



THE STATE
OF THE UNION

21ST-CENTURY DEMOCRACY IN EUROPE

EVENTS in the framework of the FESTIVAL D'EUROPA 2019 – *IN PROGRESS*

This year, **from 1 to 10 May**, a number of additional events have been organised as part of The State of the Union 2019 and in the framework of the Festival d'Europa. Each event reflects an aspect of this year's The State of the Union theme **21st-Century Democracy in Europe** and is organised by the EUI and our partners at the local, national and European level. Whether you would like to engage further in discussions on the topic of democracy or explore cultural, leisure and artistic events, the Festival d'Europa has it all.

Wednesday 1 to Thursday 9 May 2019

A Dream Called Europe - Photo exhibition

ANSA and Fondazione Palazzo Strozzi – Cortile Palazzo Strozzi

Cultural,
Leisure &
Art Events

This photo exhibition follows the success of the '[Women on the March](#)' one, organised in the context of the 2016 edition of The State of the Union. This year's exhibition will shed light on the every-day life of migrants in Europe and the various daily challenges they have to face. Often secluded from many social aspects of our European societies, they are still an integral part of the latter and sometimes protest against structural injustices. The exhibition promises to display all of the different facets of this complex phenomenon.

Type: Open to the general public

Location: Cortile di Palazzo Strozzi, Piazza Strozzi 1, Florence

Dates and opening times: 1 to 9 May 2019, 10:00 - 20:00 (Thursday until 23:00)

Website: [Event Webpage](#)

Organiser: [ANSA](#), [Palazzo Strozzi](#)

Contacts: [Maurizio Lunetta](#), Marketing Manager, International Department, ANSA

Thursday 2 May 2019

EU - Africa relations and future challenges: Closing the gap between rhetoric and reality? - Workshop

University of Florence – Polo di Novoli

Debating
Democracy
Events

Over the past two centuries, Africa played a very important role for Europe and vice versa; albeit for different reasons, this will be the case for the coming decades. The European Union and its Member States can hardly ignore this continent: not only is it just across the Mediterranean sea, but it has - and will continue to have - the youngest demographic profile in the world, while European population is increasingly ageing and diminishing in size. The recent migratory crisis shows blatantly that what happens in apparently remote areas of sub-Saharan Africa can have an impact on European domestic politics, by influencing partisan competition, and triggering new dividing lines in our political systems. Furthermore, like in the case of the Ebola pandemic, geopolitical turmoil taking place somewhere in the Horn of Africa or in Central Africa cannot be easily sealed-off. In an increasingly interdependent world, the future of European democracy also depends on how we interact with countries outside of Europe and Africa - let us not forget it - is a very close neighbor.

Against this backdrop, the workshop intends to discuss recent developments in four major policy areas that appear crucial for the future of EU-Africa relations, particularly for the political implications at the supra national, and the national levels of government. The four areas are security, migration, trade and cooperation development. In addressing the main issues that are at stake in each of these fields the core question that needs to be investigated is the following: is the EU effectively pursuing a forward-looking strategy aimed at establishing a mutually reinforcing partnership, as reflected in the official discourse? Or, has the EU been trapped - in spite of its commitments - in a backward looking strategy, that still reflects the asymmetrical relations typical of colonial times, and inadvertently favors the position of emerging illiberal powers?

Opening Address 9:15-9:30

Dean of the School of Political Science, University of Florence
Laura Leonardi, Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence

Panel 1: 9:30-11:30

The EU and Conflict Resolution in Africa

Chair: **Marco Mayer**, LUISS University, Rome

Speakers:

Federica Bicchi, Robert Schuman Centre, EUI

Daniela Irrera, University of Catania

Lorenzo Angelini, European Peacebuilding Liaison Office (EPLO)

Reuben Joseph Babatunde Lewis, School Transnational of Governance, EUI

Coffee break: 11:30-12:00

Panel 2: 12:00-13:30

The EU and the migratory conundrum

Chair: **Gustavo De Santis**, University of Florence

Speakers:

Martin Ruhs, Deputy Director Migration Policy Centre, EUI

Chiara Favilli, University of Florence

Mauro Lanati, Migration Policy Centre, EUI
Andrea Stocchiero, Centro Studi di Politica Internazionale, and FOCSIV

Lunch: 13:30-14:30

Keynote Speech 14:30- 15:00

Stefano Manservigi, Director-General , DG DEVCO

Panel 3: 15:00-16:30

European Development Cooperation at cross-roads: past achievements and future opportunities

Chair:

Maria Stella Rognoni, University of Florence

Speakers:

Valeria Fargion, University of Florence

Tanya Cox, Director, CONCORD Europe

Niels Keijzer, German Development Institute

Coffee Break: 16:30-17:00

Panel 4: 17:00- 18:30

EU trade policy and African economic development: a contested nexus.

Chair: **Jean Leonard Touadi**, Senior Advisor FAO, Partnership Division

Speakers:

John Akokpari, Department of Political Studies, University of Cape Town

Giorgia Giovannetti, School of Economics, University of Florence and EUI

Thilo Bodenstein, Central European University

Closing Keynote Speech: 18:30-19:00

The Prospects for Democracy in Africa

Mamoudou Gazebo, University of Montreal

Type: Open to the general public (upon registration)

Location: Building D 15, room 004, University of Florence, Polo di Novoli, Florence

Date and Time: 2 May 2019, 09:00 - 19:00

Language: English

Website: [Event Webpage](#)

Organiser: [University of Florence](#)

Contact: [Valeria Fargion](#), Department of Political and Social Sciences and Jean Monnet Chair, University of Florence

Exploring democracy in the 21st century from the perspective of the past: Can the liberty of the ancients be combined with the liberty of the moderns? - Workshop

EUI, Max Weber Programme - Seminar Room 2, Badia Fiesolana

Debating Democracy Events

In this panel, Max Weber Fellows from the Departments of History and Civilization and Political and Social Sciences, who are scholars of political theory and intellectual history, ask what we can learn from the European tradition of democratic theory to think about the future of democracy in Europe. In particular, how far are our inherited democratic norms compatible with an EU committed to the norms of the single market and the four freedoms, on the one hand, and ever-closer political as well as economic integration, on the other? As we shall see, most past thinkers have been critical of elements of one or other or both, suggesting that we must either rethink democracy or rethink the Union if we wish to combine the two. The panel develops chronologically through three linked steps:

On the Liberty of the Ancients

Eniola Anuoluwapo Soyemi, Max Weber Programme, Department of Political and Social Sciences Fellow: Aristotle

Jared Holley, Max Weber Programme, Department of History and Civilization Fellow: Rousseau

On the Liberties of the Moderns

Bruno Leipold, Max Weber Programme Department of Political and Social Sciences Fellow: Marx

Alessandro Bonvini, Max Weber Programme, Department of History and Civilization Fellow: Mazzini

On Combining the Liberties of the Ancients with that of the Moderns in the EU

Danilo Scholz, Max Weber Programme, Department of History and Civilization Fellow: Kojév

Jens van 't Klooster, Max Weber Programme, Department of Political and Social Sciences Fellow: The Rawls-Van Parijs Debate

Chair: **Richard Bellamy**, Director, Max Weber Programme

Type: Open to the general public (upon registration)

Location: Seminar Room 2, Badia Fiesolana, EUI, Florence

Date and Time: 2 May 2019, 10:30 -13:30

Language: English

Website: [More information and registration](#)

Organiser: [Max Weber Programme](#), EUI

Contact: [Francesca Grassini](#), Max Weber Programme, EUI

Punching above its weight? European Parliament's diplomacy in support of democracy in the EU's Eastern Neighbourhood since 2014 - Conference

Directorate General for External Policies, European Parliament and RSCAS, EUI – Emeroteca, Badia Fiesolana

Debating Democracy Events

Recent developments in the EU Eastern Neighbourhood were met with high political interest in the European Parliament (EP), especially following the Maidan revolution in Ukraine and Russia's military aggression in the Donbas and in Crimea. This political interest created the space for the EP to develop innovative types of actions aimed at supporting the democratisation and pro-European reform processes in the Eastern Partnership region, especially in the three countries which concluded an Association Agreement with the EU – Ukraine, Moldova and Georgia.

