



# PES Council

Prague Conference Centre, 1-3 December 2016

## Programme

### Thursday 1 December

**13:30 - 18:00 PES Women conference 'Women's economic empowerment'**

**15:45 - 18:00 PES Activists, YES and Rainbow Rose Plenary 'Saving Europe Together'**

15:45 \_ Welcome speech

16:00 \_ Activism: from the Grass Roots to the Political institutions.

- Moderator: Evin Incir, Olof Palme Center
- Angeles Alvarez, PSOE MP, Spokesperson for Equality (Spain)
- Heather Brown, Principal Modern Action Strategies (Hillary for America Campaign)
- Colum Eastwood, SDLP Leader (Northern Ireland)

16:45 \_ Activists Talks

- Moderator: James Sleep
- Christina Winroth, Theodoros Douloumpakis, Michelle Rauschkolb, Tommaso Giuntella, Sedef Cakmak, Maxim Vandekerckhove, Rhonda Donaghey, Declan Meenagh, Victoria Sanchez.

17:45 \_ Closing speech by Sergei Stanishev, PES President

18:00 \_ Family picture

**18:15 – 18:30 PES Solidarity action World AIDS Day**

Evening: PES Women Reception

**Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December**

**9:30 - 12:00** PES Women Statutory meeting

**10:00-12:00: First round of workshops**

- **Workshop: PES Campaign camp**

*The political landscape is changing. Trump's victory in the US elections is invigorating supporters of far-right parties in all over the world, who are finding themselves at the centre of attention. 2017 will be a year with elections in several states. Amongst others in France, Germany and the Netherlands. How can progressives from all over the world build up their campaigns to stop these populist movements ahead of several 2017 crucial national elections? This workshop with campaign experts from Europe, the US and Australia provides an insight of challenges and strategies to win as progressives.*

- Speakers:

- **Moderator:** Istvan Toth Gergely, Communications advisor and MSZP Leader speechwriter, MSZP Hungary
- Marije Laffeber, PES Deputy Secretary General
- Heather Brown, Hillary for America National Advance Staff
- Sebastian Zwalf, Assistant National Secretary, Labor Party Australia
- Frédérique Masson, Deputy National Secretary for Campaigning, PS France

- **Workshop: Providing security, promoting liberties : fighting radicalisation & extremism**

*Security, rights, and liberties go hand-in-hand in a progressive security agenda. What tools does the EU, national and local authorities have at their disposal? How can we reinforce the sharing of best practices? How can we empower families, schools and social workers to detect, prevent and act upon the radicalization of young people? These are just some of the questions which panellists are invited to touch upon.*

- Speakers:

- Moderator: Laura Slimani, YES President PS, France
- Sir Albert Bore, Vice President of the PES Group in COR, UK
- Tanja Fajon, Member of European Parliament, SD, Slovenia
- Roberta Bonazzi, Head of Counter Extremism Project, Italy

- **Workshop: Panama papers and beyond: progressive solutions for fiscal justice**

*Fiscal justice is at the very heart of progressive political agenda.*

*Efficient systems of taxation and redistribution are essential to ensure that our societies maintain high provision of social welfare. However, our countries remain significantly exposed to immoral and illegal tax practices. The aim of this workshop will be to discuss progressive solutions for promoting fair taxation and sustainable welfare states.*

○ Speakers:

- **Moderator:** Joao Albuquerque, YES Vice President, PS, Portugal
- David Hillman, Director, Stamp Out Poverty, UK
- Antonio Gambini, Development and Finance Policy Officer, CNDD-11.11.11, Belgium
- Evelyn Regner, Member of the European Parliament, SPÖ, Austria
- Brendan Howlin, Leader of the Labour Party, Ireland

● **Workshop: Popular against populism (SOLIDAR)**

*Popular, but not populist should be our arguments, the arguments of the progressives countering the narrative of extremists and populists, in particular right extreme. Those forces who are exploiting insecurity, real or felt, those who nourish the fear factor of people who are afraid of losing. Beside insuring the rule of democratic law, our challenge is not only to have the better answers and offer a perspective allowing to reestablish trust, we also have to work on our narrative and how to reach out against the pollution of the public sphere in the so called post-factual era. The workshop will offer space for exchange with and between activists from different backgrounds: party, union, civil society.*

