

WELCOME PACKAGE

BLANK CANVAS

AN OPPORTUNITY
FOR EUROPE?



OPEN
EUROPEAN
DIALOGUE

7th Open European Dialogue
9-11 September 2022 – Lisbon

Welcome aboard!

Thank you for joining the Seventh Annual Policymakers Dialogue – Blank Canvas: an opportunity for Europe? We look forward to welcoming you to sunny Lisbon on the 9th of September.

As you can see in the agenda below, we have designed a process to make the Seventh Annual Policymakers dialogue an exciting and enriching experience for you. We have an inspiring setting, excellent expertise and, most importantly, ample opportunity to speak and network with more than seventy of your colleagues from parliaments across Europe.

But first, more on what you can expect from the Annual Dialogue:

A dialogue for parliamentarians, by parliamentarians.

The Annual Dialogue is a tailored space for parliamentarians. Thanks to the internationally recognized 'Good Offices' of the Open European Dialogue (OED), and an innovative open-agenda format, you will choose which issues matter most to you and connect and collaborate with colleagues who share your same interests. You will have a chance to propose and lead discussions with parliamentarians from different countries and political backgrounds, supported by the dialogue-and-cooperation tools of the OED.

A different kind of political conversation in a trusted and protected environment.

While we serve as facilitators, you take center stage as a European policymaker. The Open European Dialogue is specialized in creating a secure space for dialogue and understanding between parliamentarians. You are invited to openly share your views with colleagues as we operate under the OED House Rules - you can trust that your view and that of others will be respected and heard.

The OED House Rules:

Adopt a spirit of Enquiry //

We invite you to adopt a spirit of enquiry and engage in more explorative thinking, spending more time on the diagnosis of a problem—asking yourself and others “why and how”—rather than jumping to your solution.

Embrace and respect diversity //

We embrace diversity and will ensure that all political perspectives are treated with respect. We ask you to do the same. We invite you to proactively engage with political points of view that are different from your own and approach controversy with civility.

Practice active listening //

The OED is as much about talking as it is about listening. We ask you to try to listen to understand rather than counter-react or contradict.

Foster a safe and brave space //

Feel free to speak your mind, you will not be quoted directly because we operate under Chatham House Rule. We encourage you to take risks and take the opportunity to challenge your own comfort zone.

Create enduring connections.

When you take part in our events, you become a member of the Open European Dialogue Network. We can ensure you will stay in touch with your colleagues after the dialogue – and can offer you a platform to launch an OED event of your choice which we help to plan and implement.

We are honored to welcome new and familiar faces alike to Lisbon and look forward to seeing you soon!

Please find the agenda and logistical details in the next few pages. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at any time.

Kind regards,
The Open European Dialogue Team

Make sure everything is in order with your participation

If you have not done so already, please fill out this participation form and notify Jo Coenen (jcoenen@gmfus.org). As a reminder, we have asked you for dietary preferences (including notification of any allergies), emergency contact information, travel preferences, and a brief introduction that we may share with your colleagues at the event.

Our travel agent, Lucas-Benjamin Kleine (info@saurekraut-travel.com) is ready to assist you with flights. All costs for economy class are borne by the Open European Dialogue unless you wish to pay for them yourself.

Please book the flights no later than Friday, 2 September if you have not done so already.

What to bring

There is no preparation needed for the dialogue. We only ask you to come with an appetite to engage with others in new ways. As for **dress code**, this event is designed as an informal gathering, so feel free to dress as you please.

Transportation

Transport from the airport to the hotel and back has been arranged for you. You will have received your personal transport arrangements via email.

'Early Bird Special'

For those who have indicated that they will join the Early Bird Special, you are invited to explore Lisbon's city center with fellow parliamentarians and dialogue participants when you arrive in Portugal.

For those who are taking part:

On arrival you will be driven to Parque Eduardo VII in the center of Lisbon. You will then be given the opportunity to explore the city until 16.00.

The self-guided tours will end at Jardim Dom Luis. There, we have arranged group transportation to the hotel.

We will store baggage safely and transport it from the starting location to the end location while you are encouraged to mingle and roam.

