

# PLENARY BOOKLET

## Identity and Democracy



**2 - 5 MAY**

**PLENARY SESSION**

**2022**

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# CONFERENCE ON THE FUTURE OF EUROPE: A WASTED OPPORTUNITY

Marco ZANNI, President ID Group



A year after the launch of the Conference on the Future of Europe, its conclusions confirm the predictions that we, as the Identity and Democracy Group, had already made about the usefulness of this experiment.

The fictitious project of direct citizen participation in the life of EU institutions, with which the Eurocrats had been filling their mouths for months, has in fact disappointed everyone.

Even those citizens who had been specifically selected by the COFE organizers and who were therefore not entirely out of line with the mainstream have, on more than one occasion, pointed out that they felt ignored by the very body that was supposed to collect their ideas for change. Most of the recommendations produced by the working panels were exploited by this or that party because they suited their respective political agendas, while others went completely unnoticed.

The results of this project give the idea of an effort for its own sake, marked by a general lack of interest on the part of politicians in the proposals put forward by the participants, especially when they did not align with the path already mapped out by the Commission and the majority parties.

All of this gives a good idea of a propaganda operation far removed from the needs of the citizens, the umpteenth in which this Commission has tried its hand at wasting an opportunity. Maximum effort for minimum results.



Marco Zanni, President ID Group, Italian delegation - LEGA PER SALVINI PREMIER

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# CONFERENCE ON THE FUTURE OF EUROPE

## Gunnar BECK, 2nd Vice-President ID Group



What had to become a feast of citizen participation and basic democracy, became a grotesque display of censorship.

The Conference of the Future of Europe has turned out to be an echo chamber for eurofederalist ideas, where any voice of criticism was silenced and ridiculed.

The only form of citizen participation that the europhiles couldn't censor was the Multilingual Digital Platform, where citizens could register and voice their opinion on various topics, without the careful help of EU-appointed experts.

On this platform, EU criticism was plenty, and widely supported.

However, the EU decided to shut down the platform, and the critical ideas voiced by the citizens were not taken into account when drafting the conclusions of the Conference.

The result is clear: a eurofederalist precursor to another attempt at an EU Constitution, calling for the establishment of an EU army, a fiscal Union, an EU Ministry of Truth, transnational election lists, advocating for even more immigration and against the unanimity principle in Council.

All this with the apparent approval of 800 hand-picked white, educated, middle- to upper-class citizens.

This is not a great experiment in democratic participation, but an exercise in mass manipulation and censorship.



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# THREATS TO THE SAFETY OF JOURNALISTS AND MEDIA FREEDOM ON THE OCCASION OF WORLD PRESS FREEDOM DAY



Marco CAMPOMENOSI, Italian Delegation

Journalists have faced violence and intimidation for exercising a fundamental right to freedom of expression. The range of threats we have witnessed across the world include murder, kidnapping, hostage-taking, offline and online harassment, intimidation, enforced disappearances, arbitrary detention and torture.

Freedom of the media is essential to enable democratic, free and participative societies. Journalists and the media are crucial to ensure transparency and accountability for public and governmental authorities. Yet media freedom and the safety of journalists are under threat around the globe.

In recent years, we have observed a rise in the scale and number of attacks against the physical safety of journalists and media workers, as well as incidents affecting their ability to exercise freedom of media, among many other attacks on fundamental rights. We clearly cannot remain silent regarding these attacks.

We have witnessed many cases in this democratic chamber, one of the latest ones being the case of journalist Daphne Caruana Galiza.

Last year we all voted on a resolution to protect journalists and critical voices from abusive lawsuits, in which the

Parliament adopted a somewhat ambitious position. This has a starting point: free social media and protection of fundamental rights. Nevertheless, we, members of Lega, want to keep in mind that there are certain censorship interventions, such as the DSA, that do not align with the political line and values that we stand for; although we always look at the bigger picture: the integrity of this professional sector.

From Pacific Asia to Latin America, passing by Europe and the Middle East: without journalism there is no democracy and journalists are the guarantors of freedom. Journalism is threatened and it is our obligation and our will to defend it in order to protect our fragile freedom.



Journalism is threatened and it is our obligation and our will to defend it in order to protect our fragile freedom.



