



Union of European Federalists  
Union Europäischer Föderalisten  
Union des Fédéralistes Européens



# ACTIVITY REPORT



2021

UEF activities and projects are



**Co-funded by  
the European Union**

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# FOREWORD FROM THE PRESIDENT AND THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Dear Reader,

The year 2021 was an important year for the UEF in many respects. One of the highlights from the organisation's point of view is without doubt the 75th Anniversary of the Union of European Federalists (UEF). For 75 years, the UEF has united generations of passionate European federalists who have been working for a united and federal Europe since the end of the Second World War. The organisation was founded in Paris on 15 and 16 December 1946 out of the conviction that peace for future generations could only be secured through the formation of a European federation. The UEF quickly became a leading voice in the process of European unification and from the outset worked to strengthen the European Communities and later the European Union.

Another highlight of this special year for the UEF is the Conference on the Future of Europe (CoFoE). For the first time in its 75-year history, the UEF has been given a seat at the conference table and can directly and immediately contribute its positions to the political discussion. The conference offered all citizens, especially the younger generation, a unique opportunity to make their voices heard and stand up for the Europe they want to live in and help shape it with their ideas. We, as European federalists, must be the leading voice advocating for a federal Europe – sovereign and democratic.

In 2021 UEF also paid great attention to “itself ” and examined its own goals and tasks in more detail. After the internal tensions that arose in the middle of 2020, which can be seen as one of the darkest moments in UEF's 75-years history, we set out together and worked on the necessary internal reforms. Over time, our role, our goals, our mission, and our way of working have become self-evident and we stayed in the status quo.

At the same time, over the years, the environment in which we work has changed, and this is something that we did not consciously reflect on and discussed in the previous years. The incidents of 2020 showed us

that the moment had come to look at ourselves and consider how we can better meet the tasks and demands entrusted to us. We are very proud that we were able to adopt new Statutes at the Congress in Valencia and that the Federal Committee adopted a Financial and Contributions Order (FCO) for UEF and new Rules of Procedures to organize its work.

Another achievement of 2021 is that the UEF has received a positive funding decision in view of the Operating Grant. We would like to warmly thank the ad hoc-Working Group on the Operating Grant. In a very short time and in many night-shifts, the ad hoc-Working Group developed a politically highly ambitious concept that was able to convince the Commission. In terms of content, the Operating Grant demands a lot from us and we have to achieve and deliver results. We can only do this together and in unity. Receiving the Operating Grant is a relief for us financially, but it does not free us to remain vigilant in financial matters.

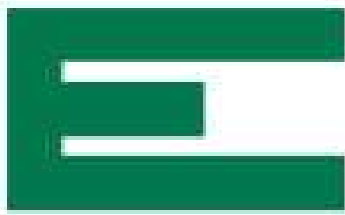
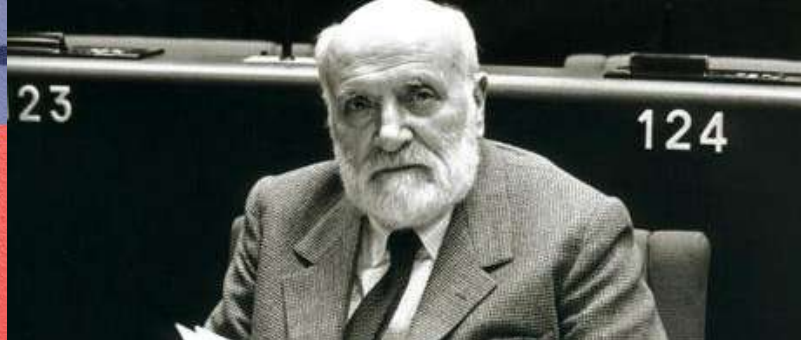
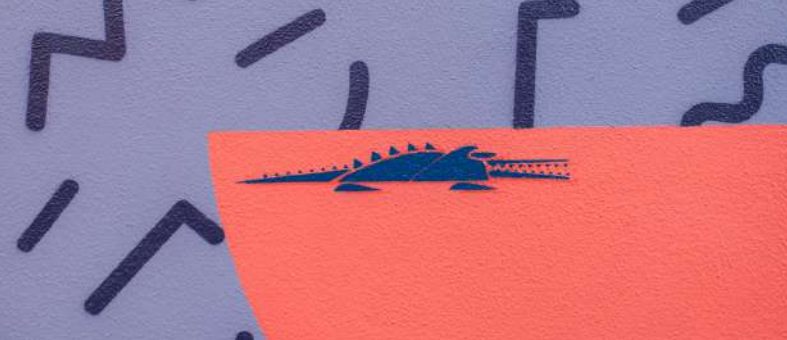
We were also able to resume our political work in 2021. In addition to the many conferences we organised within the framework of our EACEA-co-funded projects "Crossroads Europe" and "Democracy is Europe", we started a new form of dialogue on the future of Europe. In our project "Make Europe Bloom", co-funded by the European Parliament, the future of Europe is discussed via arts and the result of each discussion finds its expression in a mural. We have also succeeded in reviving our European networks and contributing to various working groups.