Venue and accommodation

Both venue and accommodation are at the Oitavos Hotel Resort. The OED has arranged for your stay for the duration of the dialogue. We will be hosting sessions at **Les Herbes** and **Verbasco** rooms.

The address of the hotel and venue is:
The Oitavos Hotel Resort
R. de Oitavos, 2750-374 Cascais

Optional: A Post-Event Place for Contemplation

On Sunday evening, for those who will still be around, we can arrange for a visit to the Sintra National Park, classified by UNESCO as a world Heritage site in the category of cultural landscapes.

The OED Team will arrange a shuttle through the Oitavos hotel for those who are interested in going. Please ask for more information to an OED Team member if you are interested in joining – the estimated cost of the outing will be circa 30 EUR.

Day 1 New Connections, New Perspectives

Friday 9 September

Les Herbes, The Oitavos Resort

17.45 Arrive at the Oitavos Resort

18.00 Welcome to a Space for New Conversations

OED welcome, understanding the nature of open dialogue & OED House Rules

Making Connections and Exchanging Perspectives

Sharing personal journeys and perspectives

Experts Quick-Fire Round - Identifying Opportunities for Deeper Understanding

Our Guest Experts offer insights into an Issue Area where deepening understanding of others is crucial to the possibility of thoughtful progress

- > Cathryn Clüver Ashbrook,
Executive Vice-President at the Bertelsmann Foundation
- > Robert Muggah,
Consultant and Co-founder of the SecDev Group and the Igarapé Institute
- > Geoff Mulgan,
Professor of Collective Intelligence, Public Policy and Social Innovation, UCL
- > Cat Tully,
Founder of SOIF – The School of International Futures
- > Fabian Zuleeg,
Chief Executive and Chief Economist at the European Policy Centre
- > Elisa Lindinger
Joint Managing Director, Superrr Lab
- > Victor Siegerink
Policy Analyst, Centre for Well-being, Inclusion, Sustainability and Equal Opportunities (WISE), OECD

20.00 Networking Dinner & Politics in Portugal

Between courses we will learn something of the political landscape in Portugal, our host country

Day 2 Exploring Europe's Political Challenges

Saturday 10th September

Les Herbes, The Oitavos Resort

09.00 Framing the Day

Welcome, agenda, process and Code of Conduct, introduction of framing questions

Exploring the War in Ukraine and Europe: Testimonials and Insights

Policymakers and Experts stimulate our dialogue with insights on the roots and implications of the Ukrainian War. Testimonials from Ukrainian MPs are followed by expert input offering insights, analysis and highlighting where they see a need and potential for better political conversations?

- > Cathryn Clüver Ashbrook, Bertelsmann Foundation
- > Robert Muggah, SecDev Group and the Igarapé Institute

10.30 Break

11.00 Exploring the War in Ukraine and Europe: Open Space Conversations

Parliamentarians identify issue areas for further dialogue to deepen understanding at this time of crisis

13.00 Lunch

14.00 What Else is Going on in Europe (and beyond)?

Our Guest Experts offer insights into other key policy and political challenges including Life After Covid and its implications on economies and societies; critical societal transitions, from energy security and the green transition to the advancement of the digitalization agenda. Parliamentarians choose two topics to explore further with an expert

- > Cat Tully, the School of International Futures
- > Fabian Zuleeg, the European Policy Centre
- > Elisa Lindinger, Superrr Lab
- > Vincent Siegerink, WISE at the OECD
- > Robert Muggah, the SecDev Group and the Igarapé Institute
- > Geoff Mulgan, University College London

15.50 Break

- 16.10 Mapping Ways Forward for Europe: Open Space Conversations**
Parliamentarians have a Blank Canvas to propose Issue Areas for further exchange where there is an opportunity for deeper understanding and a potential for progress
- 18.00 Close**
- 20.00 Dinner, Speakers Corner and Portuguese Cultural Immersion**

