

## **SPEAKERS' BIOGRAPHIES**

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### **ACCETTI, Carlo**

Carlo Invernizzi Accetti is Assistant Professor of Political Science at the City University of New York (City College) and Associate Researcher at the Center for European Studies of the Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris (Sciences Po). He holds a PhD in Political Science from Columbia University. His book entitled *Relativism and Religion. Why Democratic Societies Do Not Need Moral Absolutes*, was published by Columbia University Press in 2015. He has published numerous articles in leading international journals on topics such as: militant democracy, secularism, human rights, populism, technocracy and the contemporary crisis of party democracy.

Professor Accetti is also a regular commentator for several international media outlets, including: the Financial Times, the Wall Street Journal, Al Jazeera, Le Monde Diplomatique, Corriere della Sera and France 24. He is currently working on two parallel research projects: one on the nature and function of political parties in democratic societies and the other on populism and technocracy as complementary critiques of party democracy.

### **ALBUQUERQUE, João** *(not provided)*

YES Vice-President, Portugal.

### **ALDUMAN, Elif**

Elif Alduman is the president of KYM International, which is an International non-governmental organization that active in humanitarian aid a development fields in Brussels Belgium.

Mrs. Alduman was born in Heusden-Zolder Belgium on 7 June 1978. She graduated from Uludag University in Bursa Turkey with a bachelor of economics in 2001 afterwards began her Master program in Business Administration in Yeditepe University Istanbul and worked at the same time as the financial officer in an electronic engineering company in Istanbul in 2002. She moved to Brussels to study International MBA at KU Leuven Association EHSAL University in Brussels and complete her masters in 2005.

After receiving her education, Mrs Alduman began working in Lucerna College in Genk and in Antwerp in order to provide equal educational opportunities to students, in 2006 until 2008.

Elif Alduman has been in her current position since 2009 as the president of women and society platform of Fedactio (Federation of Active Associations of Belgium) which is a federation with 64 member associations in different cities in Belgium.

An active non-governmental organization member in several associations, Elif Alduman co-founded KYM International with other board members and elected as president in 2015.

### **ANTONESCU, Alexandra**

Alexandra Antonescu, Communications Manager, European Students' Union.

Alexandra holds a Master in Communication, "New Media and Society in Europe" from Vrije Universiteit Brussel and has several years of experience working in communications, event management and online marketing in Brussels-based organisations. Before joining ESU, she was producing high-level events on public policies at EU level on topics ranging from education and culture to ICT and employment. During her Bachelor studies she was actively involved in several student organisations in Romania. She is now working as Communications Manager at the European Students' Union (ESU). She speaks fluently English, French, Romanian and intermediate German.

### **BÁRÁNY, Balázs**

Member of MSZP National Presidium, he is a 29 years old political scientist, political manager, foreign policy advisor. Married, father of one.

High school diploma (2005) at Városmajori High School Budapest, University Degree (2010): political science, Eötvös Lóránd University.

Speaks Hungarian as mother tongue, fluent in English and German, beginner in Serbian.

Member of the local government of the municipality Solymár (Pest county) since 2014.

Member of the national presidium of the Hungarian Socialist Party since 2014.

Founding member and deputy chair of the Youth Division of the Hungarian Socialist Party. Chair of the MSZP Third Wave platform between 2012 and 2016.

Joined the Hungarian Socialist Party in 2007.

Main topics and fields of interest: foreign affairs, youth policies and sports financing.

### **BEKE, Károly**

Károly is a 34 years old agricultural engineer, advisor at the Office of the Hungarian Parliament, Hungary. His subjects are: rural development, sustainable development, agricultural policy, and environment and green policy.

He is the member of MSZP National Presidium and he works on several issues with different NGOs and new political movements in Hungary. He also leads the territorial organization of MSZP in Mosonmagyaróvár."

### **BENIFEI, Brando**

Brando Benifei, 30, European Federalist, is one of the youngest MEPs and is from La Spezia, Italy. He has been chair of European affairs for the Young Democrats and Vice-President of ECOSY (youth organization of PES) for 4 years. He joined the PES working group, which originally drafted the European Youth Guarantee. His main fields of legislative work in the EP are Employment and social affairs and Foreign affairs. He is co-chair of the Youth Intergroup and vice-chair of the Disability Intergroup.

### **BERIEVSKI, Nikolay**

Nikolay Berievski is the International Secretary of the Youth Union of the Bulgarian Socialist Party, a member of the National Council – in the Youth Union, Political Expert at the Foreign Relations and International Affairs Department of the Bulgarian Socialist Party and a co-author at the Center for European and International Studies (CEIS). He has been providing advice and information to the Executive Board, National Council and committees of the Youth Union on various international topics. Nikolay has worked on developing partnerships and improving relationships with other political parties. He has represented the Youth Union at official meetings abroad.

As a Political Expert at the Foreign Relations and International Affairs Department of the Bulgarian Socialist Party, Nikolay has been organizing and preparing party officials for high-level international meetings, initiatives, and conferences. He is also responsible for the dialog between the Bulgarian Socialist Party and the Party of the European Socialists. Nikolay has maintained excellent relations with the parties' representatives to the European Parliament as well as various foreign diplomats accredited to Bulgaria. He has managed a number of public discussions and conferences on a wide range of European and Global topics.

Nikolay has also taken a leading role in a number of projects tasked to support several election campaigns. As a co-author at the Center for European and International Studies (CEIS) he has worked on the scientific publication: "For a stronger Southeast Europe: Regional cooperation" as well as the article "Is a Western Balkans Sub-region Possible?". Nikolay has a Bachelor degree in Economics with an

emphasis on Global Trade, EU Cohesion Funds, Global Financial Markets, and Taxation from the Marketing, Trade, and Management College in Sofia, Bulgaria.

### **BOROS, Tamás**

Tamás Boros is a political analyst and the co-director of Policy Solutions political research institute, which is based in Budapest and Brussels. He is also a member of the Scientific Council of the Foundation for European Progressive Studies (FEPS).

Tamás Boros is regularly invited by Hungary's leading news channels as a political commentator, and he also frequently gives interviews to the most important Hungarian and international newspapers (Financial Times, The Economist). His publications and articles mainly focus on Hungarian politics, euroscepticism, right-wing extremism and populism.

Tamás Boros previously worked as a specialist in European affairs and communications for the European Commission and the Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He had also served as the director of a non-profit organization, Pillar Foundation, for four years.

### **BUYSE, Jutta**

Jutta Buyse (sp.a: Flemish socialists, \*1978) is the councillor (schepen/échevin) in charge of Dutch-speaking affairs in the Brussels municipality Vorst/Forest. She is in charge of the Dutch-speaking schools in the municipality, the construction of new crèches and cultural policy (including our multimedia library bli:b). Jutta became active in progressive politics when she joined the young socialists. She is a native of Brussels and was raised in Dutch and German. Her academic training is in sociology (Free University of Berlin and University of Philadelphia). In 2014 she was a candidate for the European Parliament on the sp.a list.

### **CARRER, Sara**

Sara is a Senior Advisor and a member of the Board of ThinkYoung, the first European think tank that focuses on young people. ThinkYoung is a not for profit organisation founded in 2007 and with offices in Brussels, Geneva and Hong Kong. Based on its research on young people's needs and aspirations, ThinkYoung creates trainings and workshops to empower youth with the tools to have a positive impact and make a change.

Sara is a Senior Director for Europe, Middle-East and Africa of Burson-Marsteller, a leading global public relations and strategic communications firm. She is in charge of New Business Development for the EMEA region and she is based in Brussels.

Sara is a Founding member of RENA – Rete per l'Eccellenza Nazionale (Network for National Excellence), an Italian association of Young Professionals which aims at promoting transparency, competition, meritocracy and innovation at all levels in Italy.