This workshop aims to bring together researchers and EP practitioners who will look at a variety of initiatives taken by the EP in relation with this region since 2014, in particular through the work of parliamentary Committees, inter-parliamentary dialogue as well as mediation and capacity building activities. They will discuss how far these initiatives have been exemplary for a self-empowerment of the EP in the field of external action and their impact on both the inter-institutional dynamics and the effectiveness and coherence of the EU foreign policy as a whole.

Moderator:

Pietro Ducci, Acting Director General for External Policies of the Union and Director for Democracy Support, European Parliament

Speakers:

Adrienne Héritier, Emeritus Professor, Department of Political and Social Sciences and part-time Professor, Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies, EUI

Gerrard Quille, Head of the Mediation and Dialogue Support Unit, European Parliament

Joanna Kaminska, Policy Adviser, Secretariat of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, European Parliament

Myriam Goinard, Policy Adviser, Secretariat of Interparliamentary Delegations with Eastern Partnership Countries, European Parliament and Visiting Fellow at the Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies, EUI

Kataryna Wolczuk, Professor, Centre for Russian, European and Eurasian Studies, University of Birmingham

Type: Registered Participants

Location: Emeroteca, Badia Fiesolana, EUI, Florence

Date and Time: 2 May 2019, 11.30 - 13.00

Language: English

Website: [Event Webpage](#)

Organiser: [Directorate General for External Policies](#), EP and [RSCAS](#), EUI

Contact: [Myriam Goinard](#), Visiting Fellow, RSCAS, EUI

Trust in the single market? The case of the EU emissions trading - Roundtable

EUI LIFE SIDE Follow-up Project, FSR Climate and European Association of Environmental and Resource Economists (EAERE) – Sala Europa, Villa Schifanoia

Debating Democracy Events

Carbon pricing is widely regarded as a key instrument to achieve the emission reduction targets set by the Paris Agreement. Since the introduction of the European Emission Trading System (EU ETS) in 2005, carbon pricing has grown extensively around the world. The EU ETS is the result of a complex legislative process involving the governments of 31 participating countries, thus providing one of the most interesting examples of democratic participation of EU countries in the design of a EU crucial policy and in the creation of a single market in the EU.

Since its adoption, the EU ETS has faced a number of challenges, including a substantial price fall with allowance prices getting below 5€/ton of CO₂ during the economic recession. This has urged European institutions to implement a series of revisions of the system. As a result, after years of low carbon prices, in which trust in the EU ETS was low, the price of the European allowances has risen remarkably (up to around 20€/tonne at the moment of writing) following the announcement of the reform of the EU ETS for Phase IV (2021-2030), which was passed in 2018. This confirms the crucial role that expectations can play in anticipating the policy when this is perceived as sufficient stringent, credible and long-run.

The following questions will be addressed by the side event:

- i. What is the current level of trust by participants and the public opinion in the EU ETS?
- ii. What can be done to further support the credibility of the system and enhance trust in the single market in the context of climate policy?
- iii. How can transparency and MRV (Measurement, reporting and verification) contribute to build trust in climate policy measures in general, and in the EU ETS in particular?
- iv. How can we trigger mutual trust across countries and facilitate the ongoing negotiations on CORSIA and on Article 6 in the Paris Agreement?
- v. How can scholars and research better bridge with Policy Makers to enhance trust in Climate Policy measures?

Speakers:

Carlo Carraro, Professor (University of Venice), President of the European Association of Environmental and Resource Economists and Director of the International Centre for Climate Governance TBC

Ottmar Edenhofer, Professor and interim Director at the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research

Hermann Vollebergh, Department of Economics, Tilburg Sustainability Centre, and Senior Research Fellow at the PBL Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency

Roundtable panellists:

Dominique Bureau, General Delegate of the Economic Council for Sustainable Development, Ministry of Ecology, Sustainable Development and Energy, France

Ben Groom, Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment, London School of Economics, London, UK

Ger Klaassen, Policy Analyst on Strategy and Economic Assessment, European Commission TBC

Phoebe Koundouri, Scientific Chair of the International Centre for Research on the Economy and the Environment (ICRE8), and School of Economics, Athens University of Economics and Business, Athens, Greece

Xavier Labandeira, Director of Economics for Energy, Spain, and Department of Applied Economics, University of Vigo, Spain TBC

Aldo Ravazzi, Chair OECD-WPEP (Working Party on Environmental Performance), President Green Budget Europe, and Chief Economist, DG Sustainable Development, EU&Global Affairs – TA Sogesid, Italian Ministry of Environment
Thomas Sterner, Former President EAERE, Department of Economics, University of Gothenburg, Sweden TBC
Andrea Tilche, Directorate General for Research and Innovation, European Commission TBC
Laurence Tubiana, CEO European Climate Foundation, Founder of the Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations (IDDRI), Professor and Director of the Sustainable Development Centre at Sciences Po, Paris, France TBC
Martin Weitzman, Professor of Economics, Harvard University Center for the Environment

Type: Open to the general public (upon registration)

Location: Sala Europa, Villa Schifanoia, EUI, Florence

Date and Time: 2 May 2019, 11.30 - 13.00

Language: English

Website: [Event Webpage](#)

Organiser: [FSR Climate](#), RSCAS, EUI and [European Association of Environmental and Resource Economists](#) (EAERE)

Contact: [Simone Borghesi](#), FSR Climate Director, EUI, and [Monique Cavallari](#), EUI

How should education approach the European project in a rapidly changing world? - 30 years of Jean Monnet Activities - Conference

Directorate General EAC, European Commission and the EUI – Refettorio, Badia Fiesolana

Debating Democracy Events

Global and European political and societal realities change at a dramatic pace. Social science and in particular European studies (different levels of education and research) should reflect these developments. The session will discuss how Education can play a role in tackling democratic deficit, enhancing the citizens' understanding of Europe's founding values, its history, its institutions, its policies and the benefits it brings about. In the framework of the celebration of the 30th anniversary of the Jean Monnet programme, Director General Christophidou will deliver a keynote introduction on the achievements of the programme that has funded over 5000 projects since 1989 and supports over 1000 universities. Additionally, it benefits half a million students in the field of European studies per year in almost ninety countries. The panel composed of policy makers and academics - including Jean Monnet professors - will then carry forward the debate on how current political and societal trends should be best approached through education as a whole and in particular in the field of European studies. The 2018 Council's recommendation on "Promoting common values, inclusive education and the European dimension of teaching" should be the starting point of the debate for a topic that is sometimes controversial in Member States. The discussion will touch upon the issue how EU legislation and policies relevant for specific key areas such as engineering, robotics, climate technology that are in constant development and change are and should be even better encompassed in the future in European studies and research. Some structural conditions existing in Europe may hinder the realization of a European area for higher education and research that would be inclusive of a variety of social and national realities. Panellists will discuss how policies and individual institutions, such as the European University Institute as providers of public good for Europe, should address this issue.