Day 3 Taking Stock and Moving Forward

Sunday 11th September

Les Herbes, The Oitavos Resort

- 08.30 Optional: Sunday Wake-Up Call**
A varied menu of activities provides participants with the opportunity to choose how they wish to start the day - from terrace chats and morning walks, to demo testing the use of gamification in policymaking
- 09.40 Coming Back Together**
Welcome back and setting the agenda for the day
- Getting Unstuck: Where Do We Go from Here?**
Impulse presentation on the potential for political imagination to revive our political thinking and practice
- > Geoff Mulgan, University College London
- 11.00 Break**
- 11.30 Taking a Crack at the Future: Working on New Ways Forward**
Parliamentarians and Experts establish Working Groups to probe ways forward and explore collective and personal next steps towards better policies and politics
- 13.30 Lunch**
- 14.30 Drawing on a Blank Canvas: Leading in Uncertain Times**
How can policymakers fulfill their role of decision-makers in times of extreme uncertainty? Exploring the challenge of policymaking as the art of change management
- > Marty Linsky, Co-Founder of Cambridge Leadership Associates
- Final Takeaways**
Reflecting on learnings, take-aways and final reflections on next steps
- 16.30 Close & Optional Social Hangout - END**

CONTACTS

Seventh Open European Dialogue – Blank Canvas
9 - 11 September 2022 - Lisbon

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

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If at any point you do not know where to go or require assistance, please do not hesitate to contact either Taylor or Jo or reception at the Oitavos Hotel.

PARTNER CONTACTS

For questions about the project:

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THE OPEN EUROPEAN DIALOGUE AT A GLANCE

The Open European Dialogue is a politically neutral platform that aims to improve European politics by supporting policymakers in better understanding challenges and perspectives from across Europe. We do that by connecting European politicians across parties and countries, providing space for dialogue, and promoting innovative political conversations in ways that no one else does.

The network serves as a platform to the EU's ca. 10,000 national parliamentarians. Its active network comprises over 170 members from 23+ member states, representing around 70 different political parties.

Our members convene regularly for dialogues, conference calls, fact-finding missions, expert workshops, and other activities.

Since 2017, the network also empowers parliamentarians to develop their own cooperative, cross-party and cross-country spin-off initiatives. Our policy experts from four internationally renowned think tanks offer input to ensure the highest quality of dialogue.



23 EU MEMBER STATES AND BEYOND



70+ POLITICAL PARTIES



OVER 170 ACTIVE MEMBERS



**4 INTERNATIONALLY RENOWNED
THINK TANKS**



EXCLUSIVE PUBLICATION SERIES



REGULAR CONFERENCE CALLS



MP-LED INITIATIVES

THE DIALOGUE EXPERIENCE: FEEDBACK FROM OUR MEMBERS



"A very good concept - an innovative way of creating parliamentary networks outside of formal protocol."

"It is an opportunity to have a conversation with my EU peers, away from daily politics and not too influenced by national party political lines."