She has a solid international background, having worked and studied in London, Geneva and Brussels. She worked at the European Commission, at the UN and WTO. She was Manager for European Affairs at EFMD (European Foundation for Management Development) in Brussels for two years.

Sara holds a university degree in International and Diplomatic Studies and an M.A in European Studies at the College of Europe in Bruges (Belgium).

Sara, of Italian origin, is fluent in English, French and Spanish.

### **COPPI, David** *(not provided)*

Journalist for *Le Soir*, Belgium.

### **CROMBEZ, John**

John Crombez (born 19 September 1973) is a Belgian politician from Oostende. He has been leader of the Flemish Socialist Party (sp.a) since 2015. In the Di Rupo Government (2011-2014) he was Secretary of State for combatting fraud.

In 2009, Crombez was elected to the Flemish Parliament, where he was parliamentary leader from July 2010 to December 2011 and has been again since September 2014.

Crombez has a PhD in economics from Ghent University.

### **D'ALEMA, Massimo**

Massimo D'Alema is the current and first President of the FEPS, elected in 2010.

In 1998 Mr. D'Alema became Prime Minister of Italy. He was in office until 2000. On the same year, he was elected President of the Democrats of the Left (DS). In 2003, he was elected Vice-President of the S.I. In 2004 Mr D'Alema became a Member of the European Parliament, where he holds the position of Chair of the EP Delegation for relations between the EU and the Mercosur.

Mr. D'Alema is currently a member of the Chamber of Deputies and since January 2010 he is the Chairman of COPASIR (Parliamentary Committee for the Security of the Republic) which is responsible for the Parliamentary control on intelligence services. He has also been the President of a political Foundation Fondazione di cultura politica Italianeuropei since 2000.

Massimo D'Alema's political activities began in 1963. From 1975 to 1980 he was General Secretary of the Italian Young Communists' Federation (FGCI). In 1987 he was elected member of the Italian Parliament. In 1989, he was actively engaged in the process which transformed the Italian Communist Party into the Democratic Party of the Left (PDS).

In 1992 Mr. D'Alema became President of the PDS parliamentary group in the Chamber of Deputies. He was re-elected MP both in 1994 and 1996. In 1994 he was elected General Secretary of the PDS. In 1997 Massimo D'Alema was elected Chair of the parliamentary Committee on Constitutional reform.

In 2006 he was elected MP for Apulia representing the Olive Tree coalition. In 2006 he was appointed deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Secretary in the Prodi government. In 2008 he was elected MP for Apulia representing the Democratic Party (PD).

He studied Philosophy at the University of Pisa. He is a professional journalist and was Chief Editor of the daily newspaper "L'Unità" from 1988 to 1990.

EndFragment

### **DE DEKEN, Alien**

Alien De Deken (1989) has a Master in International Politics, and a bachelors degree in Journalism. Professionally Alien De Deken is the Marketing Coordinator and Sustainability Program Lead for an Environmental consultancy company. She is marketing their services in the Benelux and leading ERM's work on improving internal sustainability performance. Prior to that, Alien was In charge of an Educational project for an NGO for young people from socially disadvantaged backgrounds.

Since two years Alien De Deken is involved in the organization Climate Express. Being part of the Network Team she represents Climate express at conferences and debates. Climate Express is a growing group of enthusiastic volunteers. Politically unrestrained, Climate Express strive for a firm and collaborative approach to climate issues. Under the positive vibe of "#movetheclimate", Climate Express mobilized 20,000 Belgians around Cop21 and Climate by bike, train or bus.

### **DEZELAN, Tomaž**

Tomaž Deželan is Vice-Dean for Quality Assurance and Development and Associate Professor of Political Science at the Faculty of Social Sciences at the University of Ljubljana. He also acts as a researcher at the

Centre for Political Science Research at the same faculty. He is a research partner of the Slovenian Erasmus + Youth in Action National Agency and policy advisor for youth political participation of the Organization for the Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE ODIHR), European Youth Forum (EYF) and the International IDEA. He recently authored several publications of youth political participation. His other research interests include citizenship concepts, debates and regimes, new modes of governance, parliamentary cohesion, electoral studies, gender and civil society. He has authored or co-authored more than 40 peer reviewed articles in international scientific journals, more than 30 chapters in scientific edited volumes published by distinguished publishing houses and authored or co-authored more than 10 scientific monographs. He has experience with international research projects and networks, either as coordinator or as a researcher. Past projects he worked on have been funded by the Slovenian research agency, European Union's FP6 framework, European Science Foundation and various other national agencies and international organizations. He actively acts as an higher education accreditation expert, EVS accreditation expert and expert evaluator of the EC programmes on the EU and national levels.

### **DI RUPO, Elio**

Having lived in very modest conditions when he was a young boy, Elio Di Rupo understands at the time that school is his greatest chance of emancipation. This led him to complete a PhD in Science at the University of Mons.

His political career starts in 1982 when he becomes municipal Councillor of the Socialist Party in Mons.

In 1989, he becomes a Member of the European Parliament.

In 1994, he becomes Vice-Prime Minister and Minister of Communications and Public enterprises. During the constitution of the next government, he is named Vice-Prime Minister and Minister of Economy and telecommunications. He will also be in charge of foreign trade in 1998.

In 1999, he becomes the Minister-President of the Walloon Region. A few months later, he is elected President of the Socialist Party.

In 2000, he becomes Mayor of Mons.

In June 2010, following a strong nationalist surge in Flanders, Belgium will be embarked in the longest period of crisis of its history. During 541 days, Belgians will be without a federal government.

Elio Di Rupo will finally manage to form a government in December 2011. Belgium then reached a growth rate above the average of the Eurozone and is one of the only European countries where inequities have not increased due to the economic and financial crisis.

He leaves his position as Prime Minister in October 2014 and is reelected President of the Socialiste Party. He once again becomes Mayor in function of Mons, European capital of Culture 2015.

### **EDOBOR, Martin**

Dr Martin Edobor is a NHS Doctor specializing in General Practice and the National Chair of the Young Fabians, the under-31 section of the Fabian Society, a UK center-left think tank. He went to University College London where he obtained a Bachelor in Medical Anthropology and MBBS in Medicine. He is currently studying a Masters in Philosophy, Politics and Economics of Health at University College London and his research thesis is looking at the issue of personal responsibility in healthcare. He is the founder and former Chair of the Young Fabian Health Network, where he co-edited the publications Closing the Gap and Irreversible. He sits on the Fabian Society Executive committee and also represents the Young Fabians on the Young Labour National Executive committee. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts and a founding member of Consensus, a non-aligned organization fostering open and inclusive debate amongst different wings of the Labour Party. He is a member of the United Kingdom Labour Party and the trade unions BMA and GMB. In 2014 the Voice Magazine described him as "The one to watch" and in 2013 he was identified as a future leader by Powerlist Magazine.



### **EIGHTEEN, Dennis**

SPD Campaign Advisor to the Executive Board  
Deputy Party Leader Chief of Staff

Dennis Eighteen (Germany, 1975) is Chief of Staff to the deputy chairman of the SPD since December 2009. From October 2014 until February 2015 he was delegated by the executive committee of the SPD to the re-election campaign of the mayor of Hamburg. Between 2012 and 2013 he was Coordinator field operations ("Campaigner Project") of the Peer Steinbrück for Chancellor Campaign. In October 2012 he was delegated by the executive committee of the SPD to the re-election campaign of President Obama (Powell, Ohio).

### **ELOOT, Karen**

Since one year I'm the ACV Gender & Equal Opportunities Coordinator.

I'm a member of ITUC, Platform BE-Gender and the Raad van Gelijke Kansen voor mannen en vrouwen. I was lucky to participate at the first S&D Youth for Gender Equality Forum in 2016. I have a master in Educational Sciences. Especially interested in gender & diversity, feminism, activism, work-life balance and storytelling...

You can find our organisation on Twitter through @ACVonline.