And now, enjoy reading!

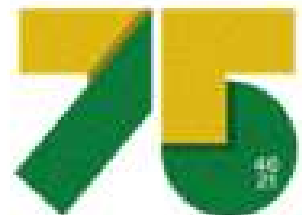
**SANDRO GOZI**  
PRESIDENT

**ANNA ECHTERHOFF**  
SECRETARY-GENERAL





Union of European Federalists  
Union Européischer Föderalisten  
Union des Fédéralistes Européens



# 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UEF



In 2021, the Union of European Federalists (UEF) celebrated its 75th anniversary! It marks 75 years of bringing together generations of passionate European federalists who, since the end of World War II, have been campaigning for a united and federal Europe. The organisation was founded in Paris on 15 and 16 December 1946 based on the conviction that peace for future generations could only be secured by the formation of a European federation. The driving idea of “unity in diversity” was the basis on which European federalists thought the division of the European continent, that had caused the suffering and destruction of the two World Wars, could be overcome.

The UEF became a leading voice in the European unification process and from the outset advocated for the strengthening of the European Communities, later the European Union. The main goals of the European federalists included the abolition of borders between the European States, the introduction of a European currency, direct elections as well as the institutional strengthening of the European Parliament, the introduction of majority decisions in the Council of Ministers, the adoption of European fundamental and human rights and the reinforcement of European foreign and security policy. All these goals have been at least partially achieved in recent years.

On top of the ideas mentioned above, the realisation of a constitution that would lead to a European federal state is the European federalists’ key call. However, this has still not been achieved. The process of constitutionalising the European Union was essentially set in motion by Altiero Spinelli in 1984 with the so-called “Spinelli Treaty”. This led to a revision of the Treaties and served as a basis for the European Community and the Constitutional Treaty later on.

Today, the UEF’s work for a further deepening of the European Union and its transformation into a true European federation continued through the Conference on the Future of Europe (CoFoE). The Conference provided all citizens, and especially the younger generations, with the unique opportunity to make their voice heard and to advocate for the Europe they want by shaping it with their ideas. The European federalists must remain the leading voice calling for a united and federal Europe. The CoFoE has been particularly special for UEF. For the first time in its 75 years of existence, the UEF has taken a seat at the conference table and can directly feed the political decision-making process with its positions. The UEF is part of the delegation of the European Movement International (EMI) in the organised civil society group.

Thus, the UEF received the historic opportunity to lead the debate on the reform of the Union towards a democratic federal entity that is close to citizens and can ensure the protection and promotion of our values. The UEF will continue to be the driving force for change by communicating its ideas and proposals and fueling the discussions with solutions to strengthen the European Union. For 75 years, the UEF has put itself to the service of the European unification and it will continue to do so.



