



Youth under pressure Safeguarding youth civil society

04.07.2023 | 14:45 - 16:45 | EESC | JDE 3252 | Brussels | Hybrid meeting on Teams

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SPEAKERS



Pietro Barbieri, as a 20-year-old architecture student, found himself living the experience of disability due to a simple dive into the shallow waters. He had to abandon his studies because it was not possible to draw with the computer as it is commonly done today. He then started studying Italian literature, but he didn't complete it due to his commitment to promoting the rights of people with disabilities. He held many positions in Italian and European disability movements. The most important experience was being part of the Italian government delegation to the Ad Hoc Committee of the United Nations to build what will later be called the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. He has also actively worked towards building adequate services for people with disabilities, including the Centre for Independent Living in Rome, of which he is still the president. He served as the president of the umbrella organisation, the Italian Federation for Overcoming Handicap (FISH), representing people with disabilities and their families. He then became the president of the Third Sector Forum, which is a platform representing more than 90% of Italian non-profit organisations. He represents the Third Sector Forum at the EESC, where he is one of the Vice-Presidents of the Civil Society Organisations' Group and a Member of the SOC Section Bureau. His competency areas are resilient health care systems, rule of law and fundamental rights, and enabling civic space.



Christelle Savall has been a dedicated member of the Young European Federalists (JEF Europe) since 2012 and is currently JEF Europe's Vice-President. She previously held the positions of President of JEF Sciences Po in Paris and Treasurer of JEF France, and founded the JEF section in Luxembourg. Today, she is the coordinator of JEF Europe's Democracy under Pressure campaign, which has run every year since 2006. The campaign works to lift the voices and the stories of activists and citizens demanding to live in a democratic country. Working in development finance, she holds master's degrees in international affairs and finance from the University of St Gallen and Sciences Po.



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Dr. Sergey Lagodinsky is a German lawyer, author and Member of the European Parliament (Greens/EFA). He is Chair of the European Parliament's Delegation to the EU-Türkiye Joint Parliamentary Committee and the Greens/EFA spokesperson for EU-Türkiye and EU- Russia relations. He is also 1st Vice-Chair of the Committee on Legal Affairs and works in the Committee on Foreign Affairs as well as the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs. He is coordinator of the Greens/EFA campaign "Defend Civic Space" and rapporteur of the initiative: "A European Statute for Cross-Border Associations and Non-Profit Organisations".



Alessia Valentino is a Legal Officer at the European Commission's DG JUST working on in the fundamental rights policy unit, with a focus on civic space. Ms Valentino has a legal background, with previous experience as a lawyer in Brussels and Strasbourg. Ms Valentino holds a PhD from the University of Milan and a Master's degree from the College of Europe.



Christian Moos is the General Secretary of the Europa-Union Deutschland since 2011, a member of the board of the European Movement Germany since 2012, a member of the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) since 2015 and representative of the Spokesperson's Council for European Affairs at the Bundesnetzwerk Bürgerschaftliches Engagement since 2022. Mr Moos had previously worked as an assistant to a member of the German Bundestag and held positions in the civil servants' union DBB Beamtenbund und Tarifunion. Mr Moos studied history and languages at the University of Franche-Comté in Besançon and the Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms-Universität in Bonn. At the EESC, Mr Moos is a member of the Civil Society Organizations' Group and rapporteur for the Committee's upcoming opinion for the Defense of democracy package.



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Pia Šlogar is an External Representative of the Youth of European Nationalities (YEN), member of the Advisory Council on Youth of the Council of Europe (CCJ) and chairperson of the Programming Committee on Youth (CPJ). She is a minority rights activist, educator and academic scholar with a linguistic background that has been working in different capacities for minority youth empowerment, social inclusion, democracy, and human rights in Europe.