### **FELON, Maxime** (not provided)

President, Youth Socialist Movement, Belgium.

### **GAMBARDELLA, Elisa**

Elisa Gambardella was born in 1991 in Genoa, Italy, where she started being involved in politics in 2008, joining the FGS - Italian Socialist Youth Federation, and its mother party, the PSI - Italian Socialist Party.

Deeply interested in the European dimension of politics since the beginning of her activism, in 2012 she was appointed as the PES Italian contact person for the European Youth Guarantee campaign. In 2013, right after the achievement of the Bachelor's degree with honors in International Relations - the thesis, in International Law, was published in 2015 - Elisa joined the staff of the Policy Unit of the Minister of Labor and Social Policies, where her main task has been since then the Youth Guarantee scheme. She is the author, together with the economist Daniele Fano and the journalist Francesco Margiocco, of the book *Garanzia Giovani - La sfida*, published in 2015, where the authors analyse the main and intrinsic challenges of the Youth Guarantee implementation in Italy.

Meanwhile she kept her interests in politics and studies alive. She is now completing a master in European Studies at the University of Roma Tre, where she enrolled in 2014. Concerning the political activity, she focused especially on the youth organisation: in 2013 she was elected as a member of the national board of the Student association RUN-Rete Universitaria Nazionale. In 2014 her allure for the European side of politics arose once again: she was elected FGS representative in the Bureau of YES-Young European Socialists. It is thanks to the YES activities, which she attends since 2011, that she met and appreciated the feminist movement and she learnt more and more the several aspects of gender equality as a daily-based issue. The topic became so important for her that she decided to run and she was elected as Feminist Network Coordinator of YES in 2015. Thanks to this new role, she leads the elaboration of campaigns, workshops and training activities concerning gender equality in the Young European Socialists community. In 2015 she was also appointed as deputy national secretary of her national organisation - FGS. In early 2016 she became a member of the Council of the magazine established by Pietro Nenni, *Mondoperaio*, and she has been lately elected as a member of the PSI National Assembly.



So here she is: she doesn't know what boredom is, she loves to travel and to find out new challenges where she can try to give her best.

### **GEROSA, Andrea**

Entrepreneur, working with and for startups and young people since 2002, starting at university when he joined the junior enterprise network.

Today Andrea is the founder and Chief Thinker of a think-tank on Millennials ([www.thinkyoung.org](http://www.thinkyoung.org)) with offices in Geneva, Brussels and Hong Kong, a series of schools for young entrepreneurs in Europe, Asia and Africa ([www.entrepreneurshipschool.com](http://www.entrepreneurshipschool.com)) and a co-working space for start-ups in Geneva ([www.tunnel15.ch](http://www.tunnel15.ch)).

Moreover in 2014 Andrea has been appointed to the Executive Board of Rentxpress SA, an online agency that enables travellers to rent more than 10'000 plug&play accommodations all around the world ([www.rentxpress.com](http://www.rentxpress.com)).

### **GOODFELLOW, Maya**

Maya Goodfellow is a political writer, researcher and activist based in London. She writes regularly for political blog LabourList; Media Diversified, a website that cultivates and promotes writers of colour; and online newspaper, The Independent. She is also studying for a PhD at the School of African and Oriental Studies (SOAS), University of London. Maya writes mostly on British and international politics, race and feminism. She tweets @MayaGoodfellow

### **GÖKCEN, Gökçe**

Gökçe Gökçen, born in 1991 in İstanbul, studied at Galatasaray High School and Galatasaray University, Law Faculty in İstanbul, Turkey. She obtained her licence as attorney-at-law in 2015. Working as research assistant at Marmara University in İstanbul, she follows the Masters programme on "Protection of Human Rights in Europe" at Strasbourg University in France. She speaks English and French fluently.

In the year of 2010, she joined at CHP Youth Organisation in Bakırköy, one of the main districts in İstanbul. She was nominated as vice-president of CHP Youth Bakırköy in 2010, and elected for the same position in 2012. She held the presidency of the CHP Youth's commission for the constitutional reform in Turkey and took part in the campaigning process of several elections such as 2010, 2011, 2014, June 2015 and November 2015. Her articles on the Gezi movement, LGBT pride İstanbul, CHP Youth's organisational structure and feminism was published in several websites and magazines.

In 2013, she was nominated as the International Secretary of the CHP Youth Organisation on the national level and started to represent CHP Youth in Young European Socialists as Bureau Member. In April 2015, she was elected as Vice-President of Young European Socialists, being the first YES Vice-President from Turkey. Her portfolios in this position are feminism and foreign policy.

### **GURMAI, Zita**

Zita Gurmai was elected as President of PES Women for the first time on 21 October 2004. She has been re-elected President on 27 September 2012.

Her ambition is to work with PES Women members to strengthen PES Women's activities within a reinvigorated PES. Zita Gurmai has been active in Hungarian and international women's movements since the early 1990s. In 1995, she became involved in the women's section of the Hungarian Socialist Party, after which she was elected President of the organization in 2001. One of her first major initiatives as President was to launch the "Women for Change" movement, often referred to as "yellow scarf movement", which was successful in advocating the introduction of gender quotas in the Hungarian Socialist Party.

Zita was instrumental in establishing and directing three foundations (Women in Public, Our Future, the Europe of the new Millennium Foundation and the Real Equal Opportunities Foundation) in Hungary which seek to improve gender equality in different areas. Zita plays an important role in the activities of the Central and Eastern European Network for Gender Issues which was set up in 1998. The mission of the network is to assist progressive women from socialist and social democratic parties and NGOs in organizing and promoting gender equality campaigns and initiatives.

Elected as an MP in April 2002, Zita worked on the Hungarian Parliament's Committees on European Integration and Foreign Affairs. In the first European elections of the EU of 25 member states (June 2004), Zita was elected Member of the European Parliament. During the 2004-09 European Parliament term, she was Vice-President of the Parliament's Women's Rights and Gender Equality Committee and a member of Regional Development Committee. In 2009, she was re-elected as Member of the European Parliament and was appointed Vice-President of European Parliament's Constitutional Affairs Committee. Amongst other activities, Zita also promotes gender equality and women's rights in the Global Progressive Forum project.

### **HENAFF, Quentin**

Graduate in political sciences, Quentin Henaff (23 years) is the current National Secretary of youth of *Mouvement des Jeunes Socialistes*. He actually lives in Paris where he is preparing the competition for access to the public service. He began to campaign with young socialists in 2010 when he arrived in Sciences Po Grenoble (University). He became Federal animator of MJS Isere from 2011 to 2013 and was actively involved in French Presidential and Legislative elections. After an exchange semester in the University of Amsterdam (Erasmus), he was nominated in the National Secretary of MJS in 2014. He contributed to a collective report on public policies of the youth people and wrote several articles on the young socialists' reform proposal of public education in France, from primary school to university. In summer 2014, he worked in the office of French Minister of Education. Since 2015, he has joined the executive committee of *Forum Français de la Jeunesse* (FFJ) and he has been responsible for enhancing international and European relationships between youth organizations. Created in the wake of François Hollande election (2012), this forum brings together the most representative youth organizations so as to formulate requirements to French public authorities. In 2016, he joined *Agir Ensemble Pour Les Droits de l'Enfant*, an association which defends children's rights and makes the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child widely known to adults and children.

### **HERR, Julia**

Born on the 28th November 1992 (Sigleß)

She became President of Sozialistische Jugend Österreich (SJÖ) in 2014. Although SJÖ implemented a series of tools to improve the balance between the genders and was always one of the leading youth organizations when it came to feminism, she was the first woman to be elected to this position and also the youngest President in the History of her Organization.

Since her election in 2014 until today the position of SJÖ became much stronger. Not only inside the Mother-Party SPÖ, but also Austrian-wide.