Marco Campomenosi, Head of Italian delegation - LEGA PER SALVINI PREMIER

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# FRENCH PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION



## Hélène LAPORTE, French Delegation

The re-election of Emmanuel Macron as President of the French Republic is anything but a victory for him: the worst elected contemporary President of the Fifth Republic elected with only 38% of registered voters, no support vote in the second round, a more than uncertain majority for the legislative elections next June.

The aura that surrounded his election in 2017 is forgotten because our patriotic ideas are progressing inexorably.

We can be proud of Marine Le Pen's campaign because victory is clearly on our side with 2 million more voters than in 2017, placing the Rassemblement National as the first opposition force, with a historic number of 13,288,686 votes.

In this context, the EU is facing a series of dangers because with Angela Merkel's departure and her replacement by a chancellor without much charisma, Emmanuel Macron seems to be in a stronger position than ever within the European Union.

For example, it is feared that Emmanuel Macron will lead Europe into tightening sanctions against Russia, even to the point of going on without Russian oil and gas, with disastrous inflationary consequences for our citizens.

It is also certain that the latter will push for a reform of the budgetary framework, and even consider new common loans to finance European policies of general interest.

The federalist vision of the EU embodied by Emmanuel Macron must be fought head on in the interest of our citizens.



**The federalist vision of the EU embodied by Emmanuel Macron must be fought head on in the interest of our citizens.**

Hélène Laporte, Head of French delegation - Rassemblement National

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# PERSECUTION OF MINORITIES ON THE GROUNDS OF BELIEF OR RELIGION



## Nicolaus FEST, German Delegation

Persecution and discrimination against anyone based on their beliefs or religion is unacceptable.

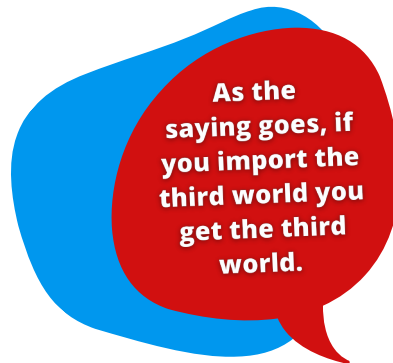
In fact we are regularly reminded by the EU about the persecution of all religions, apart from those who are most victimised, Christians, who account for 80% of those persecuted.

Why?

In this new climate of virtue signalling and cultural sensitivity, politicians are terrified to acknowledge the truth. Most politicians do not want to accept that their empty words and liberal actions have had dire consequences for Christians in Europe and around the world.

Take for example the terrorist atrocities committed on European soil by Islamists, or the drastic rise in attacks on Christians and churches in recent years. There is a clear correlation between the disastrous policy of facilitating mass migration onto the continent and the rise in attacks on Christian culture and western values.

As the saying goes, if you import the third world you get the third world. We, however, will continue to fight to protect the silent majority.



Nicolaus Fest, Head of German delegation - Alternative für Deutschland

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# EUROPEAN ELECTORAL LAW: A CHERRY ON THE FEDERALIST CAKE

Gerolf ANNEMANS, Flemish Delegation



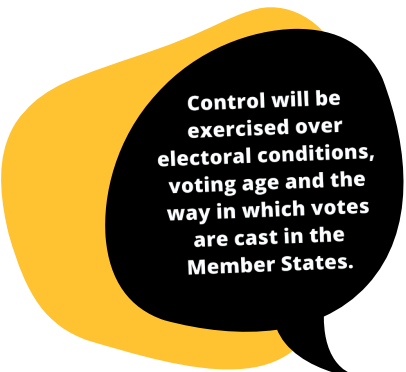
This week a new European electoral law was voted. After a single European economy, after a single European currency, after one European health system, some now want to move towards a single European 'democracy'. This electoral law is a cherry on the cake of the EU federalists.

If it is up to the European Parliament, voters will have to vote twice in the next European elections: once for a national list and once for a so-called transnational, European list that would be set up in all EU countries to elect 28 additional MEPs. It is also hoped that, in the future, control will be exercised over electoral conditions, voting age and the way in which votes are cast in the Member States. This new electoral law will also mean the reintroduction of the failed experiment of the 'Spitzenkandidaten'. There will be a European electoral authority to oversee this.