## XXVII EUROPEAN CONGRESS: OUR FEDERAL EUROPE – SOVEREIGN AND DEMOCRATIC!



On 3 and 4 July 2021, the XXVII European Congress of the UEF at the Jardí Botanique de Valencia offered the possibility of face-to-face meetings for the delegates of the UEF sections and guests. Around half of the 149 registered Delegates and Observers had traveled to Valencia to attend the Congress, which also celebrated the 75th anniversary of the UEF. For the remaining participants, the hybrid format offered active online participation.

On the eve of the Congress, the UEF organised, jointly with UEF Spain and the Spinelli Group, the event "On the 80th Anniversary of the Ventotene Manifesto for a Federal Europe". The event was hosted by the Principal of the University of València at the Centre Cultural La Nau of the Universitat de València.



The UEF Congress officially began on Saturday morning with welcoming speeches by, among others, the Principal of the University of Valencia, the Regional Secretary for the European Union and External Relations of the Valencian Regional Government, Joan Calabuig Rull, as well as the President of UEF Spain and former President of the European Parliament, Enrique Barón Crespo.

Afterward, Sergio Pistone recalled in his excellent historical lecture the great moments, the political milestones, and achievements of the last seven and a half decades of UEF's history. In the subsequent Panel Debate moderated by Raphaël Bez, Secretary-General of UEF Switzerland, UEF President Sandro Gozi, EUD President Rainer Wieland, JEF President Leonie Martin, and Daphné Gogou as Vice-President of UEF Greece (the most recent of the UEF sections) discussed the present and future of the UEF. They discussed perspectives for the development of the UEF as an organisation, but also strategies for organisation development and organisation building in countries where the UEF is not yet represented or where federalism has no tradition.





The political focus of the XXVII European Congress of the UEF was the Conference on the Future of Europe. In a video message, Vice-President of the European Commission and Co-Chair of the Executive Committee of the Conference on the Future of Europe (CoFoE) Dubravka Šuica thanked the UEF for raising awareness of the objectives of the CoFoE and to involve citizens in the process. She reminded us that citizens' trust in democracy is important and cannot be taken for granted.

Under the heading of the Appeal successfully relaunched on Europe Day 2021, "Our federal Europe - sovereign and democratic" and moderated by Julian Plottka (EUD), UEF President and MEP Sandro Gozi, UEF Vice-President and MEP Domènec Ruiz Devesa, and Luisa Trumellini, newly-elected Vice-President of the UEF, discussed with MEP Guy Verhofstadt, one of the Co-Chairs of the Executive Board of the CoFoE, why the Conference should be seen as a historic moment for the federalist cause.

At the meeting on the morning of 3 July, the UEF was also able to adopt its new Statutes and decided to move its seat from the Netherlands to Belgium. The representatives to the organs of the UEF were then elected following the regulations of the new Statutes, with the President and the Secretary-General being confirmed in their offices.





# THE CONFERENCE ON THE FUTURE OF EUROPE



The long-awaited Conference on the Future of Europe (CoFoE) held its first plenary session in Strasbourg on Saturday 19th June 2021, hoping to succeed in encouraging citizens, who were not yet very involved, to participate in this vast consultation on the future of the European Union. The agenda included presentations and discussions on the purpose and expectations of the conference, including European citizens' and national panels. In autumn and winter 2021, further plenaries and working group meetings followed.

The UEF had believed in the importance of this Conference right from the start. Since the foundation of the UEF in 1946 and the foundation of the European Movement in 1948, the UEF has been fighting for a politically united Europe. The UEF is convinced that this is the right time to be politically ambitious and to fight for a sovereign and democratic Europe, capable of shaping a new world order, politically and economically. This was the UEF's commitment to the Conference.

The UEF has been present in the CoFoE with its President Sandro Gozi MEP, its Vice-President Domènec Ruiz Devesa MEP, and its Secretary-General Anna Echterhoff, who represented the UEF in the delegation of the European Movement International (EMI). All three representatives of the UEF were members of the European Democracy Working Group, which was chaired by EPP Group President Manfred Weber.