11:00-13:00 Session

Moderator:

Amelia Hadfield, Jean Monnet Professor

Keynote Speech:

Themis Christophidou, Director General for Education, Culture, Youth and Sport, European Commission

Speakers:

Gent Cakaj, Minister of Europe and Foreign Affairs, Albania

Martina Lubyová, Minister for Education, Slovakia TBC

Lorenzo Fioramonti, Vice Minister, Italian Ministry of Education, Universities and Research

Renaud Dehousse, President, EUI

Erica Lutes, Director, Fulbright Schuman Program

Alberto Alemanno, Jean Monnet Professor

Joao Pinto, President, European Students Network

13:00-14:00 Buffet lunch

Type: Registered participants

Location: Refettorio, Badia Fiesolana, EUI, Florence

Date and Time: 2 May 2019, 11:00 - 13:00

Languages: English

Website: [Event Webpage](#)

Organiser: [Directorate General EAC](#), European Commission and the EUI

Contact: [DG EAC European Commission](#)

For an ever more democratic European Union - Award Ceremony

HAEU Educational Programme and Città Metropolitana di Firenze - Sala Alcide de Gasperi, Villa Salviati

Debating Democracy Events

The winners of the student competition “For an ever more democratic European Union”, organised by the Historical Archives of the European Union together with the City of Florence, will be awarded in a public ceremony at Villa Salviati. The competition represents the final stage of the educational programme “The European Elections: For an Active Democracy”, which involved more than 30 classes from 15 upper secondary schools in Florence. Thanks to the HAEU trainers, participants learnt about the history of European integration and the functioning of EU institutions and took part in a workshop focusing on three topics: The institutional reform in the European Union, the European school of the future and the needed actions to tackle climate change. In order to participate in the competition, each class was asked to present an election manifesto for 2019 European Parliament Elections, gathering all students’ proposals to shape the future of Europe. As usual, the last [HAEU Educational Programme](#) involved some former Members of the European Parliament, who participated in some of the workshops thanks to the partnership between the Archives and the European Parliament Former Members Association.

Type: Registered participants

Location: Sala Alcide de Gasperi, Villa Salviati, Florence

Date and Time: 2 May 2019, 13:30 - 14:30

Languages: [Event Webpage](#)

Organiser: [HAEU Educational Programme](#) and [Città Metropolitana di Firenze](#)

Contact: [Micol Visciano](#), ADG (HAEU) and [Stefano Porciello](#), HAEU

Space and democracy - Conference

HAEU and European Space Agency - Sala Alcide de Gasperi, Villa Salviani

Debating Democracy Events

Since their development in the mid-20th Century, space activities have played a key role in the balancing of political and technological power among world - and space - leading countries; this role - like the key players in space - has gradually changed and grown through the decades to the extent that today it could be argued that space activities have become an essential driver of and actor in the democratic process.

This event has been organised to mark 30 years of cooperation between the European Space Agency and the European University Institute together with the depositing of the ESA archives with the Historical Archives of the European Union (HAEU). The session will provide an insight into space activities and their role in promoting democracy, with a particular focus on Europe, and will present the new digitised collections of the historical archives of the European Launcher Development Organisation (ELDO) and the European Space Research Organisation (ESRO), joint forerunners of the European Space Agency.

Timetable:

14:30

Opening :

Renaud Dehousse, President, EUI

14:35

Signing of Letter of Intent:

Jan Wörner, Director General, ESA

Renaud Dehousse, President, EUI

14:45- 15:45

Introduction:

Elena Grifoni Winters, Head of the Director General's Cabinet, ESA

Speakers:

Jan Wörner, Director General, ESA

Isabelle Sourbès-Verger, ESA History Project, CNRS

Piero Benvenuti, Commissioner of Agenzia Spaziale Italiana (ASI)

15:45

ESA Digital Historical Archives and new collections - Opening ceremony on HAEU web site

15:50

Closure

Type: Open to the general public (upon registration)

Location: Sala Alcide de Gasperi, Villa Salviani, Florence

Date and Time: 2 May 2019, 14:30 - 16:00

Languages: English

Website: [Event Webpage](#)

Organiser: [European Space Agency](#)

Contact: [Micol Visciano](#), HAEU

Non-majoritarian institutions under political pressure – Discussion Panel

EUI, Max Weber Programme – Seminar Room 2, Badia Fiesolana

Debating
Democracy
Events

Since the 1980s, we have witnessed widespread delegation of powers from governments directly elected by citizens to Non-Majoritarian Institutions (NMIs) that are neither directly elected nor directly managed by elected politicians. The institutional forms taken by NMIs include independent regulatory agencies tasked to oversee and facilitate competition, central banks charged to conduct monetary policy, specialized constitutional courts, the European Commission and international bodies such as the Basel Committee. Functional rationales for explaining delegation centred on the outcomes that these unelected bodies were expected to deliver better than elected politicians, and which included providing longer-term commitments that are more credible to investors, enhancing the efficiency of policymaking, and better dealing with highly technical areas. However, rather than technical, Pareto-efficient decisions (where some benefit and no one is made worse off), NMIs have increasingly taken political decisions with clearly distributive implications and both winners and losers. Furthermore, today, NMIs are commonly accused of having failed to deliver on their promises, having frequently led to rather unpopular consequences (e.g., price rises). This discussion will therefore explore how directly elected politicians, themselves under pressure from and often riding waves of popular dissatisfaction, are formally and/or informally challenging the institutional form and/or the operation in practice of NMIs, as well as how NMIs are in turn responding to these political pressures.

Speakers:

Eugenia de Conceicao-Heldt, Reform Rector, Bavarian School of Public Policy at the Technical University of Munich, Chair of European and Global Governance and Founding Dean of the TUM School of Governance

Erik Jones, Professor of European Studies and International Political Economy and Director of European and Eurasian Studies, Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies

Manuela Moschella, Associate Professor of International Political Economy, Scuola Normale Superiore

Bernardo Rangoni, Max Weber Fellow, Law Department, EUI

Mark Thatcher, Professor of Political Science, LUISS Guido Carli and of Comparative and International Politics, LSE

Anna Tzanaki, Max Weber Fellow, Law Department, EUI

Lucia Quaglia, Professor of Political Science, University of Bologna

Type: Open to the general public (upon registration)

Location: Seminar Room 2, Badia Fiesolana, EUI, Florence

Date and time: 2 May 2019, 14.45 - 16.15

Language: English

Website: [More information and registration](#)

Organiser: Max Weber Programme, EUI

Contact: [Bernardo Rangoni](#) and [Anna Tzanaki](#)

Towards a circular economy: European ambitions and local contributions to improve the lives of citizens – Roundtable

Tuscany Region - Presidency, Palazzo Guadagni Strozzi Sacratì, Sala Pegaso, Piazza Duomo 10, Florence

Debating Democracy Events

The event aims at creating a debate around the interconnectedness between the future challenges of the green and circular economies of the European Union and their actual implementation at the regional and national level through EU structural and investment funds. The EU's proposed measures to support a circular economy help companies and consumers undertake the transition towards a stronger economy, where resources are used in the most sustainable way possible. These political actions contribute to the improvement of recycling practices and have beneficial effects on both the economy and the environment, closing the cycle of life of all products. The aim is to use raw materials, products and waste efficiently, obtaining the maximum value while promoting energy saving and reducing greenhouse-gas emissions. Therefore, the Regions, in collaboration with national institutions, can and will consider themselves as guarantors of such measures at the local level. They will contribute to making the lives of their constituents greener and more sustainable.