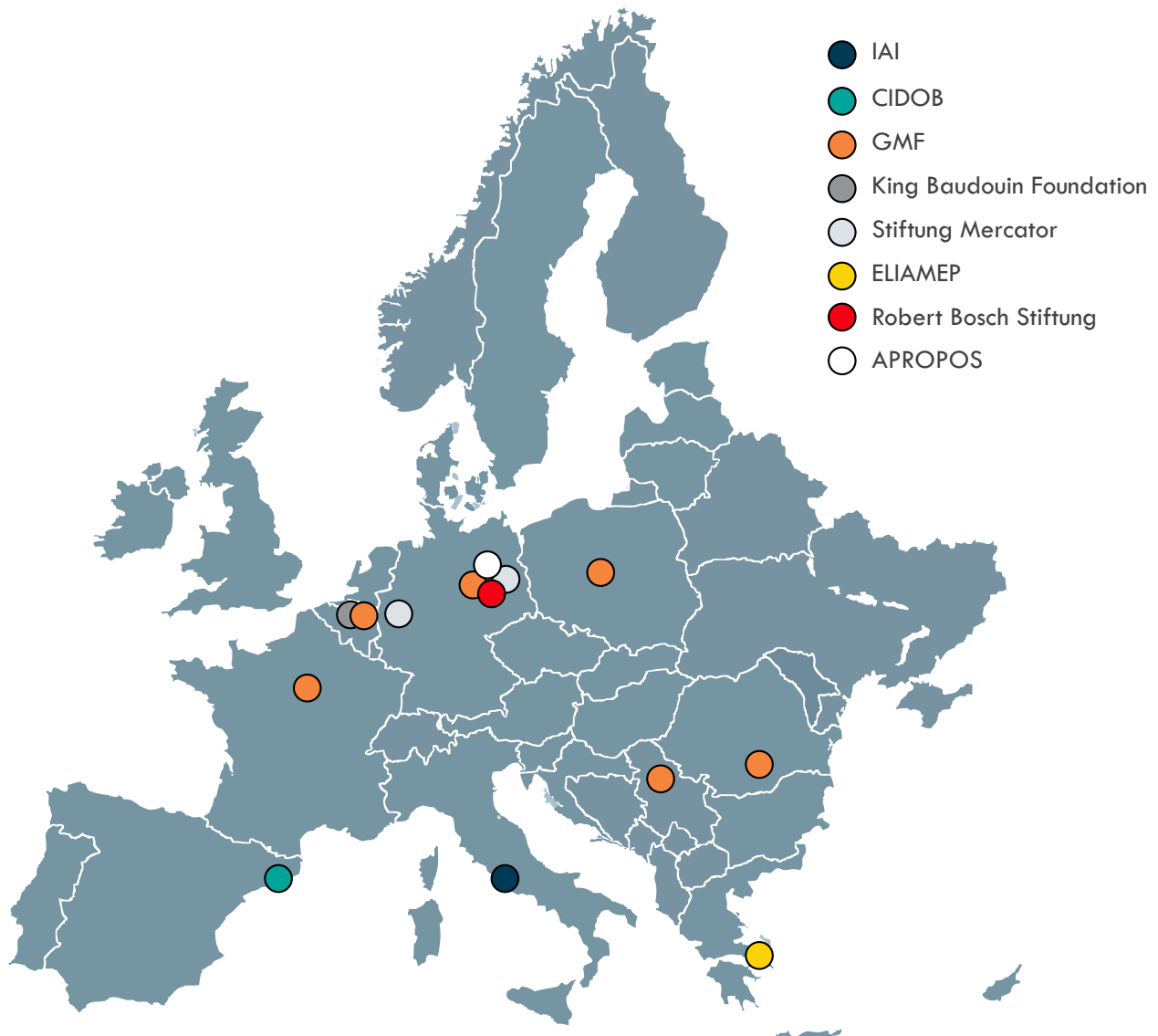
"Thank you for building bridges among european mps and bringing us together for always enriching debates..."

"I found the process very innovative and enjoyable. It gave everyone a chance to get their viewpoint across."

A EUROPEAN PROJECT BY A EUROPEAN NETWORK OF PARTNERS

This European network is a project by the German Marshall Fund of the United States in cooperation with the Barcelona Centre for International Affairs, the Istituto Affari Internazionali in Rome, and the Hellenic Foundation for European and Foreign Policy in Athens and is funded by Stiftung Mercator by the King Baudouin Foundation, and the Robert Bosch Stiftung. In 2020, we were joined by our strategic partner APROPOS - Advancing Process in Politics in Berlin, who brings the expertise of political process design to the network.

The consortium is not merely spread across the continent to create regional points of contact, but to also bring together top-notch researchers from some of Europe's most influential political think tanks with different regional and thematic foci. This helps to ensure the best possible quality of informed conversations within the network.



JOINING FORCES IN THE OPEN EUROPEAN DIALOGUE

STIFTUNG MERCATOR

Stiftung Mercator is a private and independent foundation with extensive scientific expertise and practical project experience. Through its work, it strives for a society characterized by openness to the world, solidarity and equal opportunities. To achieve these objectives, it supports and develops projects that improve participation and cohesion in an increasingly diverse society. Stiftung Mercator wants to strengthen democracy and the rule of law in Europe, address the impact of digitization on democracy and society, and drive forward climate change mitigation. Stiftung Mercator pursues activities in Germany, Europe and worldwide. It has a particular affinity with the Ruhr area, the home of its founding family and of the foundation's headquarters.