In the Working Group, the representatives of the UEF pushed for ambitious recommendations on the overcoming of unanimity, the attribution of a right of initiative to the European Parliament, improved rights of inquiry, and the strengthening of its budgetary powers. To bring citizens closer to the institutions, they supported the call for an advanced far-reaching proposal to strengthen existing participatory mechanisms and create new ones, drawing inspiration from the CoFEU citizens' panels.

The UEF was supported by a small "CoFoE-team" consisting of Julian Plottka, Chair of PC 1; Professor Giulia Rossolillo, EB Member; Vice-President Luisa Trumellini; and Mariona Espín Onieva, to whom the UEF owes a sincere thanks to the committed teamwork. Without their commitment, the UEF would not have achieved this tremendous results.

On 8 June 2021, the UEF published a User Guide to help sections deal with the Multilingual Digital Platform.



## THE UEF'S ACTIVITY ON THE MULTILINGUAL DIGITAL PLATFORM

### FUTUREU.EUROPA.EU

#### POLITICAL IDEAS

The political proposals were uploaded in the Democracy area: the most enhanced area of the entire platform in terms of proposals, comments and organised events.

1) **There can be no true European democracy without an autonomous EU fiscal power**

<https://bit.ly/3QPjPbM>

2) **Abolish the right of veto and assign direct powers to the European Parliament in taxation and foreign policy**

<https://bit.ly/3niOP8w>

3) **Our federal Europe: sovereign and democratic**

<https://bit.ly/3xWlwM2>

#### EVENTS

UEF and its members have, since the launch of the platform, organised a series of online, hybrid and in-person events at the local level to promote the federalist proposals made in the platform. The events that have been realised are then linked to the proposals, have received a record and show the territorial grounding they have received.

The UEF has been one of the organisations that has worked hardest in this regard.

#### *Third Interim Report Platform*

As an example, a highly endorsed and debated idea advocates establishing a constituent Assembly to develop a European Constitution defining the key elements and principles of a democratic European Federation (see [idea](#)). The discussion also includes more specific calls for a common fiscal and economic policy (see [idea](#)), including an idea of a 'European Union of taxpayers' (see [idea](#)), one European army and the federalisation of foreign policy, alongside a redesign of the EU institutions along federalist principles.



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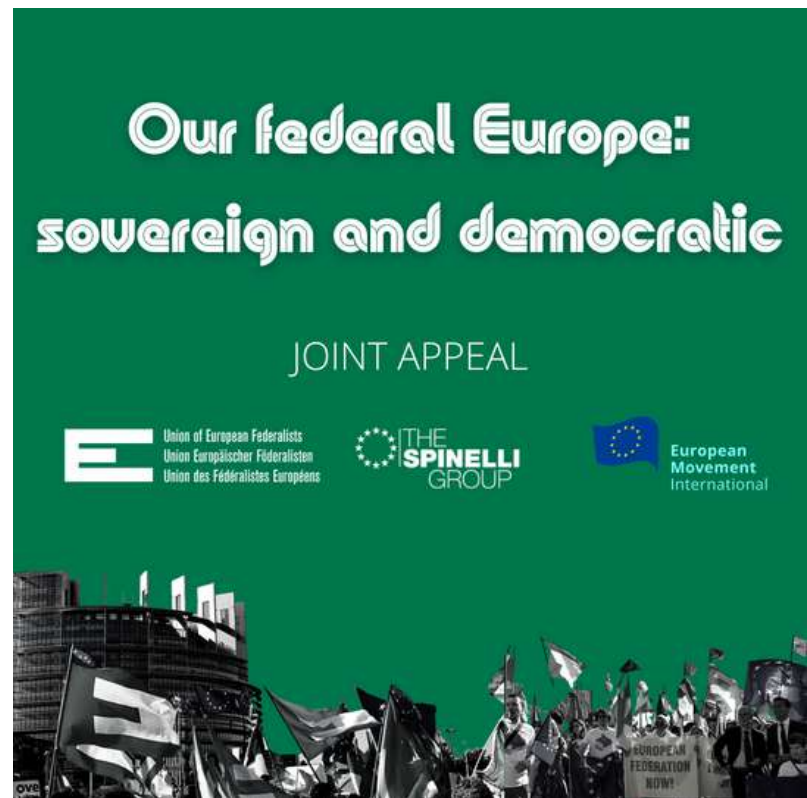
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## THE APPEAL

