



Highlights

MP OPEN CALL #9

Your Direct Line to Europe's Policymakers

22 July 2021

The Open European Dialogue is committed to strengthening dialogue between policymakers across Europe by providing a neutral, informal, and accessible space for conversation. Our monthly, online MP Open Calls grew out of this mission and are a space for parliamentarians to set the agenda, discuss pressing national and European issues, and support each other by sharing best practices and concerns.

Our July call was joined by three parliamentarians from Austria, France, and Poland. The participants updated each other on the state of play in their respective country and discussed their expectations for how the Corona crisis will develop in the fall, the importance of transparent parliamentary processes, and access to open and accessible data from parliament to citizens. The call was concluded with an overview of agenda priorities for the next parliamentary year.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE CONVERSATION

- **The opposition in Poland is closely monitoring the judicial reform undertaken by the executive.** This reform has been [recognized](#) by the European Commission to be in breach of European Union law.
- **Poland has been also the topic of discussion in regard to the [new media law](#),** which will have repercussions on the independence and partiality of the media services and broadcast providers.
- **Donald Tusk is [set to re-enter national politics](#) in Poland.** The former European Council President and Chairman of the European People's Party has returned to Poland and has expressed intention to guide the opposition and defeat the nationalist Law and Justice (PiS) party in the country's next elections.

- **Tougher checks on lobbying are needed.** In particular, adding citations to bill clauses would become an important way to ensure that the legislative process is open and transparent.
 - “Open data has been even more important during the COVID-19 pandemic.”
 - “[Even with sincere effort], it is difficult to track who inspired a specific formulation in a bill.”
 - “[With citations] you would have a very clear record on who has influenced the policy-making process.”
- **Hidden corruption should not be taken for granted.** Although parliamentary attention has been on other matters, our participants discussed on-going corruption inquiries, discussing how the phenomenon of deep-state is more present than what usually perceived.
- **MPs discussed their priorities at the top of their agenda in the next months.** Despite some country differences, a relapse of Corona cases and oversight over the proportionality of measures remain the most pressing issues.

RESOURCES

- [Débat #sansfiltre: "On the Inadmissibility of Amendments" \(in French\)](#)
- [Débat #sansfiltre: "Climate Policy - Lobby or Nor Lobby?" \(in French\)](#)

KEEP THE CONVERSATION GOING

The Open European Dialogue is a network driven by MPs. We look forward to hearing from you and helping you as best we can to connect and work with your colleagues from across Europe in these challenging times.

Keep in contact with your colleagues! Please know that you can always find the contact details of all OED members on the [members-only area of the website](#). Should you have issues logging in, you can contact Rebecca Farulli at rfarulli@gmfus.org.

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