Working together for a better society

The King Baudouin Foundation's mission is to contribute to a better society. The Foundation is an actor for change and innovation, serving the public interest and increasing social cohesion in Belgium and Europe. We seek to maximize our impact by strengthening the capacity of organizations and individuals. We also stimulate effective philanthropy by individuals and corporations. The Foundation's key values are integrity, transparency, pluralism, independence, respect for diversity, and promoting solidarity. The Foundation's current areas of activity are poverty and social justice, philanthropy, health, civic engagement, developing talents, democracy, European integration, heritage and development cooperation. The King Baudouin Foundation is a public benefit foundation. The Foundation was set up in 1976 on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of King Baudouin's reign.



The Robert Bosch Stiftung GmbH is one of the major German foundations associated with a private company in Europe. It works in the areas of health, education, and global issues. With its charitable activities, it contributes to the development of viable solutions to social challenges. For this purpose, the Foundation implements its own projects, enters into alliances with partners, and supports third-party initiatives. The Foundation benefits from over 50 years of experience and a comprehensive global network of experts and practitioners. It supports interdisciplinary exchange between decision-makers and opinion leaders and supports the work of high-profile, practice-focused think tanks. Since it was established in 1964, the Robert Bosch Stiftung has invested around 1.8 billion euros in charitable work.



The German Marshall Fund of the United States (GMF) strengthens transatlantic cooperation on regional, national, and global challenges and opportunities in the spirit of the Marshall Plan. GMF contributes research and analysis and convenes leaders on transatlantic issues relevant to policymakers. GMF offers rising leaders opportunities to develop their skills and networks through transatlantic exchange, and supports civil society in the Balkans and Black Sea regions by fostering democratic initiatives, rule of law, and regional cooperation. Founded in 1972 as a non-partisan, non-profit organization through a gift from Germany as a permanent memorial to Marshall Plan assistance, GMF maintains a strong presence on both sides of the Atlantic. In addition to its headquarters in Washington, DC, GMF has offices in Berlin, Paris, Brussels, Belgrade, Ankara, Bucharest, and Warsaw.

JOINING FORCES IN THE OPEN EUROPEAN DIALOGUE



The Istituto Affari Internazionali (IAI) is a private, independent non-profit think tank, founded in 1965 on the initiative of Altiero Spinelli. IAI seeks to promote awareness of international politics and contribute to the advancement of European integration and multilateral cooperation. IAI is part of a vast international network, and interacts and cooperates with the Italian government and its ministries, European and international institutions, universities, major national economic actors, the media and the most authoritative international think tanks.



The Hellenic Foundation for European and Foreign Policy (ELIAMEP) is an independent, non-governmental, nonprofit think tank, established in Athens, Greece, in 1988. Its mission is to conduct policy-oriented research and provide policy makers, academia and the public at large with authoritative information and substantiated policy recommendations, for the development of evidence-based responses to major European and foreign policy challenges. ELIAMEP is committed to excellence, open dialogue and policy deliberation, research, training and any other undertaking that falls within its spheres of interest. ELIAMEP supports Greece's EU and Euro-Atlantic commitment, the values of pluralist democracy, and a rational and level-headed public debate on the major challenges facing Greece and Europe.



The Barcelona Centre for International Affairs (CIDOB) is an independent and plural think tank based in Barcelona, dedicated to the study, research and analysis of international affairs. Created in 1973 as an International Documentation Centre of Barcelona, it is a private foundation since 1979. CIDOB promotes global governance and good practices – based on local, national and European democratic government – to ensure that people possess the basic elements to live their lives free from fear and in liberty, by facilitating a dialogue that includes all diversities and which actively defends human rights and gender equality. CIDOB is a dynamic community of analytics that works to produce and offer to all political actors – from individual citizens to international organizations – information and ideas to formulate and promote policies for a more secure, free and fair world for everyone.

APR@POS

To work together well, we need to understand and respect each other despite our differences. Democracies listen. To build respect and understanding in politics, APROPOS combines research with experimentation and decades worth of practical experience in designing deliberative decision-making processes and unique political dialogues. We design and carry out meetings with policymakers, facilitate conversations, train practitioners, and publish research on political process to advance the dialogue and collaborative capacities that will be vital for the decades of comprehensive societal changes ahead of us.

