



© Ronan Furuta

CIVIL SOCIETY FOR RIGHTS AND EQUALITY

TOWARDS A DEMOCRACY THAT GIVES VOICE TO ALL

04-05 DECEMBER 2019
BRUSSELS

European
Civic Forum 

#MEGA MAKE
EUROPE
GREAT
FOR ALL



Co-funded by the
Europe for Citizens Programme
of the European Union

INCLUDE project is co-funded
by the Rights, Equality
and Citizenship programme



DAY 1 - WEDNESDAY 4 DECEMBER 2019

**EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE
ROOM JDE 63**

In partnership with:



European Economic and Social Committee

ROLES AND CHALLENGES FOR ASSOCIATIONS IN EUROPE

9:00

WELCOME REMARKS

Arno METZLER, President of EESC Group III “Diversity Europe”

INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT

Jean-Marc ROIRANT, President of the European Civic Forum & member of the EESC group III

9:15

FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION IN EUROPE: A STATE OF PLAY

Key note

Håkan JOHANSSON, Professor in Social Work, School of Social Work at the University of Lund, Sweden

Discussion

Giada NEGRI, Civic Space Watch | European Civic Forum
Luben PANOV, European Centre for Not-for-Profit Law,
Andrei POP, Civil Society Development Foundation, Romania
Franco UDA, ARCI, Italy

Moderation

Karolina DRESZER-SMALEC, Vice-President, European Civic Forum & National Federation of Polish NGOs - OFOP

11:00

COFFEE BREAK

11:30

ASSOCIATIONS & DEMOCRACY: PLAYING THE WIN-WIN GAME

Key note

Richard YOUNGS, Carnegie Europe: Civic Activism Unleashed: New Hope or False Dawn for Democracy?

Discussion

Waltraud HELLER, EU Fundamental Rights Agency
Dr. Rupert STRACHWITZ, Maecenata Foundation, Berlin
Iverna MCGOWAN, UN Human Rights, Regional Office for Europe
Christian MOOS, member of EESC Group III

Moderation

Jan Robert SUESSER, Vice-president of the European Civic Forum

13:00

CLOSING

INCLUDE

Initiatives Nouvelles pour la Citoyenneté
Locale et Urbaine des Européen·nes –

A EUROPE FOR ITS CITIZENS, BY ITS CITIZENS **FOSTERING PARTICIPATION OF EU CITIZENS AT LOCAL LEVEL**

Dissemination of best practices from INCLUDE project
led by the City of Paris in partnership with Jeunes Européens-France and the
European Civic Forum

15:30

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Hermano SANCHES RUIVO, City Councilor for European affairs,
Paris, France

Discussion

Anne-Sophie HOLLSTEIN, advisor to the City councillor for
European Affairs, Paris, France

Manon SCHILDER, Project manager, Jeunes Européens-France

Gilles PELAYO, Head of Unit, DG HOME - EACEA

Marie-Hélène BOULANGER, Head of Unit, DG JUST - Union
Citizenship Rights and Free movement

Moderation

Vladimir SESTOVIC, European Civic Forum

17:30

END OF THE SESSION





Co-funded by the
Europe for Citizens Programme
of the European Union

DAY 2 - THURSDAY 5 DECEMBER 2019

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT ROOM ASP 3H1

Hosted by MEP Pietro Bartolo

In partnership with:



AN OPEN CIVIC SPACE AT THE CENTER OF THE EUROPEAN UNION'S PROJECT

10:00 **HIGH LEVEL POLICY ROUND TABLE DEBATE
ON ENABLING FRAMEWORK FOR CIVIL SOCIETY:
WHAT IS THE ROLE OF THE EU?**

WELCOME

Jean-Marc ROIRANT, President of the European Civic Forum &
Chair of Civil Society Europe

OPENING REMARKS **Heidi HAUTALA**, Vice-president responsible for democracy and
fundamental rights, European Parliament
Pietro BARTOLO, Vice-chair of LIBE Committee, European Parliament
Birgit VAN HOUT, Regional Representative, UN Human Rights
Regional Office for Europe

PRESENTATION OF CIVIC SPACE WATCH REPORT 2019 “ACTIVIZENSHIP: STORIES OF RESISTANCE”

Presentation **Giada NEGRI**, Civic Space Watch | European Civic Forum
Discussion **Ariadna RODRIGO**, Greenpeace & Civil Society Europe
 Anna Julia DONATH, Member, European Parliament
 Waltraud HELLER, EU Fundamental Rights Agency
 Alessia VALENTINO, European Commission, DG Justice & Consumers

Moderation **Alexandrina NAJMOWICZ**, European Civic Forum
 Brikena XHOMAQI, LLL Platform & Civil Society Europe

12:00 **END OF THE ROUND TABLE SESSION**

Co-organised by



KICKING OFF THE EUROPEAN CIVIC PRIDE DAYS

12:30

STORIES OF RESISTANCE

Awards ceremony followed by debate with laureates and cocktail lunch

MEDITERRANEA - SAVING HUMANS | Italy

DEFENDER A QUIEN DEFIENDE | Spain

COMITÉ JUSTICE ET VÉRITÉ POUR ADAMA | France

KÕIGI EESTI | Estonia

LINDA GRETA ZSIGA | Romania

KRAKOW SMOG ALERT | Poland

14:00

END OF THE PROGRAMME

The **European Civic Forum** is a panEuropean network that brings together over 100 associations and NGOs across 28 European countries: a great variety of civic organisations ranging from big federations of associations deeply rooted in local constituencies, national platforms of NGOs uniting hundreds of thousands of NGOs across different sectors, human rights advocacy and campaigning organisations, or smaller groups working at community level or engaging with the public on local issues around the democratic values of **Equality, Solidarity** and **Inclusiveness**.

Civic Space Watch is an on line collaborative tool launched in 2018 by the European Civic Forum to monitor the state of civic space and civil liberties, alert media and policy makers and build solidarity and resilience inside civil society. Civic Space Watch aims to capture national and trans-European trends in real time, provide easy access to resources and facilitate systematic data collection for research, advocacy and campaigning purposes.

After a first successful edition in 2018, **#NODAYWITHOUTUS**, that engaged over 2 million people online, several thousand people offline and over 200 local committees in 29 European countries, the **Civic Pride Days** become an annual campaign coordinated by the European Civic Forum, mobilising civic actors all across Europe, in big cities or small communities, in their usual place of work or in public spaces, in large or small groups, online and offline, to collectively celebrate their daily contribution to our societies, improving the lives of our communities, promoting citizens' participation and access to human rights for all.

TO REGISTER TO THE EVENTS CLICK HERE:

[BIT.LY/CIVSOCIETY](https://bit.ly/civsociety)

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT:

[CIVIC-FORUM.EU](https://civic-forum.eu)

[CIVICSPACEWATCH.EU](https://civicspacewatch.eu)

[CIVICPRIDE.MEGACAMPAIGN.EU](https://civicpride.megacampaign.eu)