The Tuscany Region recycles about 56% of waste produced. Their objective is to reach 70% by 2020 and 80% by 2023. The remaining 20% should be composed of 5% Mechanical Biological Treatment (MBT) waste, 7% incineration material and a remaining 8% residue for landfills. The projects aim at implementing 6 new biodigestors by 2022.

Moderator:

Franco Vanni, Journalist and Editor, la Repubblica

Speakers:

Salvatore Micillo, Undersecretary for Environment, Land and Sea Protection, Italy TBC

Simona Bonafè, Member of the European Parliament and Rapporteur for Circular Economy

Carlo Pettinelli, Director for Consumer, Environmental and Health Technologies, DG GROW for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs, European Commission

Enrico Rossi, President of the Tuscany Region

Giulia Deidda, Mayor of Santa Croce sull'Arno, Tuscany

Type: Registered participants

Location: Presidency, Palazzo Guadagni Strozzi Sacratì, Sala Pegaso, Piazza Duomo 10, Florence

Date and time: 2 May 2019, 15:00 - 18:00

Language: Italian

Website: [Event Webpage](#)

Organiser: [Tuscany Region](#)

Contact: [Elisa Sassoli](#), Tuscany Region and [Enrico Mayhofer](#), Tuscany Region

Il Futuro della democrazia – Tavola Rotonda

Fondazione Ernesto Balducci – Emeroteca, Badia Fiesolana

Debating Democracy Events

The traditional democratic model seems to be increasingly more incapable of responding to contemporary issues. Arguably, democracy as a concept is undermined by secessionist underlying political movements and by the authoritarian connotation of populist political actors. On top of all this, phenomena such as organised crime and corruption, along with the overwhelming presence of technology and of a global market, contribute to hinder the values and norms that determine a healthy democracy. In lights of the growth of a new supranational European democracy, the Fondazione Ernesto Balducci promotes a holistic evaluation of these contemporary issues.

Welcome opening:
Andrea Cecconi, President of Fondazione Ernesto Balducci

Introduction and moderation:
Leonardo Bieber

Speakers:
La Democrazia nel futuro: **Vannino Chiti**
Democrazia e Tecnologia: **Giuseppe Grazzini**
David-Maria Sassoli, Vice-President of the European Parliament
Andrea Orlando, former Italian Minister of Justice TBC

Type: Open to the general public
Location: Emeroteca, Badia Fiesolana, EUI, Florence
Date and Time: 2 May 2019, 16:30 - 18.30
Language: Italian
Website: [Event Webpage](#)
Organiser: [Fondazione Ernesto Balducci](#)
Contact: [Lorenzo del Mastio](#), Fondazione Ernesto Balducci

Quale genere di democrazia? Un dialogo sulle diversità – Conference

EUI, Engaged Academics and EuropeDirect – Sala Ketty La Rocca, Le Murate PAC

Debating Democracy Events

The EUI Engaged Academics Working Group encourages debate on a constellation of gender-related questions. Starting from democracy as a promise for social inclusion, the side-event will take stock of the state of the Italian democracy in terms of gender equality, with a specific focus on the Florentine reality. ‘Disinformation’ and ‘inclusive democracy’ are two topics among the many discussed within the 2019 State of the Union edition. These two fundamental aspects of 21st century’s democracies concern particularly the realm of gender. In the labyrinth of disinformation on gender issues, the central dimension of human diversity becomes peripheral, or even, in some cases, dehumanised. The aim of this event is to put back the individual at the heart of (their) questions of gender, by listening to the knowledge and testimonies shared by those who, daily, have first-hand experience with gender-related situations. We will open a dialogue with experts in the field to shed some light on the notion of gender, gender relations, sex characteristics and sexualities. What is sex? What is gender? What is the difference between sexual orientation and gender identity? Who is a trans* person? Who are intersex people? The fear of the ‘other’ - perceived as ‘different’ - becomes frequently an opportunity for political instrumentalisation as well as one of the triggers of harmful stereotypes, discriminations and violence. How to prevent bullying and discrimination in various social contexts, both institutional and non-institutional? What forms of help can be provided to the victims of gender-based discrimination, violence and ill-treatment? Experts from the fields of law, sociology, education and social services support will offer answers to and reflections upon these and many other questions. The discussion will be followed by a debate with the audience.

Moderator:
Giovanna Gilleri, PhD Researcher, Department of Law, EUI

Speakers:
Daria Campriani, Transgender activist, *intersexioni* Group
Wanna Del Buono, Lawyer, Co-Founder of the Artemisia Association
Isabella Mancini, Vice-President of Nosotras Onlus
Alice Troise, High School Professor, Founder of Gruppo Giovani Glti* Firenze and Co-Founder of the *intersexioni* Group

Roberta Vannucci, ArciLesbica Associazione Nazionale and Artistic Co-director of the Florence Queer Festival

Type: Open to the general public (upon registration)

Location: Sala Ketty La Rocca - Le Murate PAC, Florence

Date and time: Thursday, 2 May 2019, 17:30 - 20:00

Language: Italian

Website: [Event Webage](#)

Organiser: [Engaged Academics Working Group](#), EUI and [EuropeDirect](#)

Contact: [Giovanna Gilleri](#), EUI

Facebook Page: [EUI Engaged Academics](#)

Friday 3 May 2019

40 Years of European Parliament Direct Elections - Exhibition

Historical Archives of the European Union - Cortile di Michelozzo, Palazzo Vecchio

Cultural,
Leisure &
Art Events

On the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the first direct elections to the European Parliament by universal suffrage in 1979, the Historical Archives of the European Union, in cooperation with the European Parliament's Former Member Association, presents key documents and election campaign materials from its archival holdings. Special focus of the exhibition is set on the Belgian artist Jean-Michel Folon (1934-2005) who designed posters for the European Parliament for election campaigns and on other EU matters. Further to a selection of original posters, there will also be a sculpture of Folon, property of the former President of the European Parliament Enrique Baron Crespo.