It is a dream of the centralist and federalist elite within the European Parliament to design the territory of the EU as a single electoral area with only one general electoral list - the transnational list. The national political parties are gradually being replaced by transnational European political parties, which later, logically, will and may only have one programme: the programme of further integration of this European Union.

Ideally, in their view, Member States should be abolished.

I therefore put my hopes in the Council and the Member States, because in the European Parliament it seems to be a foregone conclusion, where Christian Democrats are reluctantly following the Liberals, Socialists and Greens. Of course, everything must be done to prevent the Europhiles from systematically eroding the competence of the organization of elections and taking it away from the Member States.



**Control will be exercised over electoral conditions, voting age and the way in which votes are cast in the Member States.**



Gerolf Annemans, Head of Flemish delegation - Vlaams Belang



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# ARTICLE 7 PROCEDURE AGAINST HUNGARY IS A POLITICAL WITCH-HUNT



Harald VILIMSKY, Austrian Delegation

The Article 7 procedure against Hungary, which the Commission opened last week, is nothing other than a political witch-hunt, which the Left and the liberals, as well as the European People's Party, are celebrating in the plenary week in Brussels.

It is obvious that the EU and its left-liberal influencers are not satisfied with the Hungarian election results and that Viktor Orbán and his Hungarians must now pay the price. The external pressure of the left-liberal forces turned into a month-long gauntlet for the Hungarians by creating as many negative headlines as possible to make things as difficult as possible for Orbán and his Fidesz.

The end of Viktor Orbán and his Fidesz was enthusiastically announced in Brussels. But those who know the Hungarians realize that they are allergic to external influences. That is why they confirmed Viktor Orbán as prime minister in the elections all the more.

That is why this does not suit the Eurocrats. That is why the Hungarians and Orbán are being punished for it. The EU must once and for all stop continuing to deepen the rift between Western and Eastern European countries and respect democratic majority decisions.

Instead, solutions must finally be found for current problems.

We are witnessing what the Hungarians are doing every day for the refugees from Ukraine, who are really in need of help and urgently need to be taken care of.

The fact that the EU, in the middle of a crisis and as part of its political witch hunt, is cutting funding that is also needed for the Hungarians to provide for the masses of Ukrainian refugees, is a real shame.

The FPÖ will not join this political witch hunt. We will not support an Article 7 procedure against Poland or Hungary in the European Parliament this week.



The EU must once and for all stop continuing to deepen the rift between Western and Eastern European countries.



Harald Vilimsky, Head of Austrian Delegation - Freiheitliche Partei Österreich

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# NO LESSONS LEARNED FROM BREXIT



## Jaak MADISON, Estonian Delegation

The European Commission, together with the European Parliament, want to beat Poland and Hungary into submission, for allegedly violating the EU's rule of law standard, by instituting Article 7 proceedings, as well as the newly adopted conditionality mechanism. The fact that the legal jurisdictions of Member States attach different definitions to the concept of the 'rule of law' does not hinder European institutions from carrying out their ideological crusade.

We all know why Poland and Hungary are being made examples of. It is a warning to the other Member States to show what happens to those countries who do not follow Brussels' lead and are trying to keep their own national identity and constitutional traditions.

In Brussels' view, Poland and Hungary are in the wrong because of their opposition to the EU's migration policy and to policies advocating societal liberalism. As "bringing these countries to the light" has not worked out for Brussels, since liberal pro-EU parties have lost in elections time and time again, then the people of said countries must be punished for voting the wrong way.

Hungary is first as the European Commission goes ahead with its plan to cut funding through the conditionality mechanism. The timing is impeccable: just two days after its parliamentary

elections where the Fidesz party received the highest vote share by any party since the fall of communism in 1989.

Election observers concluded overall that the elections were free and fair. Complaints that opposition parties could not get enough national media coverage is absurd. How much fair media coverage does AfD or Rassemblement National receive in their countries?

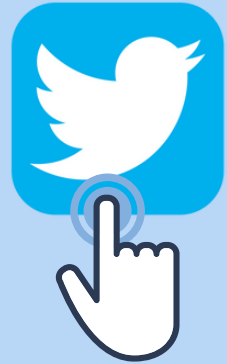
Poland and Hungary must adhere to impossible standards or otherwise the game is rigged because Brussels can never admit defeat. People in Hungary should have voted as Brussels wanted them to, now they will experience democracy by Brussels' standards.

