



Conference & Citizens Dialogue

The Future of Europe: Towards a United Vision

In 2018, the Baltic States celebrate their 100th anniversary. After regaining independence in 1990-1991, Baltic countries have rapidly and successfully integrated into the European Union and Western political, security and economic structures. They are all members of the Eurozone and keen on its success. They also have a strong interest in further strengthening security in the region.

Against the background of the debate about the future of Europe, discussions about the ambitious EU reforms tend to be dominated by the so called "Franco-German engine". However, the tandem of these two countries is hardly a sufficient force for moving European integration ahead. Given that not all European countries seem to favour the "more Europe" scenario, overcoming differences of opinion and including voices of smaller states into the debate on Europe's future is crucial for reforming the EU.

However, in order to gain support for its reforms among the population, the EU must engage into a dialogue with civil society and give a voice to citizens' concerns. In the light of current political developments and rising populism, pro-European civil society organisations play a crucial role in seeking to encourage active citizen participation in the development of common solutions to European challenges and in advocating importance of deeper economic and political integration in the EU.

Lithuanian section of the Union of European Federalists (UEF), in cooperation with the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung and the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE), invite civil society representatives, experts and decision-makers from Lithuania and other European countries to discuss the future of Europe, concerns of European citizens and the role of civil society in shaping the future of the EU.

The aim of the event is to provide a platform for discussions on the future of Europe, to contribute to overcoming the divisions between the EU member states and to encourage civil society to actively engage into a European debate on the type of European Union we want to build for our future.

Date: 26-27 October, 2018

Location: Vilnius, Lithuania

Working language:

26th October, 2018: Lithuanian-English (simultaneous translation),

27th October, 2018: English

Organisers:

Union of European Federalists Lithuania (UEF Lithuania)

In partnership with:



AGENDA

Friday, 26th October, 2018

Public event

Venue: Martynas Mažvydas National Library of Lithuania, Gedimino pr. 51, Vilnius 01504

14:15-14:45 Registration

14:45-15:00 **Welcome addresses by**

Dr Klaudijus MANIOKAS, President of the Union of European Federalists Lithuania,
Elisabeth BAUER, Head of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung office for the Baltic States
and Nordic Countries,

Petras AUŠTREVČIUS, Member of the European Parliament, Member of the
Presidium of the Union of European Federalists Lithuania,

Dr Otto SCHMUCK, Vice-President of the Union of European Federalists, Member
of the Presidium of Europa-Union Deutschland,

15:00-15:15 **Keynote speech**

Andrius KUBILIUS, Member of the Lithuanian Parliament, Deputy Chair at the
Committee on European Affairs; former Prime Minister (1999-2000, 2008-2012)

15:15-16:45 Panel discussion

**Overcoming divisions between East-West and North-South: What Europe do
we want?**

Arnoldas PRANCKEVIČIUS, Head of the European Commission's Representation in
Lithuania,

Dr Pål JONSON, Member of the Swedish Parliament, Member of the Defence
Committee, Member of the Swedish to the Nordic Council,

Paolo VACCA, Secretary-General of the Union of European Federalists,

Dainius BAUBLYS, Deputy Director of the European Countries Department, Ministry
of Foreign Affairs of Lithuania, *(tbc)*

Moderator: Elisabeth BAUER, Head of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung office for the
Baltic States and Nordic Countries

16:45-17:15 Coffee break

17:15-18:45 Panel discussion

**The EU and NATO: Prospects for deepening European security and defence
integration**

Petras AUŠTREVČIUS, Member of the European Parliament,

Michael RÜHLE, Head of Energy Security Section in the Emerging Security
Challenges Division, NATO,

Greta Monika TUČKUTĖ, Adviser to the Minister, Ministry of National Defense of
Lithuania,

Dr Stefano BRAGHIROLI, Lecturer of European Studies at the Johan Skytte Institute
of Political Studies of the University of Tartu,

Moderator: Linas KOJALA, Director of the Eastern Europe Studies Centre

18:45-19:00 Closing remarks

Dr Klaudijus MANIOKAS, President of UEF Lithuania

19:00-20:00 Reception

Saturday, 27th October, 2018

Registration is compulsory until 25th October, 2018.

Venue: Vilnius University Institute of International Relations and Political Science, Vokiečių str. 10, Vilnius 01130

- 10:00-10:10** Introductions
Laura TATARÉLYTĖ, UEF Lithuania
- 10:10-12:00** Discussion
Future of the European Union: the Federalist Perspective
Speakers:
Dr Bernardas GAILIUS, UEF Lithuania,
Dr Otto SCHMUCK, Europa-Union Deutschland,
Malte ENGELMANN, Foreign Policy Advisor at the German Parliament,
Moderator: Dr Klaudijus MANIOKAS, President of UEF Lithuania
- 12:00-13:30** Lunch and coffee
- 13:30-14:15** Discussion
Promoting a united Europe: role and best practices of pro-European civil society organisations
Introduction: Paolo VACCA, Secretary-General of the Union of European Federalists
- 14:15-16:15** **Best practices workshops**
- Working group 1: Citizen Engagement
Moderator: Ulrich BEUL, Europa-Union Deutschland
 - Working group 2: Political Advocacy
Moderator: Paolo VACCA, Union of European Federalists
 - Working group 3: Organization Building
Moderator: Florian ZIEGENBALG, Europa-Union Deutschland
- 16:15-16:30** Feedback, brainstorming and closing remarks
- 16:30-19:00** Exploring Vilnius: Old Town highlights
- 19:00-21:00** Get-Together Dinner (for invited guests and UEF members)

PLEASE NOTE: The programme may be subject to change without prior notice.

Registration

Registration is compulsory until 25th October, 2018, by filling in [this form](#).

Contact



For more information please contact:
Union of European Federalists Lithuania
vilniusconferenceEU2018@gmail.com