Type: Open to the general public

Location: Cortile di Michelozzo, Palazzo Vecchio, Piazza della Signoria, Florence

Date and time: 3 May 2019, 8:00 - 20:00

Language: TBC

Website: [Event Webpage](#)

Organiser: [Historical Archives of the European Union](#)

Contact: archiv@eui.eu

Rapporto sulle Infrastrutture - Press Conference

Camera di Commercio and Confindustria Firenze – Palazzo Vecchio TBC

Debating
Democracy
Events

Abstract TBC

Speakers TBC

Type: Press Conference

Location: Palazzo Vecchio, Florence TBC

Date and time: 3 May 2019, 11:30-12:00 TBC

Language: Italian

Website: [Event Webpage](#)

Organiser: [Camera di Commercio Firenze](#) and [Confindustria](#)

Contact: [Marco Bastiani](#), Chief Press Officer of Camera di Commercio Firenze; [Leonardo Bandinelli](#), Confindustria Firenze

Stavolta Voto! L'Europa, non solo un esempio di globalizzazione riuscita, ma un baluardo di pace, rispetto dei valori e diritti democratici - Citizens Dialogue on Human Rights

Tuscany Region - Presidency, Palazzo Guadagni Strozzi Sacratì, Sala Pegaso, Piazza Duomo 10 – Florence

Debating
Democracy
Events

On the occasion of the 9th edition of the annual conference The State of the Union, there will be a Citizen Dialogue session in which Enrico Rossi, President of Tuscany Region and Member of the European Committee of the Regions, will openly debate with citizens. In the framework of a talk show, the audience will have the possibility to interact directly with the guests, creating a constructing dialogue covering many of the SoU conference's main themes.

Speakers:

Enrico Rossi, President of Tuscany Region and Member of the European Committee of the Regions

Emma Bonino, Member of Italian Senate, former European Commissioner

Stefano Manservigi, Director-General, DG DEVCO for International Cooperation and Development, European Commission

Type: Open to the general public (upon registration)

Location: Presidency, Palazzo Guadagni Strozzi Sacratì, Sala Pegaso, Piazza Duomo 10 – Florence

Date and time: 3 May 2019, 14:30 – 16:30

Language: Italian

Website: [Event Webpage](#)

Organiser: [Tuscany Region](#)

Contact: [Elisa Sassoli](#), Tuscany Region, [Enrico Mayhrofer](#), Tuscany Region

Illiberal challenges to the future of the political union - Conference

Institute of Human Sciences (IWM), Vienna – Sala di Lorenzo il Magnifico, Palazzo Vecchio

Debating Democracy Events

Europe and the European Union are confronted with one of their most serious challenges to date, that go to the very core of its values - challenges to its democratic political culture and the rule of law.

In certain member states the far right has gained a foothold and authoritarian, sovereignist leaders are purporting to “save” Europe by bringing it back to its traditionalist (pre-Enlightenment) roots – a Europe in which “internationalism” will be subordinated to nation states.

This side event will discuss these issues during two consecutive panels. Speakers shall address these challenges in light of the concurrent internal and external challenges Europe and the EU are facing. Immigration and demographic angst and decline have been singled out as drivers of populist, nationalist, identitarian politics. The long period of peace in Europe seems to have blunted the political nerve endings of those standing for a democratic Europe. How strongly are they responding to the challenge? Will European democratic forces find the necessary energy and organizational capacity to counter these retrograde forces that threaten to bring back Europe’s dark times.

Panel 1: How damaging is the populist challenge to democracy?

Panel 2: What is to be done? The Politics of Democracy from Above and Below

Speakers:

Stefan Lehne, Carnegie Europe

Gerald Knaus, European Stability Initiative, Berlin

Rosa Balfour, German Marshall Fund, Brussels

Zsuzsana Szelenyi, Former Hungarian Member of Parliament

Piotr Buras, European Council on Foreign Relations, Warsaw

Tim Judah, The Economist, London

Luke Cooper, Anglia Ruskin University, and LSE, London

Type: Open to The State of the Union 2019 participants

Location: Sala di Lorenzo il Magnifico, Palazzo Vecchio, Florence

Date and Time: 3 May 2019, 14:00-18:00

Website: [Event Webpage](#)

Organiser: [Institute of Human Sciences](#) (IWM), Vienna

Contact: [Dino Pašalić](#), Institute of Human Sciences

La Fura dels Baus - Free Bach 212

Fabbrica Europa – Stazione Leopolda

Cultural, Leisure & Art Events

La Fura dels Baus is eccentricity, innovation, adaptation, rhythm, evolution and transgression. The incessant curiosity and the need to explore new artistic trends have developed, through a process of collective creation, a unique language, style and aesthetic. Nowadays, this is called “Furan language”, which has been implemented in different artistic genres, such as opera, cinema and large-scale performances. The ability to bind and adapt carnality and mysticism, nature and artifice, rudeness and sophistication, primitivism and technology, in every performance, has given the Spanish company its international success and prestige.

Free Bach 212 is a performance-concert of music and dance. It is based on *BauernKantate* (Peasant Cantata) BWV 212 by J.S. Bach, performed by the baroque ensemble *Divina Mysteria*, adding flamenco reprises by *Mariola Membrives* and combined with electronic

music sound effects. The videowork veils the musicians, the bailaor, the singers and gives sense and perspective to the piece.

Type: Admission fee

Location: Stazione Leopolda, Viale Fratelli Rosselli 5, Florence

Date and time: 3 May 2019, 21:30

Website: [Event Webpage](#)

Organiser: [Fabbrica Europa](#)

Contact: info@stazione-leopolda.com

Telephone: +39 (0)552638480

Saturday 4 May 2019

Microcosm and macrocosm: the legacy of Leonardo in the children's hospital – Conference

Meyer Children's Hospital, Meyer Foundation, European Children's Hospitals Organisation (ECHO), Carano 4 Children – Sala Luca Giordano, Palazzo Medici Riccardi

Debating
Democracy
Events

The annual meeting of the Children's Hospital's International Executive Forum (CHIEF), a network of CEO's of pediatric hospitals from around the world, will be held in Florence from May 4-8. The conference "Microcosm and macrocosm: the legacy of Leonardo in the children's hospital" will serve as an opening to this event, as well as an opportunity to commemorate the 500th anniversary of the death of Leonardo da Vinci.

Programme:

Introduction

Alberto Zanobini, CEO, Meyer Children's Hospital and President, European Children's Hospitals Organisation (ECHO)

The Leonardo 4 Children Initiative

Alessandro Carano, Founder and President, Carano 4 Children Foundation

The ages of the human body in Leonardo's anatomy

Domenico Laurenza, Researcher, Museo Galileo

The life of infants and children in 15th century Florence

John Henderson, Professor of Italian Renaissance History, Birkbeck, University of London

Conclusions

Luigi Dei, Rector, University of Florence

Type: Open to the general public (upon registration)

Location: Sala Luca Giordano, Palazzo Medici Riccardi, Florence

Date and time: 4 May 2019, 10:00 – 12:00

Language: English

Website: [Microcosm and Macrocosm](#)

Organiser: [Meyer Children's Hospital](#), [Meyer Foundation](#), [European Children's Hospitals Organisation \(ECHO\)](#), [Carano 4 Children](#)

Contact: direzione.generale@meyer.it

OPEN DAY/PORTE APERTE at Villa Salviati

Cultural,
Leisure &
Art Events

As the concluding day of The State of the Union 2019 and in the framework of the Festival d'Europa, Villa Salviati will once again open its doors to the public to showcase the Historical Archives of the European Union. The Open Day will celebrate the diversity of the EU.

Location: [Villa Salviati](#), accessible by foot from Via Bolognese 156 or Via Faentina 261

Website: [Event Webpage](#)

10:00 -18:00

Exhibit of Franco Berretti's Sculptures

Curator Andrea Mello

There will be an exhibit of the work of Franco Berretti, which follows the Tuscan tradition of stone sculpture, with a particular focus on environmental themes. The green surroundings of Villa Salviati, with its extensive park, are the perfect setting for works by an artist so keenly concerned with the environment.

