; LUXEMBOURG : Coordination Luxembourgeoise du LEF ; FYROM : Macedonian Women's Lobby; MALTA: Malta Confederation of Women's Organisations; POLAND : Polish Women's Lobby; PORTUGAL : Portuguese Platform for Women's Rights; ROMANIA : Romanian Women's Lobby; SLOVAK REPUBLIK: Slovak Women's Lobby; SLOVENIA : Women's Lobby of Slovenia; SPAIN: Coordinadora Espanola para el Lobby Europeo de Mujeres – CELEM; SWEDEN: Swedish Women's Lobby; THE NETHERLANDS: Netherlands Council of Women; TURKEY : EWL Turkey – KAGIDER Women's Entrepreneurs Association of Turkey; UNITED KINGDOM : UK Coordination for the EWL. International / European EWL member organisations: (Business and Professional Women Europe (EFBPW), COPA-COGECA (women's section), European Centre for the International Council of Women (ECICW), European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC - Women's Committee), European Confederation of Independent Trade Unions (CESI – Women's Committee), European Council of WIZO Federations, European Disability Forum (EDF - Women's Committee), Federation Européenne des Femmes Actives en Famille, European Network of Women Entrepreneurs, European Young Women's Christian Associations (EYWCA), Federation of Romani and Traveller Women, International Alliance of Women (IAW), International Council of Jewish Women (ICJW), International Federation of Women in Legal Careers (IFWLC), Medical Women's International Association (MWIA), Soroptimist International Europe, University Women of Europe (UWE), International European Movement (IEM- Women's Committee), Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF), World Association of Girl Guides and Scouts (WAGGGS), European Network of Migrant Women (ENMW).

^{vi} **Green 10 is made up of:** Birdlife Europe, CEE Bankwatch Network, Climate Action Network Europe (CAN-E), European Environment Bureau (EEB), Transport and Environment (T&E), Health and Environment Alliance (HEAL), Friends of the Earth Europe (FoEE), Greenpeace, Naturefriends International (NFI), WWF European Policy Office (WWF-EPO)

^{vii} **HRDN is made up of:** Amnesty International EU Office (AI), Association for the prevention of Torture, European Association for Human Rights (AEDH), CBM EU Liaison Office, Christian Solidarity Worldwide (CSW), Conference of European Churches/Church & Society Commission, Coalition for the International Criminal Court (CICC), Club of Madrid, DEMAS, Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Network (EMHRN), European Peacebuilding Liaison Office (EPLO), FIACAT - International Federation of the Action by Christians for the Abolition of Torture, Front Line Defenders, Human Rights Watch (HRW), Human Rights Without Frontiers, International Center for Transitional Justice (ICTJ), International Dalit Solidarity Network (IDSN), International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH), International Federation for Human Rights - European Association (FIDH-EU), International Harm Reduction Association, International Lesbian and Gay Association - Europe (ILGA-Europe), International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims (IRCT), International Partnership for human rights, International Rescue Committee Belgium (IRC-Belgium), International Society of Threatened People, Justitia & Pax Netherlands, La Strada International, Light for the World, Minority Rights Group International Open Society Institute-Brussels (OSI-Brussels), Organisation Mondiale Contre la Torture (OMCT), Partners for Democratic Change International (PDCI), Peace Brigade International Colombia, Peace Brigade International Guatemala, Penal Reform International (PRI), PLAN International

Protection International, Quaker Council for European Affairs (QCEA), Reporters sans frontières, Save the Children, Search for Common Ground (SFCG), Terres des Hommes International Federation (TDHIF), Trade Unions Institute For The Co-Operation To Development (ISCOS-CISL), World Coalition against the Death Penalty, World Vision

^{viii} **Social Platform is made up of:** AGE Platform Europe, AFEM - Association des Femmes de l'Europe Méridionale, ATD Quart Monde - ATD Fourth World International Movement, Autism Europe, Caritas Europa, CEBSD - Combined European Bureau for Social Development, CECODHAS Housing Europe, CECOP--CICOPA Europe - European Confederation of Workers' Co-operatives, Social Cooperatives and Participative Enterprises, CEDAG - European Council for Non-Profit Organisations, COFACE - Confederation of Family Organisations in the EU, Dynamo International, EAEA - European Association for the Education of Adults, EAPN - European Anti-Poverty Network, EASPD - European Association of Service Providers for Persons with Disabilities, EBU - European Blind Union, ECDN - European Consumer Debt Network, EDF - European Disability Forum, EFOMW – European Forum of Muslim Women, ENAR - European Network Against Racism, EPHA - European Public Health Alliance, EPR - European Platform for Rehabilitation, ERIO - European Roma Information Office, ESAN - European Social Action Network, EURAG - European Federation of Older Persons, EUROCHILD, EURODIACONIA – European Federation for Diaconia, EWL - European Women's Lobby, FAI - The International Federation of the Christian Associations of Italian Workers, FEANTSA - European Federation of National Organisations working with the Homeless, FEFAF - European Federation of Unpaid Parents and Carers at Home, ICSW - International Council on Social Welfare, IFSW - International federation of social workers, ILGA Europe - The European Region of the International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex Association, INCLUSION EUROPE - The European Association of Societies of Persons with Intellectual Disability and their Families, IPPF-EN - International Planned Parenthood Federation European Network, IUT – International Union of Tenants, MHE - Mental Health Europe, PICUM – Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants, Red Cross EU Office, SOLIDAR, TGEU – Transgender Europe, WAGGGS - World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts Europe Region, Workability Europe, Y.E.S FORUM - Youth and European Social Work, YFJ - European Youth Forum