○ Speakers:

- **Chair:** Conny Reuter, Secretary General SOLIDAR
- Benjamin Abrian, President of EGAM and Coordinator of the Elie Wiesel Network
- Kathrin Gloesel, SPÖ Parliamentary Group, press department
- Hedwig Giusto, FEPS Senior Policy Advisor
- Arnaud Hadrys, National board member of HES (French member structure of Rainbow Rose) and PS local councillor
- Jan Vrobel, CSSD youth

● **Workshop: Millennial dialogue and youth (FEPS)**

*For two years, FEPS has been working with Millennials all over the world to get a better idea of what this Generation wants from politics and governments - and how we can work together to make these improvements. Half a year after the memorable Call to Europe VI Conference 'Millennials and Politics' now it is high time for you to step up, grab the mic and share your dreams, vision and action for a more Progressive Europe!*

- FEPS Millennials team

- **Workshop: Human Rights are Youth Rights - PES LGBTI Roadmap (Rainbow Rose)**

*The aim of this workshop organized by Rainbow Rose is to discuss lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and intersex (LGBTI) topics with a strong focus on young LGBTIs. All speakers will explain different concrete actions (training, workshop, legislation...) initiated at a different level in order to support young LGBTIs and make sure to promote a diverse and inclusive society among young people. This workshop will also be an excellent opportunity to feed the content of a PES LGBTI roadmap project in order to promote LGBTI topics within our political family, based on the S&D LGBTI paper adopted in May 2016.*

- Speakers:

- **Moderator:** Kevin Peel - Councillor for Manchester City , Member of PES group in the committee of the Regions and UK LGBT Labour's International Officer
- Colum Eastwood, SDLP Leader, Northern Ireland
- Carly Walker Dawson, Secretary General Falcon Movement (IFM-SEI)
- Bea Tilanus, Board member of Rainbow Rose and member of the PvDA Pink network
- Petr Pávek, Former President of Charlie, Czech Student LGBTI organisation member of IGLYO
- Marije Laffeber, PES Deputy Secretary General

### **11:45 – 13:00 PES Activists Forum ‘Our role, building Europe within the PES’**

11:45 \_ Presentation of the new website “PES Activists Forum”

- Giacomo Filibeck (PES Deputy Secretary General)
- Milen Marchev (PES Communications Director)
- Victor Negrescu, Member of the European Parliament, Partidul Social Democrat, Romania

12:15 \_ Debate, Q&A

12:45 \_ Family picture

### **Afternoon**

**12:00 - 14:00** PES Presidency

**13:00 – 16.00**

- **Together: a new direction for a Progressive Europe (S&D)**

*Prague is the first stop on the 18-month journey we plan to make together. As promised, each event will have a different topic, so that, by the end of our journey we will have a clear overview on what Europeans actually expect from us and from Europe.*

*The Digital Agenda will be the issue we'll debate at the Prague Congress Center. Job opportunities in the digital economy, the digital labour market and social solidarity, and, of course digital equality will be the three main topics of debate with everyone in the room. Because, indeed, this time politicians will actually listen to their audience and take input from everyone, both in the room and - of course - online, in order to draft a final Digital Declaration to be adopted at the end of the event.*

- Speakers include:
  - Nicolas Schmit, Luxembourg Minister of Labour, Employment and the Social and Solidarity Economy
  - Myriam El Khomri, French Minister of Employment (by video)
  - Tomas Prouza Czech State Secretary on the Digital Agenda
  - Josef Weidenholzer, Vice President S&D Group
  - Marju Lauristin MEP, Vice President S&D Group
  - Maria João Rodrigues, Vice President S&D Group
  - Pervenche Berès, Member of the European Parliament
  - Evelyne Gebhardt, Member of the European Parliament
  - Victor Negrescu, Member of the European Parliament, Partidul Social Democrat, Romania
  - Pille Pruulmann-Vengerfeldt (Malmö University)
  - Christof Degryse (ETUI)
  - Mark Walker (Abilitynet)