Website: [Event Webpage](#)

10:00 -18:00

Stavoltavoto: the institutional campaign of the European Parliament

Website: [Event Webpage](#)

10:00 – 16:00

Guided Tours of Villa Salviati and its gardens and of the Archive's Deposits

Città Nascosta and Historical Archives of the European Union

Guided tours of the historical and artistic surroundings of the Villa are organised by the [Associazione Città Nascosta](#). The [Historical Archives of the European Union](#) will organize guided tours of the Villa's vaults, where the historical documents of the EU are stored. Places on the guided tours are available by registration only, which will open on the 1st of April. To register, please contact [Associazione Città Nascosta](#) directly, and specify if you will attend both tours:

tel. +39.055.68.02.590 email: info@cittanascosta.it

Website: [Event Webpage](#)

10:30 – 17:30

Circo Europa: Circus Activities, Workshops and Performances

Organised by [Passe Passe](#) and [Circo Libera Tutti](#), there will be a variety of circus activities, such as trapeze and stilts performances, shows, and bubble workshops. Open Day participants will be able to engage with different circus disciplines, enjoy the family fun of a circus workshop, and bond in the spirit of the EU.

Website: [Event Webpage](#)

10:45 – 11:00

Popular Dances – Quadriglia

Combriccola TerpsiCore

The Quadriglia is a traditional Italian dance known and performed in an area along the Apennine Mountains to Sicily.

Website: [Event Webpage](#)

11:00 – 15:45

Popular Group Dances

Ciclopi e Lestrigoni, TreTTempi Folk and Tarante Fiorentina

Organised by [Ciclopi e Lestrigoni](#), [TreTTempi Folk](#) and [Tarante Fiorentina](#), the event will feature performances of popular dances from across Europe and beyond. Visitors of the Open Day will be the protagonists of the dances, which will follow the requests of the crowd.

Website: [Event Webpage](#)

12:00 – 17:00

21st Century Democracy and the Taste of the Union

Excellent Gusto

Following the previous editions of the Open Day, there will be a variety of food tasting sessions based on the theme “21st Century Democracy in Europe”. Sharing the experience of eating local delicacies together, visitors will be able to enjoy the sense of cultural community embodied in the European project. There will also be activities available for children and families, including pasta making.

Website: [Event Webpage](#)

13:30 – 16:00

Hourly Musical Interludes in the Grottoes

The musical interludes will be performed by young artists from the REMUTO Orchestra.

Website: [Event Webpage](#)

15:00 – 15:30

Leonardo da Vinci's Fables

Carano4Children, La Nuova Compagnia di Prosa, REMUTO and Teatro Reims

With the patronage of the [European Commissioner for Education, Culture, Youth and Sport](#), of the [Italian Permanent Representation to the EU](#) and of [Regione Toscana](#), the [Carano4Children](#) foundation honours 500 years since Leonardo da Vinci's death, with the "Leonardo4Children" initiative. The initiative aims at stimulating the creative, artistic and scientific skills of children across Europe, based on the example of Leonardo da Vinci and his Fables, via European competitions for children and young people. The final beneficiaries of the initiative are children in need (e.g. orphans or refugees) via art and science education. In this event, two narrators from the [La Nuova Compagnia di Prosa](#) will read a series of Fables by Leonardo da Vinci, with musical accompaniments by [REMUTO](#).

The ambition is to raise awareness through the key themes of the Fables on the following: ethical behaviours, universal values and principles, preservation of natural resources such as water, the importance of knowledge and education as well as the study of natural phenomena.

Website: [Event Webpage](#)

16:30 – 17:00

Orchestra Junior Regionale Scolastica – Concert

[REMUTO](#) (REte MUsicale TOscana) is a regional project that aims at promoting musical education across schools, for students of all ages. These students learn how to best utilize their musical talents within an orchestra, by discovering the difficult practice of cooperation and by challenging themselves to further work on their abilities.

Website: [Event Webpage](#)

17:15 – 18:00

Silent King Big Band – Concert

This concert by [REMUTO](#) will close the Open Day at Villa Salviati.

Website: [Event Webpage](#)

Sunday 5 May 2019

Wim Vandekeybus / Ultima Vez –TrapTown

Fabbrica Europa – Teatro della Pergola

Cultural,
Leisure &
Art Events

The imperative nature of the myth lies in its ability to bring clarity to the mechanisms of a classical conflict. Not by what the myth shows us, but by what it does not show. Without the everyday noise of news reports and opinion pieces, the view shown in the myth offers an insight into ancient souls. It is our archaic character that finds it impossible to become modern and raises hell. Wim Vandekeybus' fascination for the universal nature of ancient myths was already demonstrated in the figures of Orpheus and Eurydice in *Blush* (2002). His new creation, *TrapTown*, takes you to a parallel universe, stripped of defined time and space. Primal conflicts dominate and the necessity and (im)possibility of emancipation rises to the surface.

Type: Admission free

Location: Teatro della Pergola, Via della Pergola 12/32, Florence

Date and time: 5 May 2019, 20:45

Language: Multidisciplinary performance

Website: TBC

Organiser: [Fabbrica Europa](#)

Contact: maurizio.busia@gmail.com

Monday 6 May 2019

Territorial Processes and Community Participation: the Democratic Lesson of the European Landscape Convention

University of Florence – Villa Ruspoli

Debating
Democracy
Events

The European Landscape Convention is an international normative document of great significance, as it has allowed to transform the notion of landscape and to bring it closer to the concept of the territory as a whole. The starting point of this change represents the achieved awareness of the landscape as a European heritage and a cultural, environmental, social and economic resource that contributes to the well-being and satisfaction of human beings and to

the consolidation of the European identity.

Representing an important element of the quality of life of populations, the European Convention has established the widest possible participation in its management, setting out rights and responsibilities of public authorities and of each individual. The forms of participation range from protection actions to a more specific planning activities and are articulated in procedures that involve all interested parties, public and private, in the achievement of the quality of the landscape objectives.

The Participation in the European Landscape Convention is clearly inspired by a model of participatory democracy, because it finalizes all landscape activities to the achievement of the people's aspirations in relation to the characteristics of their living environment, by setting up a bottom-up administrative procedure for the landscape protection. Such procedure should develop and emphasize from below the awareness of the value of landscape and its role as a key element for individual and social well-being.

Speakers:

Gian Franco Cartei, University of Florence and UNISCAPE

Sasa Dobricic, University of Nova Gorica and Vicepresident, UNISCAPE

Benedetta Castiglioni, University of Padova and UNISCAPE

Type: Open to the public (upon registration)

Location: Villa Ruspoli, Piazza Indipendenza 9, Florence

Date and Time: 6 May 2019, 10:00 – 13:00

Languages: Italian

Website: TBC

Organiser: [University of Florence](#)

Contact: [Rettorato UniFi](#)

“A Scuola d’Europa - Piccoli Ambasciatori: Confronto e Gioco” - PON sulla Cittadinanza Europea

Istituto Comprensivo Statale Ghiberti - Sala Luca Giordano, Palazzo Medici Riccardi

Cultural,
Leisure &
Art Events

This event will explore the importance of nurturing the awareness of children as European citizens. Knowing the Institutions of the European Union, and understanding its history and laws, are processes that bring us together while enriching our own identity. They are, indeed, clear-cut major contributors to our common project of building a community with a common history and a unified future. The children of the secondary school Ghiberti will become young ambassadors of a Europe that is still to be discovered. Through collective dialogues and games, they will engage with City representatives, children and adults to transform the school into the first and most important practice of active citizenship.