In her position as President of SJÖ she campaigned for a broad variety of topics. Besides campaigning for the legalization of cannabis or the modernization of sexual education she also is a strong voice against trade agreements like TTIP and along with that SJÖ fights for better rights for workers and people who are unemployed – beside many other topics.

Inside SPÖ, SJÖ and Julia Herr are fighting for a more democratic, more open party and to remind Social Democracy why we are here, and what our roots are! In 2015 she co-founded the inner-party Movement „Kompass“.

### **HILL, Caroline**

Caroline Hill is the recently elected national chair of Young Labour, the youth wing of the Labour Party. She is 25 years old and is a newly-qualified primary school teacher, teaching 7 to 8 year olds, at a state primary school in north London. After studying French and Spanish at University College London, she spent a year studying for a Postgraduate Certificate in Education at Homerton College, University of Cambridge. Whilst at UCL, she worked as a teacher in Misiones, northeast Argentina, with the British Council and did a semester as an ERASMUS student at the Université d'Avignon.

Caroline represented trade unions on the Young Labour national committee for three years before being elected chair and is a member of the National Union of Teachers. In her role, she founded the Labour Young Trade Unionists network; a national network empowering young trade unionists to campaign for trade union candidates in the 2015 General Election.

### **HUUMONEN, Hanna**

Hanna Huumonen, 27, is the president of Social Democratic Students in Finland – SONK and board member of Rainbow Rose. She has made a career in the Finnish student movement and previously worked as the president of Finnish Students Sports Federation. Hanna's expertise lies in education, human rights, sports and LGBT issues. She was widely recognized in publicity in the spring 2016 for her fight against anti-immigrant propaganda and hate speech. She was awarded the Young Activist award in Finland for her work against hate speech and she has become one of the leading figures of the anti-racist movement in Finland.

### **INCIR, Evin**

Evin Incir, Secretary General of IUSY- International Union of Socialist Youth

Born in Kurdish parts of Turkey, but moved with her parents to Sweden at the age of 6. Has studied law at Uppsala University and has been active within the Social Democratic Party and its youth league since the age of 14. Has been working as communication officer for the social democratic parliamentarian of Uppsala County. Has also been working as project manager in the International Department of the Social Democratic Party of Sweden. Furthermore, was spokesperson for Foreign Issues in the national board of SSU- Swedish Social Democratic Youth League. International Politics has always been an issue close to the heart. Solidarity must never see any borders.

### **INGUL, Marte**

Political Advisor for Governing Mayor of Oslo Mr. Raymond Johansen.

Marte Ingul (1983) was head of communication for the governing mayor's election campaign. Before that she was head of communication for the Norwegian Labour Party. During the European Parliament Election in 2014 she worked as digital strategist for Martin Schulz common candidate campaign. She has also worked for the Norwegian Peace Corps, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and for the Labour party leadership in the Norwegian Parliament. Her academic background is journalism, comparative politics and digital communication management.

### **JABLONOWSKI, Kuba**

Kuba Jablonowski is a political geographer and doctoral candidate at the University of Exeter, England. His research on 'precarious citizenship' empirically explores political agency of European migrant workers in Britain to establish how migrants engage with local groups, grassroots initiatives and political parties, how they claim rights with the support of community associations and trade unions, and how such localized political practices link with larger, national and transnational, scales. His academic background is in international relations (Poznan, Poland), and development and security studies (Bristol, England).

Formerly, he was an international election observer in Ukraine and Kyrgyzstan, conducted empirical research on radical Muslim movements in Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan, and worked on a number of community development, migrants' rights and public health projects in the inner city of Bristol. He is a member of the FEPS Young Academics Network and a postgraduate fellow of the Royal Geographical Society / Institute of British Geographers.

#### **JOSEFSON, Marilyn**

Marilyn Josefson is currently working as political advisor to Helga Schmid, Deputy Secretary General and Political Director at the European External Action Service, mainly following developments in Syria, Libya and EU-Russia relations. She is a Swedish diplomat and has previously served at the embassies in the Netherlands, Ethiopia and Zambia; as well as worked for the United Nations in Ukraine and Brussels. However, her first overseas posting was in the Democratic Republic of Congo working for Doctors without Borders. Marilyn Josefson is a sociologist and political scientist by training, but also has a background as a recording artist in mainly Japan and Sweden.

#### **JUTILA ROON, Merja**

Dr. Merja Jutila Roon earned her Ph.D. in Political Science from the City University of New York (CUNY) in 2010. Her dissertation dealt with welfare state change in Finland following the 1990s economic crisis. Dr. Jutila Roon has been employed at the social democratic think tank Kalevi Sorsa Foundation in Helsinki, Finland since 2013. There she works on issues of democracy, elections and political participation. Prior to relocating to Helsinki, Dr. Jutila Roon worked as Assistant Director at the European Union Studies Center of the CUNY Graduate Center and taught European politics at Hunter College.

#### **KASKI, Ragnhild**

Ragnhild Kaski is the Secretary general of the Norwegian labour youth (AUF), since the fall of 2014. In 2015 she was in charge of the election campaign in AUF, directed towards first time voters. She has earlier been a member of the central board of AUF and the campaign advisor.

In addition she is a deputy member of the Parliament of Norway, and member of the county council in the county of Finnmark. She is 26 years old and has been an active member of the labour party for 10 years.

#### **KNAUS, Verena** *(not provided)*

Senior Policy Advisor, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), Brussels Office.

#### **KUMAR, Sanjeev**

CEO & Founding Director, Change Partnership

Sanjeev Kumar founded Change Partnership a thinking and action- oriented NGO focused on solving the politics of climate change, in 2013. Change Partnership focuses on effective design and implementation of carbon pricing, managing the social aspects of transition to sustainability and the electrification of surface transport.

He has been proactively involved in European climate change and energy policy for over 10 years with expertise in carbon markets with particular emphasis on the EU Emissions Trading System (EU ETS). He was a Senior Associate of E3G between 2010-2014 and previously led the EU ETS reform campaign for WWF from 2007.

Prior to moving to Brussels, Sanjeev was Business Development Manager for the Energy Institute in the UK where he was responsible for designing professional qualifications, training courses, technical committees and mentoring schemes.

He read History at Queen Mary University and Energy, technology and economics at City University both in London.

### **MAGNETTE, Paul**

Paul Magnette is born in 1971 and lives in Charleroi since his childhood. After studying political science and European integration at the Université libre de Bruxelles – ULB (1989-1994), he specializes in the history of political thought at the University of Cambridge (1994-95) with a grant from the Wiener-Anspach foundation.

In 1995, he receives a mandate from the Fund for Scientific Research (FNRS) to prepare a doctoral thesis on European citizenship that he defends in 1999. He then becomes a research fellow at the FNRS (1999-2001) and then professor of political science and Director of the Institute of European Studies at the ULB (2001-2007). Together with Pascal Delwit and Jean-Michel De Waele, he simultaneously creates the Center for political studies (CEVIPOL) of the ULB.

As a guest at many universities in Europe and North America, he publishes thirty books, receives several scientific awards (including Jean Rey, Alumni, Franqui, Emile Bernheim) and participates in numerous international conferences. He is regularly invited to analyze the political news in the Belgian and French media, and is recognized as being one of the best experts of the European Union.

In spring 2007, at the request of the PS Chairman, Elio Di Rupo, he agrees to take guardianship of the PS in Charleroi and pulls the city out of the political crisis in which it had been for months. Three weeks later, Paul Magnette becomes Minister of Health, Social Action and Equal Opportunities within the Walloon Government, while continuing to lead the PS in Charleroi. In late December 2007, Paul Magnette is appointed Federal Minister for Climate and Energy in charge of Environment, Sustainable Development and Consumer Protection under the Verhofstadt III government, and under the Leterme I, II and Van Rompuy I governments.