#### **14:00 - 15:30: Second round of workshops**

- **Workshop: PES Campaign camp**

*Today's world with people spending more time on mobile devices implies that digital media has fundamentally changed the way voters experience and engage in political campaigns. We need to use new methods, strategies and messaging to reach out to and mobilise voters. Bringing the battleground into the digital sphere, and at the same time keeping direct and personal contact with voters will determine the success of a campaign. How to link the two and how to do this most effectively? This workshop on digital and grassroots mobilisation provided by experts who worked on the Bernie, the Hillary and the Obama campaigns during US elections.*
- Speakers:
  - **Moderator** Evin Incr, Programme Manager Olof Palme International Center, Sweden
  - Daraka Larhimore Hall, Principal Modern Action Strategies, US

- Jessica Shearer, Digital and Campaigns Strategist, US
- Joe Breslin, Progressive Coders Network Director of Operations, US

- **Workshop: EU neighbourhood challenges: promoting democracy and progressive values**

*With the war in Syria, the conflict in Ukraine and Russia's influence expansion, the absence of political dialogue in Middle East, the moving of Erdogan's Turkey toward autocracy, the situation in our neighbourhood is worsening. As progressive, we always believed that soft power is the best tool to promote peace, democracy, sustainable growth and good governance. Which strategy can we apply today to promote democracy and our values in this changing neighbourhood?*

- Speakers:

- Alvaro Elizalde, President of the Instituto Igualdad, Chile
- Hussein Gohar, International Secretary ESDP, Egypt
- Viviana Pineiro, International Secretary - Socialist Party of Uruguay, Former IUSY President
- Uri Zaki, President of Meretz, National Assembly, Israel
- Machris Cabreros, Soc Dem Asia, Philippines
- Tamar Khulordava, Chair of the European Integration Committee, Parliament, Georgian Dream, Georgia
- Ettakatol, Tunisia
- Labour Party New Zealand
- Fatah, Palestine
- PUK, Iraqi Kurdistan
- Democrat Party, USA
- HDP, Turkey
- CHP, Turkey
- SDSM Macedonia
- Labour Party, Israel
- Progressive alliance

- **Workshop: Leading the green transition: better ecology, better economy, better society**

*Sticking to its Sustainable Development Goals and COP21 commitments, the European Union's economies need to become more resource-efficient and less carbon-intensive. How can we ensure that this transformation is a motor for new jobs in both existing and new sectors? What can progressive do to push for Europe to be and remain a model in its commitment to a greener future?*

- Speakers:

- **Chair:** Jo Leinen, Member of the European Parliament, Chair of PES Environment and Climate Change Network, SPD, Germany
- Sanjeev Kumar, CEO & Founder of Change Partnership

- Babette Winter, State Secretary for Europe and Culture in the Thuringia State Chancellery, PES member of the Committee of the Regions, SPD, Germany
  - Kata Tüttö, member of Presidency of the Hungarian Socialist Party, Member of the Budapest City Council, Member of the PES Group in the Committee of the Regions
  - Dejan Zidan (tbc), President Social Democratic Party of Slovenia, Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Food
- **Workshop: Migration, the power of integration - investing in youth**  
*Migration is increasing around the globe. Societies are and will continue to become more diverse and multi-ethnic. Refugees and migrants go through long and difficult journeys to get to the European Union, where they wish to build their new future. How can we turn the challenges presented by migratory pressures into a resource for social, economic and cultural development of our societies? A debate with amongst other young, successful, progressive migrants*
    - Speakers:
      - **Moderator:** Tanja Fajon, Member of European Parliament and chair PES democracy network, SD, Slovenia
      - Siman Abdi, international secretary JS in de PvdA (YES)
      - Marie-Laure Fages, National Secretary in charge of Human Rights, PS France
      - Sara Mardini, refugee in Berlin, member Syrian national swim team and volunteer at Lesbos
      - Rahmat Mohamedi member of the Generation Outside Afghanistan, interpreter and refugee
      - Lisa Pelling, migration and integration policy expert, researcher Arena Idé Stockholm
      - Anežka Polášková, volunteer for refugees, independent journalist in Czech Republic