Type: Open to the public

Location: Sala Luca Giordano, Palazzo Medici Riccardi, Florence

Date and time: Monday 6 May 2019, 15:00- 17:30

Language: Italian

Website: [Event Webpage](#)

Organiser: [Istituto Comprensivo Statale Ghiberti](#)

Contact: [MariaTeresa Tronfi](#)

Tuesday 7 -9 Thursday May 2019

Little Fun Palace

Fabbrica Europa and EUI Engaged Academics – PARC Performing Arts Research Centre

Cultural,
Leisure &
Art Events

Little Fun Palace is a project which aims to improve accessibility in a range of activities, making workshops, expert discussions, and cultural activities freely available and accessible to the public. The project's ultimate objective is to create a 'street university', where people of any age or background can meet and interact with a range of figures, from artists to philosophers, scientists to architects, and more. This year, Little Fun Palace will discuss the European project: are the solidarity, equality and freedom created by the EU under threat from the polarization of public opinion and the rise of nationalist movements? This edition will focus on the following themes: migration crisis, social rights, and gender equality. Little Fun Palace is a project in the framework of this year's FABBRICA EUROPA XXVI edition Festival.

Type: Open to the public

Location: PARC Performing Arts Research Centre, Piazzale delle Cascine 4/5/7, Florence

Date and time: 7-9 May 2019, 18:00 – 20:00

Language: Italian

Project: OHT - Office for a Human Theatre

Website: [Event Webpage](#)

Organiser: [Fabbrica Europa](#) and [EUI Engaged Academics](#)

Contact: Maurizia Settembri, Fabbrica Europa and [Mario Pagano](#), EUI Engaged Academics

Facebook Page: [EUI Engaged Academics](#)

Erasmus4ever and Erasmus4Future - Infopoint

Erasmus+ National Agencies INDIRE, INAPP and ANG - Piazza della Repubblica

Cultural,
Leisure &
Art Events

The 3 Italian Erasmus+ National Agencies, INDIRE, INAPP and ANG, offer a three days program, focusing on Erasmus+ as a life-changing experience.

An Erasmus+ stand will be set in Piazza Repubblica from the 7th to the 9th of May. The infopoint will engage citizens in the opportunities of the programme and it will also be a place where various Erasmus experiences will be shared with the general public, in order to get in touch with the key themes and opportunities of Erasmus+.

The programme in Piazza Repubblica foresees a presentation of EPAL, the European Community in Adult learning and an afternoon dedicated to Language diversity, with the presentation of the projects awarded with the European Language Label. There will also be traditional European popular dances, an Erasmus+ speed date and a dj set to close the initiative on 9th May.

Type: Open to the public

Location: Piazza della Repubblica, Florence

Date and time: 7-9 May 2019

Language: Italian, English and French

Website: [Event Webpage](#)

Organiser: Erasmus+ Italian National Agencies [INDIRE](#), [INAPP](#) and [ANG](#)

Contact: [Erasmus+ INDIRE](#)

Wednesday 8 May 2019

Mindfulness for Digital Era 4.0

TLEX and TSH – The Student Hotel Lavagnini

Cultural,
Leisure &
Art Events

The Challenge

Today's world is complex, demanding and constantly changing. The possibility of rapid change and communication not only opens up new opportunities, but also leads to higher performance demands, a growing workload and stress. What can be done when high potential individuals need to continue to perform at top speed and under challenging, ever-changing circumstances?

The solution we offer

The Mindfulness for Digital Era 4.0 session teaches self leadership tools to increase resilience, well-being and self-efficacy and to practice the skills to tackle challenges with focus, courage and energy.

Speaker:

Carina Asuncion, CEO, TLEX Italy and Senior Trainer

Type: Open to the public (upon registration)

Location: The Student Hotel Lavagnini, Via Spartaco Lavagnini 70-72, Florence

Date and time: 8 May 2019, 18:00

Language: English

Website: [Event Webpage](#)

Organiser: [TLEX](#) and [The Student Hotel Lavagnini](#)

Contact: [Michelle Davis](#)

Erasmus4ever and Erasmus4Future – Erasmus Ambassadors for a Day

Erasmus+ INDIRE, Agence Erasmus+ France Education & Formation and University of Florence - Universities, schools and institutions and Piazza della Repubblica

Debating
Democracy
Events

On the 8th of May, 100 Erasmus Alumni coming from many different countries will be Erasmus Ambassadors for a day and will visit schools, institutions, university in order to share their experiences within Erasmus+ Programme as well as European values promoted by the Erasmus community. A group of alumni will also be in the Erasmus+ infopoint in Piazza Repubblica to meet school pupils, students and citizens.

The University of Florence, in collaboration with INDIRE and Agence Erasmus+ France Education & Formation, will aim at further expanding the project of a European network of Alumni, following the strategies of the European Commission on the future of the Erasmus+ programme.

This event, organised in collaboration with the European University Institute, will also become a great opportunity for discussing the celebration of 30 years of Jean Monnet Activities by presenting the historically crucial role of Jean Monnet in European politics.

Type: Open to the public

Location: Universities, schools and institutions and Piazza della Repubblica, Florence

Date and time: 8 May 2019, 09:00 -13:30

Language: Italian and English

Website: [Event Webpage](#)

Organiser: [Agenzia nazionale Erasmus+ INDIRE](#), [Agence Erasmus+ France Education & Formation](#) and [University of Florence](#)

Contact: [Erasmus+ INDIRE](#) and [Rettorato UniFi](#)

Back to University with EC – Lecture

University of Florence – Polo di Novoli TBC

Debating
Democracy
Events

Lecture by Maria Betti on the theme “To be EU citizens today: challenges and opportunities towards the Union of the future; EU: a history of success and a future to write together.”

Type: Open to the public (upon registration)

Location: Polo di Novoli, University of Florence TBC

Date and Time: 8 May 2019 TBC

Languages: English TBC

Website: TBC

Organiser: [University of Florence](#)

Contact: [Rettorato UniFi](#)

Erasmus4ever and Erasmus4Future – Concert by Erasmus+

Erasmus+ INDIRE – Chiesa di Santo Stefano al Ponte

Cultural,
Leisure &
Art Events

INDIRE Erasmus+ National Agency launched Erasmus Orchestra in 2017 to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Erasmus Programme. The Orchestra is composed of 50 young musicians from conservatories and music institutes from all over Italy who will perform Rossini, Donizetti, Mascagni, Puccini, Bizet and Beethoven. Music and culture represent the ground to promote meeting and integration among different cultures, languages and people. Erasmus Orchestra is not stable in its structure but rather changes every time: in addition to musical skills it is required to draw out passion, ability to adapt, dialogue, comprehension and reciprocal listening which are also key features of the Erasmus experience. Free entry Concert. Registration is required to participate.