Bureaucrats and federalists in Brussels are building up a new Moscow to relay orders to its vassals. The EU has been undemocratic for quite some time now and when unanimity voting is abolished by the "will of the people" (the Conference on the Future of Europe) then Brexit will not be the last time Member States leave the sinking ship.

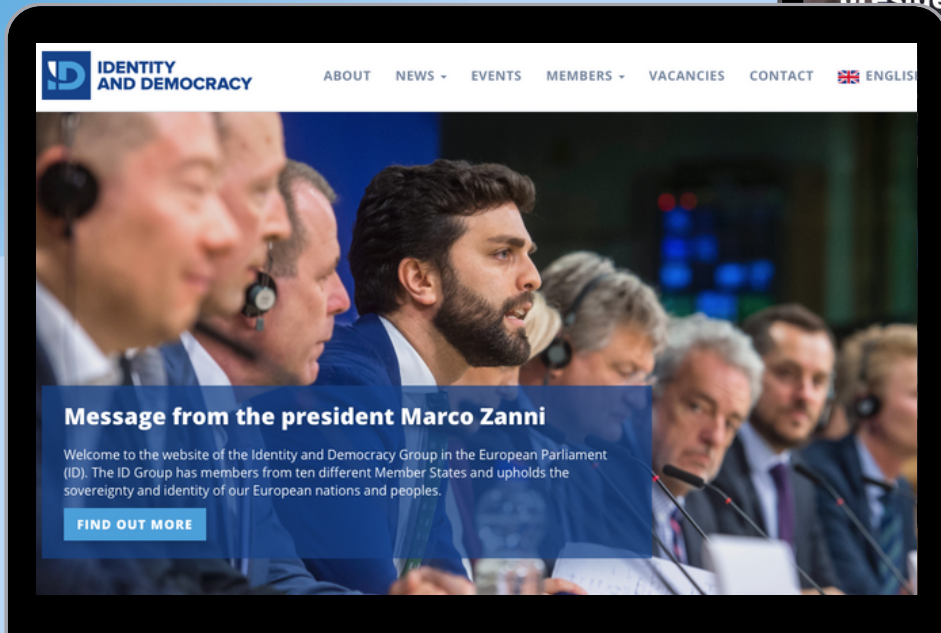
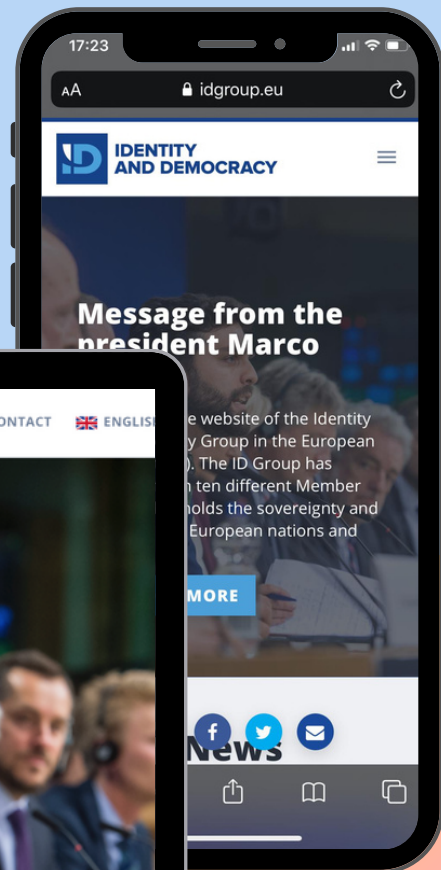


Jaak Madison, MEP Estonian Delegation -  
Eesti Konservatiivne Rahvaerakond

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# Defending the identity of peoples and the sovereignty of nations!

The Identity and Democracy group, founded in June 2019, has 65 members in the European Parliament, coming from 10 countries: Italy, France, Germany, Austria, Flanders (Belgium), Czech Republic, Finland, Denmark, Estonia, the Netherlands



**IDENTITY  
AND DEMOCRACY**

**IDENTITY AND DEMOCRACY GROUP**

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