#### **16:00 – 16:20 Opening Council**

- **By Achim Post (PES Secretary General) and Jan Hamacek (ČSSD Vice-Chairman)**
- **Election of Council chairman and tellers**
- **Statement by Zita Gurmai, PES Women President**
- **Introductory speech by PES President Sergei Stanishev**

#### **16:20 - 17:30 Panel “A Social Europe, when?”**

*The Commission's proposal for a pillar of social rights creates an opportunity to advance our family's agenda for a real social Europe. The debate will culminate with the social summit foreseen in Sweden in the fall of 2017. This panel aims at further defining our proposals and ambitions for the pillar of social rights and make sure it gets us closer to the social union we call for.*

○ Speakers:

- **Moderator:** Maria João Rodrigues, Vice President S&D Group, PS, Portugal
- Ylva Johansson, Minister of employment, SAP, Sweden
- Sandro Gozi, Secretary of State for European Affairs, PD, Italy
- Jean Christophe Cambadélis, First PES Vice-President, First Secretary of PS, France
- László Andor, MSZP Hungary, Senior Fellow at Hertie School of Governance (Berlin), former European Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion
- Veronica Nilsson, Confederal Secretary, ETUC
- Heijo Hofer, Committee of the regions rapporteur on the European Pillar of Social Rights, SPD, Germany

**17:30 - 18:45 Panel "Prosperity and security in Central and Eastern Europe"**

*12 years ago eight CEE countries joined the EU in 10+ enlargement, followed by enlargements in 2007 and 2013. The EU was perceived as a dream example of cooperation and prosperity as a club which to join was the main fuel and goal of reforms for many years. Did the expectations meet the reality? What is the role of the whole region of Central and Eastern European Countries within EU now? What are the challenges for the region and what are the opportunities? How would CEE countries describe our common future from the social democratic perspective? How can we fight against right conservative populism which wants to bring borders in the region back? How can we ensure security and prosperity in the EU and how can CEE countries contribute to it? What kind of reforms and politics does the EU need to push for so that the idea of "European Dream", area of unity, stability and prosperity remains? These questions will be answered by party leaders and prime ministers from the region.*

○ Speakers:

- **Moderator:** Olga Sehnalová, Member of the European Parliament, ČSSD, Czech Republic
- Bohuslav Sobotka, Prime Minister, ČSSD, Czech Republic
- Robert Fico, Prime Minister, SMER, Slovakia
- Tóth Bertalan, MSZP Hungary, Chair of the parliamentary group
- Andreas Schieder, SPÖ, Austria, Chair of the parliamentary group
- Axel Schäfer, SPD, Germany, Deputy chair of the parliamentary group

- Dejan Židan, President Social Democratic Party of Slovenia, Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Food
- Włodzimierz Czarzasty, President of SLD Poland

**19:00 – 20.30** Dinner for participants

**20:00 - 22:00** Leaders meeting

**21:00 - 0:00** PES/ČSSD party

### **Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December**

**8:30 – 9:30** S&D bureau meeting

**8:30 – 9:30 Workshop:** Reform of the EU electoral law: what opportunities for the PES in transnational lists and other recommendations?

*In November 2015 the European Parliament adopted a report, which co-authored by Jo Leinen MEP, pointed out a number of avenues for the European parties may consider taking in order to further develop, solidify their position and here through enhance their connection to the European demos. While realisation of some of the recommendations (such as the one on transnational lists) may require treaty changes, quite a number of proposals would primarily be an issue of political imagination, willingness and ambition to become a pioneer of new political traditions. And that has inspired FEPS to establish this year a new Working Group. It gathers scholars of political sciences, sociology and mathematics. Under the leadership of Jo Leinen they spent recent months studying diverse points, which resulted in a summary that FEPS is proud to present as an input for debates at this PES Council. To offer a chance to discuss these with the report's author, with PES leadership and FEPS representatives, we invite you cordially to join this traditional FEPS breakfast debate and share with us your views on the future of the top candidates institution, on unifying European elections codes and lowering voting age, on empowering PES activists, e-voting and many others.*