In 2009, Paul Magnette is elected to the Walloon Parliament. He becomes senator in 2010 and is appointed Minister of Public Enterprises, Scientific Policy, Development Cooperation, in charge of Larger cities in December 2011. He becomes Commander of the Order of Leopold.

In October 2012, he wins the local elections in Charleroi, Wallonia's largest city. He takes his mayor office in January 2013. On the same date, he is appointed Acting President of the Socialist Party. He is re-elected to the Walloon Parliament in May 2014 with 49,978 preference votes. Since 22 July 2014, Paul Magnette is the Minister-President of the Walloon Government.

### **MOKOELE, Duduetsang**

Duduetsang Mokoale joined MISTRA as an Assistant Researcher in the Knowledge Economy and Scientific Advancement faculty from February 2015, after her role at the Department of Science and Technology facilitating partnerships with global networks and multilateral agencies to enhance innovation capacity locally and in the region. She is also the coordinator for the MISTRA Youth network. MISTRA is an initiative aimed at engaging the youth and youth issues in the policy and research sphere.

### **MURPHY, Emma**

Emma C. Murphy is a Professor of Political Economy and Head of the School of Government and International Affairs at Durham University. Her research focuses on contemporary political economy of the Middle East and North Africa, very much from the perspective of the region's location within global structures and networks. Having begun her career working on Israel and Palestine, she moved in the 1990s to study economic and political liberalization processes, specifically in Tunisia and the wider Maghreb, and then more recently to studying the structural and public attributes of information and communications technologies as they spread through the region. Since 2011 she has been working on

youth and generation, editing a special issue of *Mediterranean Politics* on Arab Youth and Politics in 2012 and participating in two major FP7 projects, SAHWA and POWER2YOUTH, for the latter of which she is coordinating a work package on European youth policy in the Eastern and Southern Mediterranean.

She has worked with the British Council on its Hammamet Conference Steering Committee, which brings together young leaders from North Africa and the United Kingdom and is currently writing a monograph entitled *Lost in Transition: A Political Economy of Arab Youth*. Previous publications include: *Economic and Political Change in Tunisia: From Bourguiba to Ben Ali*, (Macmillan, Basingstoke, 1999), *Israel: Challenges to Identity, Democracy and the State* (with Clive Jones, Routledge, December 2001), and *The International Politics of the Red Sea* (with A. Ehteshami, Routledge, London, 2011).

She is a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Arts and of the Academy of Social Sciences, and sits on the editorial boards of the Journal of Mediterranean Politics, and the Turkish journal *Ortadogu Etudleri*.

### **NEGRESCU, Victor**

Victor Negrescu is the coordinator of S&D40, the network of the young S&D MEPs in the European Parliament.

The youngest Romanian to get elected in the EP, he is the winner of the MEP Award 2015 for Digital Agenda.

President of PES activists Romania, an organization gathering more than 10.000 members interested in European issues and politics, he is the youngest ever vice-president of PSD Romania National Board.

Victor is also a university teacher and former digital entrepreneur with an MBA in executive business and a PhD in development cooperation.

Victor Negrescu is the founder of the Romanian Foundation for a Democratic Left gathering the most respected left wing Romanian intellectuals of the new wave.

### **LAFFEBER, Marije**

PES Deputy Secretary General.

Marije Laffeber (the Netherlands, 1974) is Deputy Secretary General of the Party of European Socialdemocrats (PES). She developed the first trans-European grassroots mobilisation strategy and the PES communication strategy for the 2014 European election campaign. From 2003 – 2012 she was elected International Secretary and 2nd vice-chair of the Dutch Labour Party (PvdA) and member of the PES presidency. She was active in the political youth movement, political secretary in the national board of the JS in the PvdA and Feminist Working group co-ordinator in the IUSY Presidium (1997 - 2001) Education: journalism and communication. Fields of expertise: international policy; gender equality and democracy building

### **LAMY, Pascal**

From 2005 to 2013, Pascal Lamy served for two consecutive terms as General Director of the World Trade Organization (WTO). He was Chief of Staff for the President of the European Commission, Jacques Delors from 1985 to 1994 and European Trade Commissioner from 1999-2004. Inbetween he was CEO of Credit Lyonnais between 1994 and 1999. Mr. Lamy holds degrees from HEC School of Management, the *Institut d'Etudes Politiques* (IEP) and the *Ecole Nationale d'Administration* (ENA).

Pascal Lamy was appointed, in Mai 2015, interministerial delegate for the preparation of the French candidature for the Universal Exhibition 2025. He currently shares his activities between the think tank Jacques Delors Institute, the presidency of the World Committee on Tourism Ethics, his participation to the Global Ocean Commission and to the Equitable Access Initiative (Global Fund for AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria) as well as different subjects related to International trade and economic affairs. He is also a member of the Board of Directors of the Fondation Nationale des Sciences Politiques of Paris, the



Thomson Reuters Founders Share Company and the Center on Regulation in Europe (CERRE), member of the Advisory Board of Transparency International and of the Oxford Martin School, of UNITAID and of a few international companies, member of the Business France Scientific Committee and affiliate Professor at HEC and serves as chair of the Global Agenda Council on global governance at the World Economic Forum.

Pascal Lamy also lectures on issues related to globalization, global governance, international trade, international economics, and regional integration, European and French issues.

### **LAURISTIN, Marju**

Marju Lauristin is an Estonian Member of the European Parliament and Vice-Chair of the Group of Socialists and Democrats. In the European Parliament she is an active member of the Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs Committee where she has been appointed rapporteur of the data protection directive, as well as shadow rapporteur of data protection regulation, EU-US umbrella agreement, and the committee's opinion on TTIP negotiations.

Mrs Lauristin has an academic career in social sciences and is a Professor in Tartu University since 1995. She was one of the establishing members of 'Rahvarinne' in 1988, the first large-scale independent political movement in Estonia since the beginning of the Soviet occupation. She has since been Chairman of the Estonian Social Democratic Party, deputy speaker of the Estonian parliament, minister of Social Affairs of Estonia, and member of the Estonian Parliament.

### **LAZA, Matthew**

Matthew was appointed Director of Policy Network in early 2016. Policy Network is a leading international progressive think-tank, which also brings together a unique global network of modernisers on the centre-left. Matthew is Editor-in-Chief of Policy Network's 'State of the Left', which curates contributions from around the world on the state of progressive politics.

In the run up to the 2015 UK general election Matthew was a senior adviser to the Leader of the Labour party on media strategy. Prior to returning to politics Matthew had a successful fifteen-year career in television, mostly at the BBC. As a senior current affairs programme maker he worked on a huge-range of content from the popular 'One Show' to acclaimed documentaries such as 'Posh and Posher: Why Do Public School Boys run Britain?'.

His return to politics is a return to his roots. Matthew was one of the leaders of Young Labour prior to the landslide 1997 election win which saw Labour return to power and he also led the main Labour Party pro-European organisation, campaigning for Britain's leading role in Europe.

### **LEWIS, David**

Founder and CEO of Audiencenet

David has more than 20 years experience of providing full-service consumer research, his specialism being in the music, entertainment and technology industries. David has been closely involved with the application of online research methodologies, across five continents, since their earliest inception. His innovative application of technology to consumer research has seen AudienceNet carve an increasing reputation as experts in research amongst Millennials. By first quantifying and profiling consumer groups globally, Audiencenet is able to build bespoke online communities, representative of key market segments, and moderate them via their offices in London, Washington and Melbourne, for the purpose of 24/7 qualitative consumer insights.

As a fellow of the Royal Statistics Society, a Full Member of the Market Research Society and with an academic background in Psychology, David regularly gives guest lectures on the application of consumer research methodology, and has been published on the subject by the UK Government.



