

Conference on the **Future** of **Europe**

Subject: the Conference on the Future of Europe – what's in it for you and how can you contribute?

1. The Conference

The signing of the <u>Joint Declaration on the Conference on the Future of Europe</u> paved the way to this unprecedented exercise in deliberative democracy at the EU level. The Conference's overall objective through the next 12 months is to empower citizens and civil society to deliberate and have a greater say on shaping the Europe they want, the EU policies and their future. The conference will develop around the following main elements:

- **Multilingual digital platform** will be the place for citizens to share ideas and send online submissions. They will be collected, analysed and published throughout the Conference;
- **Decentralised events** online, in-person and hybrid events held by people and organisations as well as national, regional and local authorities across Europe;
- **European citizens' panels** will discuss different topics, based on the input provided by citizens through the digital platform. These panels will be representative in terms of geographic origin, gender, age, socioeconomic background and/or level of education;
- **Conference Plenaries** will ensure that the recommendations from the national and European citizens' panels, grouped by themes, are debated without a predetermined outcome and without limiting the scope to pre-defined policy areas.

2. The multilingual digital platform and decentralised events

Launched on 19 April, the **multilingual digital platform** (<u>http://futureu.europa.eu</u>) is already attracting a lot of interest and thousands of participants and contributions. It provides a public space to contribute with views and proposals on any of the nine topics suggested and also add their own to a 10th "open" topic. **Citizens, civil society organisations, local and regional authorities** can put forward their own ideas, comment on other people's ideas and organise and participate in events. The platform is the **Conference's central hub**, a place where all contributions and events under the Conference are brought together and shared in a transparent manner. A specialised **feedback mechanism** will analyse key points raised. This input will feed into the European Citizens' Panels and Conference Plenaries.

The 10 topics for discussion are the following:

- Climate change and environment
- Health
- A stronger economy, social justice and jobs
- EU in the world
- Values and rights, rule of law, security
- Digital transformation
- European democracy
- Migration
- Education, Culture, Youth and Sport
- Other ideas

More concretely, there are three ways of concrete to contribute through the platform:

- a) share your ideas and proposals, endorse and comment on other people ideas;
- b) organise a participative and inclusive event (by definition, all the events you will be organising throughout the project) and report back with ideas from the event. This is because the ideas/proposals for the events will be taken into account in the analysis and feedback mechanism afterwards.
- c) browse a map of all registered events and attend an event or look at other people's ideas and comments

The platform also provides a set of <u>useful material and guides</u>, including <u>toolkits</u> for event organisers. All contributions and events need to abide by the <u>Charter</u> of the Conference, providing for the respect of the EU fundamental values and setting out the Conference principles.

3. Your contribution

In order for the Conference to be successful and deliver on its objectives, we need your active engagement! We encourage your organisations to join this truly European democratic exercise and seize the opportunity to shape the Future of Europe. We count very much on your mobilisation and active participation, both directly and through your networks and communities throughout Europe. Only this will ensure a wide and meaningful participation and contribution to shaping Europe's future. The future is in your hands!

4. Useful links

The multilingual digital platform: https://futureu.europa.eu/

Video recording of the press conference of the launch: <u>https://audiovisual.ec.europa.eu/en/topnews/M-006565</u>

Press release: https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_1764

Q&As: https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/qanda 21 1765

Factsheet on the platform: <u>https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/fs_21_1821</u>

Factsheet on the Conference roll-out:

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/fs_21_1822

Promotional video of the platform: https://audiovisual.ec.europa.eu/en/video/I-204289

Logos and campaign materials in all 24 languages: <u>https://futureu.europa.eu/uploads/24-Language-</u> <u>Packs.zip</u>

5. Useful contacts

Please address your queries to: EC-COFOE-COMMON-SECRETARIAT@ec.europa.eu