- Speakers:
  - **Moderator:** Ania Skrzypek, FEPS Senior Research Fellow
    - Jo Leinen, MEP
    - Ruairi Quinn, PES treasurer and Chair of PES European committee
    - Marije Laffeber, Deputy Secretary General of PES
    - Ernst Stetter, FEPS Secretary General

**09:15 - 09:30** opening with music

## Video messages

### **09:45 - 10:45** Panel “A European economy that works better for everyone”

*The European economy desperately needs a kick-start. But how to achieve high rates of growth without putting social and environmental advancements at risk? How can we re-build the European economy so that it significantly improves the living conditions of those who are worse off? These questions will be addressed by our distinguished speakers who will present their visions of the future of economic policy in the EU.*

- Speakers:
  - **Moderator:** Kirsi Heikel, journalist, host News and Current Affairs, Finland
  - Elio Di Rupo, President of Party, Former Prime Minister, PS, Belgium
  - Margarida Marques, Secretary of State for European Affairs, PS, Portugal
  - Elke Ferner, Parliamentary Secretary of State at the Federal Ministry for Family, SPD, Germany
  - Andreas Schieder, President of the SPÖ parliamentary group, Austria

### **10:45 -11:45** Panel “Challenges ahead – democracy in Europe”

*The world has recently been shaken. By the decision on Brexit, by the election of the new US President. We're faced by new challenges and by large parts of the electorate who feel disconnected and undervalued. The unequal distribution of wealth is growing, in several countries the middle class is shrinking and many consider themselves victims of an ever further globalising world. Nationalism and right wing populism are on the rise. How to deal with these challenges, reconnect with citizens and fight for our values. On ways to further develop democracy in Europe our way.*

- Speakers:
  - **Moderator:** Marije Laffeber, PES Deputy Secretary General
  - Jeremy Corbyn, Leader UK Labour Party
  - Maria Maltchnig, Director Renner Institute, Austria
  - Christine Revault d'Allonnes Bonnefoy, Member of the European Parliament, Head of PS France delegation to the S&D Group
  - Evy Christofilopoulou, Member of the Parliament, Democratic Coalition (PASOK - DIMAR), Greece

### **11:45 - 12:45** Panel “Fighting for democracy and promoting our values in a changing neighbourhood”

*The EU needs to find its place in a new global balance of power. Our commitment to providing security for our citizens and promoting sustainable development and democracy within our neighbourhood and at the global level.*

- Speakers:
  - **Moderator:** Jan Royall, Vice President PES, Labour Party, UK
  - Lubomír Zaorálek, Czech Minister for foreign affairs
  - Giacomo Filibeck, PES Deputy Secretary General

Heads of Delegation from member parties, especially from the European neighbourhood will be invited to take the floor during the debate

#### **12:45 - 13:45 Panel “Act for Youth!”**

*One fifth of young Europeans is still out of employment. More than one in four children in Europe is at risk of poverty and social exclusion. To answer to this unacceptable situation, the Party of European Socialists launched the initiative for a European Youth Plan. How can the Youth Plan contribute to a better future for Europe’s youth? How can we promote their social inclusion, and access to the labour market?*

Moderator: Yonnc Polet, Deputy Secretary General, PES

Introduction: Werner Faymann, UN special envoy on youth employment, former Chancellor of Austria (intro speech)

Speakers:

- Laura Slimani, President of YES, PS, France
- Katarina Nevedalova, PES Vice-President, SMER, Slovakia
- Benedetta Brighenti, Deputy Mayor of Castelnuovo Rangone, Italy, Youth Spokesperson of the Association of Italian Municipalities for the relations with the EU, PES member of the Committee of the Regions, PD, Italy
- Nino Torre, Secretary General Socialist Youth of Spain, Member of Asturias Parliament, PSOE, Spain

**13:45 - 14:20** Adoption of the declaration

*Debate on amendments and adoption of Council declaration*

**14:20 - 14:35** Speech by PM Bohuslav Sobotka

**14:35 - 14:55** Closing speech by PES President Sergei Stanishev

**15:00** End and departures