### **LOMBARDOZZI, Lorena**

Ms. Lorena LombardoZZi is an Italian PhD candidate and teaching assistant in Economics at SOAS, University of London and City University. She holds a MSc from SOAS in Political Economy of Development. She received a previous Masters in Development Economics from University La Sapienza of Rome, Italy. Her doctoral research focuses on Agriculture and structural transformation in Central Asia. Her research interests include political economy, international trade and gender economics. She also worked in Uzbekistan from 2010 to 2012 for the UNODC in Central Asia, with the European Commission and various NGOs in Brussels and with the Italian Ministry of Foreign affairs in the field of development economics, agriculture and environmental policy.

### **LÓPEZ, Javi**

He is graduated in law from University Pompeu Fabra and has been a professor of law of the EU institutions at the same university. Has a UAB Master on Leadership of political and social management. He was First Secretary of the Socialist Youth of Catalonia since 2009. Between 2011 and 2014 was District Director and Spokesman of the Socialists' Party of Catalonia in Les Corts.

He was elected MEP in the European Parliament Elections of 2014. He is the holder of the Spanish Socialist delegation in the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs and member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Delegation to the Euro-Latin American Parliamentary Assembly of the European Parliament.

Mr López publishes regularly in various media such as The Huffington Post, eldiario.es or El Periódico.

### **LYUBENVOVA, Lora**

Lora Lyubenova is Bulgarian and currently her home city is Sofia. She has been active in different youth organisations at local, national and international level. She has been nominated for a Board member of European Youth Forum by her background organisations - Young European Socialists (YES) and International Union of Socialists Youth (IUSY) with the support of National Youth Forum of Bulgaria. She graduated Political Science at Sofia University and did an exchanged research program at Copenhagen University. She has done a master on gender issues at Vienna University – focus on development of women labour market.

### **PASHA, Maryam**

Maryam Pasha's mission is to give life to ideas. The world is full of fascinating ideas, knowledge and theories, but they are often complex, abstract or hidden away, and hard for broad audiences to access. Maryam wants to give these ideas the chance to change the world.

She founded, curates and hosts TEDxEastEnd, an annual conference in London on the theme of Society Beyond Borders. The conference takes 15-20 ideas and speakers from areas like science, gender equality, technology, migration, design, art, music and social justice and turns them into compelling talks or performances. Maryam's philosophy is to create experiences that go far beyond the traditional speaker-audience interaction. She has built TEDxEastEnd into a whole-day immersive event for 750 people and the talks from TEDxEastEnd have been viewed online over 1 million times.

She has worked with Migrants' Rights Network and UnLtd – the foundation for social entrepreneurs – to bring new audiences to the important human rights work and social enterprise goals they promote. She is working with the BBC on the future of digital media, and also helps companies to turn their ideas and messages into powerful experiences that audiences will never forget.

Maryam was born in Tehran and her background includes living in four countries, a masters degree in psychology, founding a charity to support women's rights, organising the first Global Conference on the

Prevention of Genocide, and being secretary general of a Model United Nations. She is writing a book on imposter syndrome and regularly features in a news review programme on local radio.

### **PEEL, Kevin**

Kevin Peel was born in Merseyside in the North West of England in 1983. Before entering politics he spent a number of years working in the voluntary sector as an advocate for the voice of patients in the provision of health services. He was a senior assistant to a Member of Parliament for three years and also worked as a campaigner to increase public and private investment in sustainable transport.

Kevin was elected as the first ever Labour and Co-operative councillor for the city centre of Manchester in May 2011 and was re-elected to this position in 2015. He serves as Chair of Manchester City Council's Neighbourhoods & Environment Scrutiny Committee.

Kevin is a local Magistrate and chairs the board of a local youth charity, which provides social action and volunteering opportunities for disadvantaged young people across Greater Manchester.

Kevin has held national positions in the Labour and Co-operative movements and currently sits on the national executives of Labour Movement for Europe and LGBT Labour as the International Officer.

Kevin was appointed to the European Committee of the Regions in January 2015 and serves on the CIVEX and COTER commissions, the Joint Consultative Committee on Montenegro and CORLEAP, the CoR's Eastern Partnership forum. He takes an active interest in promoting equality issues across Europe.

### **PENGAS, Spiros**

Spiros Pengas is Deputy Mayor for Tourism and International Relations and an elected local council member of Thessaloniki since 2010.

During his leadership he helped change the cultural and tourism profile of Thessaloniki, turning it into a cosmopolitan, multicultural city that is more open to the world. Under his tenure, the city hosted a number of international events for the first time, including the "15th Mediterranean Biennale of Young Artists" and "Womex- World Music Expo." He implemented innovative actions and programs embraced by residents and visitors of the city, such as the Thessaloniki Food Festival, the institution of children's sleepover events in museums, and the renovation of four children's libraries, in collaboration with the Stavros Niarchos Foundation.

Spiros was born and raised in Thessaloniki. He graduated from the German School of Thessaloniki and studied Political Science and International Relations at the Universities of Freiburg and Munich. He then worked in the office of United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Brussels. Returning to the city, he took over his family's business, the Galerie Dora Penga, expanding it from a local business selling imported handmade carpets from the Middle East and Central Asia into a national company. In 2003, he founded the nonprofit "Eastern Paths" to promote cultural education activities, including guided trips to the countries of Asia.

Spiros Pengas ran the last two national elections as a candidate for the political party (Movement) 'POTAMI'. He is now one of the 15 members of the political council of 'POTAMI'.

### **PILKINGTON, Hilary**

Hilary Pilkington is Professor of Sociology at the University of Manchester. Her research on young people's lives has taken her from the study of punk scenes in the Russian Arctic circle to youth activism in extreme right organisations in the UK. She has a particular interest in post-socialist societies and uses ethnographic research methods in order to understand not only key trends in young people's lives but how young people themselves understand the world they inhabit. She has been coordinator of a number of collaborative European research projects including, most recently, the FP7 MYPLACE project (2011-15) which studied youth political and civic engagement in 14 countries across Europe (see:

<https://myplaceresearch.wordpress.com/>). Her recent publications include: *Loud and Proud: Passion and Politics in the English Defence League* (MUP, 2016) (available for download at: <http://www.oapen.org/search?keyword=loud+and+proud>); (with Ivan Gololobov and Yngvar Steinholt) *Punk in Russia: Cultural mutation from the 'useless' to the 'moronic'* (Routledge, 2014); (with Elena Omel'chenko and Albina Garifzianova) *Russia's Skinheads: Exploring and Rethinking Subcultural Lives* (Routledge, 2010); (eds) (with Gary Pollock) of *Radical Futures? Youth, Politics and Activism in Europe* (Wiley Sociological Review Monograph Series, 2015).

#### **PINTELEI, Petra**

Student of International relations, focusing specialization on Security Studies and Military research, activist for human rights and disability rights. Currently doing research on External Politics and Applied Diplomacy in Academic spheres of discussion. Polyglot. Speaks fluent English, Spanish, Portuguese and Turkish, Russian and Finish at an intermediate level.

Long distance certificates in specialized courses of neuroscience and Forensic science at the University of Chicago.

#### **PODLASEK-ZIEGLER, Maria**

Policy officer, Directorate-General for Education and Culture, European Commission.

Maria joined the European Commission in Brussels in 2007, where she has been working in the youth policy field with a focus on entrepreneurship education. She also managed European Union funding programmes for the benefit of youth work and non-formal learning sector as well as small businesses. Before working at the European Commission, Maria co-founded and managed a Polish-German publishing company based in Warsaw for 13 years; she also translated German books into Polish and published in various Polish newspapers and magazines. Maria holds her Master Degree in German Philology from the Jagiellonian University in Cracow, Poland, and a Postgraduate Degree in Journalism from Warsaw University.

Former public speaker in the EU Parliament for standardized rights of blind people and accessible travelling.

