



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR JUSTICE AND CONSUMERS
Directorate D: Equality and Union Citizenship
Director

Event on Democratic Participation and Electoral Matters

25-26 April 2018

ALBERT BORSCHETTE building, room 3D,

Rue Froissart 36

1040 Brussels

Interpretation available in: FR-DE-EN-ES-PT-EL-PL

AGENDA

Day one

- 9:15-9:30 **Opening:** Ms Irena Moozova, Director for Equality and Citizenship, European Commission DG JUST (including brief presentation of Commission's 2018 report on municipal elections by Ms Marie-Hélène Boulanger, DG JUST)
- 9:30-10:15 **Political Participation of EU citizens: insights from pilot studies** by the Commission Network of Academic Experts on Citizenship (speaker: Dr Sergio Carrera from CEPS)
- 10:15-11:00 **First thematic session** – international organisations' perspectives on fostering democratic participation (speakers: François Friederich, Head of the Council of Europe's Electoral Assistance Division, and Ana Rusu, Senior Election Adviser OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights)
- 11:00-11:15 Break
- 11:30-12:45 **Member State input session on practices:** round table on experience with practices to promote electoral participation (input: Donnie Jack from the Scottish Government on practices to promote the participation of disabled people)
- 12:45-14:15 Lunch – provided at the venue
- 14:15-15:00 **Communications activities of the European Union's institutions** (speakers: Stephen Clark, Director European Parliament DG COM, Tina Zournatzi, European Commission DG COMM, and Luc van den Brande, Special Adviser to the Commission President and Member of the Committee of the Regions)
- 15:00-16:00 **Second thematic session** – Social media and the electoral process (speaker: European Commissioner Věra Jourová)

Member State discussion on practices – round table discussion of good and bad practices with the Member State representatives in the context of social media and the electoral process (input: Dr Henner Jörg Boehl, German Federal Ministry of the Interior, Urška Umek, Council of Europe, on [study on the use of internet in electoral campaigns](#)).

- 16:00-16:15 Break
- 16:15-17:00 **Third thematic session** – Policy round-up on activities to support under-represented groups (speakers: Dan Doghi, ODIHR Senior Adviser on Roma and Sinti issues, and John Patrick Clarke, Vice President, European Disability Forum)
- 17:00-17:45 **Fourth thematic session** – Local activities to support mobile citizens and underrepresented groups participate democratically: “what works and what doesn’t” (speakers: Thomas Huddleston, Migration Policy Group, Assya Kavrakova, ECAS, and Jean-François Maljean, Etterbeek Commune)
- 17:45-18:30 **Early findings on a study on remote voting** (speakers: Francisco Lupiáñez-Villanueva from Open Evidence and Axelle Devaux from RAND Europe)

Day two

- 9:00-9:30 **Opening**, including summary of previous day and presentation of amendment to the European political parties funding regulation (speaker: Enrico Forti, Director for Inter-Institutional Relations, European Commission Secretariat-General).
- 9:30-10:45 **Fifth thematic session** – practices in the identification, mitigation and management of risks to the electoral process from cyber-attacks and disinformation (Paolo Cesarini, DG CNECT; Karolina Mojzesowicz, DG JUST; Liisa Past, Chief Research Officer at the Estonian Information System Authority; Pierre Garrone, Head of the Venice Commission's Elections and Political Parties Division; Jakub Kalenský, EEAS East StratCom Task Force).
- 10:45-11:00 Break
- 11:00-12:00 **Member State discussion on practices** – round table brainstorm evaluating the practices discussed in the preceding sessions and in the discussion paper.
- 12:00-12:30 Close of event, wrap up.
- 12:30-14:00 Lunch
- 14:00-15:15 **Expert group on electoral matters** (exchange of views on crypto-tool testing and forward look)
- 15:15-15:30 Break
- 15:30-16:00 Expert group conclusions and AOB