Type: Open to the public (upon registration), Free Entrance

Location: Chiesa di Santo Stefano al Ponte, Piazza Santo Stefano 5, Florence

Date and time: 8 May 2019, 19:00– 20:30

Language: Italian

Website: [Event Webpage](#)

Organiser: [Agenzia nazionale Erasmus+ INDIRE](#)

Contact: orchestraerasmus@indire.it

Thursday 9 May 2019

United in diversity – Erasmus4ever and Erasmus4Future - Conference

Erasmus+ Italian National Agencies INDIRE, INAPP and ANG and Agence Erasmus+ France Education & Formation - Salone dei Cinquecento, Palazzo Vecchio

Debating
Democracy
Events

On Europe day, Palazzo Vecchio will host the international conference “United in Diversity”, organised by the Italian and French ERASMUS+ National Agencies. The main theme is the contribution of the Erasmus+ Programme towards building a European identity and a sense of belonging to Europe. The event will involve 130 international guests representing successful

Erasmus+ projects. The programme foresees the contribution by political authorities and representatives of Italian and European institutions, along with a section dedicated to language diversity with the awarding of the European Language Label 2018.

Type: Open to the public (upon registration)

Location: Salone dei Cinquecento, Palazzo Vecchio, Piazza della Signoria, Florence

Date and time: 9 May 2019, 09:30 - 13:00

Language: Italian with translation in English

Website: [Event Webpage](#)

Organiser: Erasmus+ Italian National Agencies [INDIRE](#), [INAPP](#) and [ANG](#) and [Agence Erasmus+ France Education & Formation](#)

Contact: [Erasmus+ INDIRE](#)

Notte Blu

Europe Direct Firenze and Fondazione Sistema Toscana – Complesso delle Murate, Florence

Cultural,
Leisure &
Art Events

On the occasion of The State of the Union 2019 and in the context of the Festival d'Europa, Notte Blu reaches this year its 10th edition and will return to the Murate on Thursday, the 9th of May. In light of the important upcoming European Parliament elections, this year Notte Blu will promote a day full of events, labs and musical performances with the new addition of a flashmob organized by Fondazione Sistema Toscana as part of the project YOU in EU. These will take place like every year in partnership with stakeholders of the cultural district of the Murate and will be dedicated to the founding values of the EU, fostered by the long integration process that has progressively included every Member State.

Type: Open to the public

Location: Complesso delle Murate, Firenze, Florence

Date and time: 9 May 2019

Language: Italian

Website: [Event Webpage](#)

Organiser: Europe Direct Firenze and Fondazione Sistema Toscana

Contact: [EuropeDirect](#)

Friday 10 May 2019

The Role and Powers of the European Parliament in the Legal Perspective: Representativeness and Principle of Democracy - Conference

University of Florence and AISDUE – Villa Ruspoli

Debating
Democracy
Events

The Conference, which constitutes the mid-term meeting of AISDUE (Associazione italiana degli studiosi di diritto dell'Unione europea), will convene EU-law scholars to discuss the ongoing challenges and future prospects of the European Parliament on the eve of the upcoming elections. The topic chosen for the Conference intends to align with the themes of this year's State of the Union programme, which will encourage debate and reflection on the democratic functioning of the European Union. The reports given by Italian academics will deepen, from the standpoint of the principle of representative democracy, some of the most relevant issues at the heart of current debate on EU governance: such as the development of European political parties and the system of *Spitzenkandidaten*, the function of national parliaments in the EU law-making procedure, the respective roles of the European and British parliaments in the Brexit process, the activity of the European Parliament in the promotion of democracy in the external relations of the Union.

10:15 – 10:30

Welcoming Speech

Giorgia Giovannetti, Vice-Rector of International Relations, University of Florence

Patrizia Giunti, Director of Legal Studies Department, University of Florence

Giuseppe Tesauro, President, AISDUE and Emeritus President of the Italian Constitutional Court

Giandonato Caggiano, Secretary General, AISDUE and Director of the European Law Centre, University of Roma Tre

10.30-13.00

Moderator:

Bruno Nascimbene, Emeritus Professor of EU Law

Introduction

“Parlamento europeo: un nuovo inizio?”

Andrea Manzella, Professor of Constitutional Law and President of the Parliament Studies Centre, LUISS University

Speeches

“*Deficit* democratico o di sovranità? Il *rebus* politico-istituzionale dell'Unione europea”

Ennio Triggiani, Professor of EU Law, University of Bari “Aldo Moro”

“*Brexit*: Il ruolo del Parlamento europeo e del Parlamento britannico”

Pietro Manzini, Professor of EU Law and International Law, University of Bologna

“Il contributo dei parlamenti nazionali per il superamento del deficit democratico”

Celeste Pesce, Professor of EU Law, University of Pegaso

“Il sistema degli *Spitzenkandidaten* alle elezioni del Parlamento europeo tra democrazia e rappresentanza”

Barbara Guastafarro, Professor of Constitutional Law, University of Naples “Federico II”

Q&A and Debate Sessions

14.00-16.00

Moderator:

Adelina Adinolfi, Professor of European Union Law, University of Florence

Introduction

"La tutela dei fondamenti della democrazia europea: il caso della libertà di parola negli Stati membri"

Armin von Bogdandy, Director of the Max Plank Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law

Speeches

“Il ruolo del Parlamento europeo nelle relazioni esterne: promozione della democrazia e monitoraggio elettorale”

Michele Vellano, Professor of EU Law, University of Turin

“Il contributo dei partiti politici europei alla definizione del profilo democratico dell'Unione”

Ivan Ingravalle, Professor of International Law, University of Bari “Aldo Moro”

“Il principio democratico (rappresentativo) nella giurisprudenza della Corte di giustizia”

Maria Eugenia Bartoloni, Professor of EU Law, University of Campania “Luigi Vanvitelli”

Q&A and Debate Sessions

Closing Assembly of AISDUE Members

Type: Open to the public (upon registration)

Location: Villa Ruspoli, Piazza Indipendenza 9, Florence

Date and Time: 10 May 2019, 10:15 - 18:00

Languages: Italian

Website: [Event Webpage](#)

Organiser: [University of Florence](#) and [AISDUE](#)

Contact: [Rettorato UniFi](#)

Global March for Human Rights

Tuscany Region and Oxfam Italia Intercultura - Piazza d'Azeglio to Piazza Santa Croce

Cultural,
Leisure &
Art Events

The Global March for Human Rights is one of the activities planned within the European project Walk the Global Walk, promoted by the Tuscany Region and Oxfam Italia Intercultura and co-funded by the European Union. The project connects local authorities, and regional and local communities (school communities and civil society organisations) from 11 European countries: Italy, France, Croatia, Cyprus, UK (Wales and Scotland), Portugal, Greece, Romania, Bulgaria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Albania.

In the spirit of the project, which promotes dialogue between different cultures, the march takes place in the centre of Florence: departure from Piazza d'Azeglio, passages near the places of worship of the various religions (Synagogue of via Farini, Islamic prayer hall of borgo Allegri) and arrival in Piazza Santa Croce, where the event will be closed by a short show. The march is expected to involve around 1,500 boys and teachers from middle and high schools in Tuscany who have joined the other activities of the project.

Type: Registered participants

Location: From Piazza d'Azeglio to Piazza Santa Croce, Florence

Date and time: 10 May 2019, 10:30 - 12:30

Website: [Walk the Global Walk](#)

Organiser: [Tuscany Region](#) and [Oxfam Italia Intercultura](#)

Contact: [Tuscany Region](#)

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