#### **OOMS, Aaron**

Since 2015, Aaron Ooms is the president of the Flemish Young Socialists and an active member of the socialist movement since 2005. He studied political science at the university of Gent (Belgium) and Tromsø (Norway) and took courses of international public law at the university of Brussels (ULB). From 2009 until 2014 he worked for the Flemish socialist party, first as aid to members of parliament later as a communications adviser at the party headquarters. In 2012 and 2014 he was a part of the campaign team for young people on the ballots of sp.a and was a candidate for the municipality and Flemish parliament. Since one year he works for an international NGO concerned with the shelter and accommodation for refugees in Belgium. As a volunteer he has always been active in several humanitarian aid organizations and continues to do so.

#### **REUTER, Conny**

Conny Reuter has been Secretary General of SOLIDAR since October 2006.

He is also serving as:

- Co-Chair of Liaison Group of the European Economic and Social Committee's (EESC) since 2013
- Co-founder and member of Steering Group of Civil Society Europe (CSE) since 2015
- Co-founder and Board member of Social Service Europe (SSE) since 2012

- Member of the Executive Committee of the International Federation of Workers Education Associations (IFWEA) since 2008

Before moving to Brussels, Conny worked in Paris and Berlin heading the Franco-German Youth Office (FGYO) Department for School and Youth Exchanges (1998-2006), working at La Ligue de l'enseignement in Paris on European projects (1990-1998) and heading the liaison office of La Ligue in Germany working on Franco-German youth exchanges in professional and vocational training (1985-1990).

From April 2008 to April 2013 he served as President of the Social Platform, the platform of European Social NGOs.

He has extended experience in NGO networking, managing EU and international projects and events. He is specialized in social policies, education, lifelong learning and global justice issues.

### **RODRIGUEZ SUANZES, Pablo**

Pablo R. Suanzes is the Brussels correspondent with *El Mundo* since 2014 and a contributor to several European newspapers and magazines. From 2007 to 2014 he covered markets, national and international summits (Davos, G-20), global issues (Ukraine's Revolution) and regularly interviews senior economists, analysts and international CEO'S. He is a regular and well known social media user (@Suanzes).

### **ROTTA, Alessia**

PD National Secretary for Communication

Member of Italian Chamber of Deputies

Alessia Rotta (Italy, 1975) is PD National Secretary for Communication since 2014. She is Member of Italian Chamber of deputies, and Member of Parliamentary Standing Committee for Public and Private Sector Employment. She holds a degree in Communication Studies and she's a professional journalist, member of the Order of Journalists since 2006. She was elected Member of Parliament of the Republic in February 2013 elections. In June 2013 she was elected into the Executive Committee of Representatives of the Democratic Party, the political steering body on the matters on the agenda and in support of the Office of the Presidency of the Democratic Party in the implementation of the guidelines of the Parliamentary Group.

### **SANÉ, Pierre**

As assistant director general of UNESCO (2001-2010), Pierre Sané led the development of the UNESCO Youth Strategy and coordinated the work of the UN interagency on youth. He was responsible for the sector of social and human sciences (social transformations, ethics of science and technology, human rights and philosophy and anticipation). Before that he led amnesty international as secretary general of the worldwide movement between 1992 and 2001. From 1977 and 1992 Pierre Sané was responsible for the Africa programs of the international development research center a Canadian institution supporting scientific research in developing countries.

As an international scholar, he teaches regularly at universities in Japan and South Korea. He graduated from the Bordeaux School of Management, the London School of Economics and Carleton University.

Pierre Sané is a member of the executive committee of the socialist party of Senegal.

Dakar 13 June 2016

### **SENTE, Christophe**

Member of FEPS Scientific Council and Lecturer, Université Libre de Bruxelles.

### **SLIMANI, Laura**

Laura Slimani is the President of the Young European Socialists (YES) since 2015. She was the President of the Youth Wing of the French Socialist Party from 2013 to 2015. She was born and raised in Rouen, Normandy, where she is currently City Counsellor in charge of the youth and student life. She describes herself as a socialist, a feminist and as an ecologist. She studied in the Institute of Political Science in Bordeaux and in the University of Cardiff in Wales.

### **STANISHEV, Sergei**

Sergei Stanishev was born on the 5th May 1966. He studied history, in which he holds a PhD. He was a visiting fellow in International Relations at the London School of Economics and Political Science. Prior to his political career he worked as a journalist.

In 1996 he became Head of the foreign policy and international relations department of the Bulgarian Socialist Party. In 2001 he was elected Member of the Bulgarian Parliament. From December 2001 until July 2014 he has been Chairman of the National Council of the Bulgarian Socialist Party. He was re-elected as Party Chair in 2002, 2005 and 2009. From 2002 to 2009 he was a member of the PES Presidency. Sergei Stanishev was Prime Minister of Bulgaria from 2005 to 2009. During his term as Prime Minister Bulgaria became a member of the European Union. Currently he is a Member of the European Parliament.

He has written more than 50 publications on foreign policy issues in Bulgarian and international periodicals. In 2009 he published the book "Because we are socialists".

On the 24th November 2011, he became interim PES President and during the 9th PES Congress in September 2012 he was elected PES President. On 12<sup>th</sup> June 2015 he was re-elected PES President

### **STETTER, Ernst**

Ernst Stetter is the current and first Secretary General of the FEPS since 2008. He is also a regular commentator on EU affairs in the media.

In 1976 Ernst Stetter began his professional career as a lecturer in economics at the DGB Trade Union Centre for Vocational Training in Heidelberg. From 1980 to 2008 he worked for the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES) in various positions. He spent the first four years at the FES as a Consultant in Dakar, Senegal.

In 1988, Ernst Stetter was appointed as Head of the Africa Department. In 1994 he started working as Head of the Central Europe Unit. In 1997 he moved to Paris and became the Director of the FES Office in France while in 2003 he was appointed as Director of the EU-Office of Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) in Brussels.

Ernst Stetter is an economist and political scientist. He studied in Tübingen and Heidelberg (Germany) focusing on international trade, finance, economic and social policy as well as development issues. In 1980 he obtained his PhD in political science for his dissertation entitled The Association of ACP-Countries (Lomé I and II) to the European Community and the STABEX-System.

In 2003 he received the French decoration of Chevalier de l'Ordre national du Mérite.

### **TIMMERMANS, Frans**

Mr Timmermans is the First Vice-President of the European Commission, in charge of Better Regulation, Inter-Institutional Relations, the Rule of Law and the Charter of Fundamental rights, since 2014. He was the Minister of Foreign Affairs for the Dutch Government between 2012 and 2014 and Minister of European Affairs from 2007 to 2010. Affiliated to the Dutch Labour Party since 1998, Mr. Timmermans graduated from the Radboud University in Nijmegen and holds a postgraduate in European Law and French Literature from the Nancy University.

### **TORRES, João**

John Torres was born on April 24, 1986 and is from Gueifães, a Maia county in the district of Porto.

He joined the Civil Engineering course at the Faculty of Engineering, University of Porto. He finished his Master and submitted a dissertation on buildings Technical Maintenance, concluded in 2009.

As a civil engineer, he held project management responsibilities in a construction society in the district of Oporto, and participated in the construction of various public and private buildings.

#### **Political course**

He joined the Socialist Youth in 2001.

In April 2007, he was elected Coordinator of JS Maia. In the same year, he supported the candidacy of Duarte Cordeiro the Secretary-General JS and joined the National Secretariat, with responsibilities on Higher Education.

In 2009 he returned to join the list of candidates of the Socialist Party to the Municipal Assembly of Maia, having been elected for the term 2009-2013.

He was elected president of the JS Porto District Federation in the X Federal Convention of this structure, thus succeeding Nuno Araújo.

On the occasion of the XVII National Congress, he supported the candidacy of Pedro Delgado Alves for Secretary-General of JS and joined the National Secretariat, with responsibilities on Youth Emancipation. He further integrated inherently the Socialist Party's National Commission.

In the 2011 Presidential Elections, he actively collaborated in the youth movement «Movimento Já» in the Port district, supporting the candidacy of Manuel Alegre as President of the Republic of Portugal. In that same year, he joined the list of candidates of the Socialist Party for the Portuguese Parliament, from his constituency in Porto, within the Legislative Elections.

After two years of intense work in the district of Porto, he again ran for leadership of JS Porto District Federation, having been re-elected unanimously.

John Torres is Secretary-General of JS since 2012, having been re-elected for a new term in the XIX National Congress.

He is a Member of the Portuguese Parliament since October 2015.

### **UEKERMANN, Johanna**

Johanna Uekermann was born on the 18th of September 1987 in Straubing, Bavaria. After finishing high school in 2006, she studied political science, cultural geography and sociology at the university of Würzburg and the university of Geneva, Switzerland. In 2013 she finished her studies and has since then been working as academic assistant in the German Bundestag.

She joined the Young Socialists (Jusos) in the age of 14 and has held several positions in Jusos and also SPD. In 2013 she was elected President of Jusos Germany and got re-elected in 2015. She is also a member of the Commission for Fundamental Values of SPD.

### **VRIJENS, Tom**

Tom Vrijens is the elected president of the Youth Committee of the European Confederation of trade unions (ETUC) since 2015. Aged 30, Mr Vrijens was a member of the bureau since 2013 and a member of the committee since 2011. He was also a representative of the youth of the Belgian trade union ACV-CSC since 2011.

### **WACHE, Paulo Mateus**

Paulo Mateus Wache is senior researcher and head of Department of International Relations and Foreign Policy at Centro de Estudos Estratégicos e Internacionais (CEEI), a Research Division of the Instituto Superior de Relações Internacionais (ISRI) based in Maputo, Mozambique. He is also lecturer of European



Union Studies and Geopolitics at Instituto Superior de Relações Internacionais. As consultant, Paulo has participated and produced reports for the Mozambican government and for international Agencies. He has published books: 2012 - European Union and its Relations with the World: Understanding The European Union Foreign Policy Towards Africa, in Portuguese; 2014 - Emerging powers in the Construction of the Inclusive Multipolarity: A Comparative Analyse of BRICS Foreign Policy, in Portuguese (Editor); 2015- Promoting Stability and Development in Africa : How to Foster Cooperation between Public and private Sectors, in English (Author of article on Mozambique) and a number of articles on governance, conflict resolution and foreign policy. Paulo collaborates with media (radio, Televisions, and newspaper) analysing issues of international politics.

#### **WESTER, Johanna**

Johanna Wester holds lectures in human rights, often in matters regarding children, women, accessibility, discrimination, trafficking and corporate responsibility. Some of her previous assignments have been with the UNICEF, Amnesty and ECPAT. Today she works for the government initiative National Collaboration for Mental Health, in Stockholm.

She has a broad experience in organizing seminars, cultural events, peer-to-peer work, youth participation and volunteers. Her latest international project was for the Swedish Institute when she spoke about children's rights for UNICEF and the Swedish embassy in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. While there she made a series of study visits to peace movements that she then wrote about for UN Women and several newspapers. When it comes to promoting global youth she has i.e written forty articles regarding youths and students in the EU for the Swedish Agency for Youth and Society.

Johanna has worked as a volunteer teacher in Bangkok and held internships at UNICEF in Egypt and Scotland respectively. She lived in London in 2004 and in Sydney 2007. In her spare time she has published a novel at publishing house Natur & Kultur and is now the editor of an anthology at the publishing house Norstedts.

#### **VERMEERSCH, Wim**

Wim holds a BA degree in 'Modern History' from University Ghent, Belgium, and post-graduate degrees in 'International Politics' from University Antwerp, Belgium, and in 'Conflict & Development' from University Ghent, Belgium.

Wim Vermeersch joined the Belgian Foundation Gerrit Kreveld in 2006 as a staff member and as Editorial Assistant for the magazine *Samenleving en politiek* [*Society and Politics, Monthly Journal for a Social Democracy*]. Since 2013 he is the Editor-in-Chief.

#### **WILLIAMS, Grace**

Grace Williams is the National Chairperson of Labour Youth, the youth wing of the Irish Labour Party. She is currently a postgraduate student in international relations focusing on EU policy in University College Dublin, and a graduate in Politics, International Relations and French from the same university. Prior to being the National Chairperson, Grace was the Campaigns Officer for Labour Youth, leading the organisation's campaign on the equal marriage referendum, on ending the use of precarious work contracts, and on ending age-based discrimination in the welfare system. Currently, her priorities for Labour Youth are campaigning on ending age-based pay discrimination in the national minimum wage legislation and campaigning to introduce reproductive rights for women in Ireland.

#### **WOLKENSTEIN, Fabio**

Fabio Wolkenstein is a researcher at the European Institute of the London School of Economics and Political Science. He works on several themes in democratic theory, notably political parties, deliberative



democracy and representation. His most recent work has appeared or is forthcoming in such journals as the Journal of Political Philosophy, the American Political Science Review and Party Politics. In October 2016 he will take up a position at the Centre of Advanced Studies “Justitia Amplificata” at Goethe University Frankfurt.

### **ZAIDANE, Layla**

Layla Zaidane is the Managing Director for Generation Progress, the youth engagement arm of the Center for American Progress. She oversees the work of Generation Progress to ensure that the voices of young people are heard in the policy and advocacy fights being had nationwide.

In her time at Generation Progress, she has led policy, advocacy, and communications campaigns around issues that impact young people across the country. She has organized rallies at Capitol Hill, events with the White House, and roundtables with young leaders in dozens of states—all with the goal of creating progressive change for Millennials, driven by Millennials themselves. In 2016, she was named one of the [\*30 Women Under 30 Who Will Change The Election\*](#).

Layla has worked closely with the Foundation for European Progressive Studies on the Millennial Dialogue Project, seeking to draw global parallels between successful political organizing programs in a time when young people are more skeptical than ever of political institutions, but also identify as more progressive than previous generations. Through her work on programs such as the It's On Us campaign, she has demonstrated the potential to galvanize the Millennial generation with the right messaging and organizing strategies.

Previously, as Communications Director, she worked to develop communications plans, marketing strategy, and engaging digital campaigns in order to mobilize target audiences around key issues. Her team was responsible for the planning and implementation of comprehensive online brand campaigns, graphic design, web management, email outreach and social media campaigns, and outreach to traditional and non-traditional press and media.

Before joining Generation Progress, Layla worked for LivingSocial as a marketing specialist, consulting with business owners across the country to increase their online presence and grow their customer base. Previously, she has held roles promoting the public's voice in public education with DC VOICE and developing outreach strategies to connect college students with federal news at the Partnership for Public Service. Layla graduated from Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service and holds a BSFS in international.

### **ZRIHEN, Olga**

Born on 10 January 1953 in Casablanca, Morocco, Olga Zrihen moved to Belgium in 1971 to study languages at the School of International Interpreters at the University of Mons. She also studied in Heidelberg, Germany and was awarded a degree in translation.

After teaching Germanic languages for 15 years, Ms Zrihen became head of the training department within the directorate-general for cultural affairs of the Province of Hainaut, Belgium. At the same time, she was active within the Socialist Party, serving as its vice-president from 2011 to 2014.

Ms Zrihen is committed to the progressive development of European integration, witness her term spent as MEP (2001-2004) and also her work as part of PES-Women, where she has been a member of the executive board since 2004.

Appointed alternate member of the Committee of the Regions in 2009, Ms Zrihen became a full member in 2015. She is involved in the work of the COTER commission and the ECON commission where she was rapporteur of the COR opinion Making the best use of the flexibility within the existing rules of the Stability and Growth Pact.

At the national and regional level, Ms Zrihen has been a member of the Belgian Senate continuously since 2004 and a member of the Walloon parliament since 2009. A former deputy mayor of La Louvière (80 000 inhabitants), she is currently a municipal councilor. She is also a vice-president of the PES group in the CoR.