# OUR FEDERAL EUROPE, SOVEREIGN AND DEMOCRATIC

On Europe Day (9 May 2021), the UEF and The Spinelli Group launched the appeal for "**Our federal Europe: sovereign and democratic.**" We wanted to embrace the opportunity of the Conference on the Future of Europe "for a Union that is both a community of destiny and values, and a model for the new world now taking shape - an example of how countries can live in peace together, build cross-border and social solidarity, and protect human rights, the rule of law, and fundamental freedoms."

The Appeal was signed by more than **700 signatories**, among which at least are 500 European personalities, and the collection of signature continued during the Conference of the Future of Europe.



## THE APPEAL IN THE PRESS

The appeal has been published in prominent newspapers in Europe:

- El Mundo
  - La Croix
  - EU News
  - EURACTIV Italy and Spain
  - El País
  - La Vanguardia
  - Informacion
  - SWI
  - Il Secolo XIX
  - Il Messagero
  - Frankfurter Rundschau
- and more...

Find here the appeal,  
promoters, and signatories

[HTTPS://BIT.LY/39NWK8L](https://bit.ly/39NWK8L)





*"We firmly believe that our future lies in a Democratic and Sovereign Europe. And the time to build is now: now or never."*

## INITIAL SIGNATORIES & PROMOTERS



### **Sandro GOZI**

President of the Union of European Federalists (UEF) and Member of the European Parliament (Renew Europe)

### **Brando BENIFEI**

President of the Spinelli Group and Member of the European Parliament (Socialists & Democrats - S&D)

### **Eva MAYDELL**

President of the European Movement International (EMI) and Member of the European Parliament (European People's Party - EPP)

### **Esteban GONZÁLEZ PONS**

Vice-President of the EPP Group in the European Parliament

### **Danuta HÜBNER**

Former Member of the European Commission, EPP spokesperson in the Committee on Constitutional Affairs in the European Parliament

### **Domènec RUIZ DEVESA**

Vice-President of UEF and S&D spokesperson in the Committee on Constitutional Affairs in the European Parliament

### **Gabriele BISCHOFF**

Vice-President of the Europa-Union Deutschland (EUD), Vice-Chair of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs in the European Parliament

### **Pascal DURAND**

Renew Europe Group spokesperson in the Committee on Constitutional Affairs in the European Parliament

### **Daniel FREUND**

Member of the European Parliament (Greens/EFA) and Representative in the Executive Board of the Conference on the Future of Europe

### **Damian BOESELAGER**

Greens/EFA spokesperson in the Committee on Constitutional Affairs in the European Parliament

### **Dimitrios PAPADIMOULIS**

Vice-President of the European Parliament (The Left - GUE/NGL)

### **Fabio Massimo CASTALDO**

Former Vice-President of the European Parliament (Non-attached Members)



**Crossroads  
Europe**

**DEMOCRACY**   
*is* **EUROPE**





# PROJECTS

**CO-FUNDED BY THE EUROPEAN UNION**

# CROSSROAD EUROPE

CO-FUNDED BY THE EUROPE FOR CITIZENS PROGRAMME OF THE EUROPEAN UNION



Co-funded by the  
Europe for Citizens Programme  
of the European Union

**When?** From June 2020 to August 2021

**What?** Six online Laboratories, co-organised with different organisations on four key topics: Climate change, Global Europe, Democracy, Security, and Freedom.

The Labs were addressed to EU citizens across the continent:

- **Bologna (Italy) - ONLINE**, 25, 29, 30 January 2021 in collaboration with Movimento Federalista Europeo (MFE);
- **Córdoba (Spain) - ONLINE**, 13-14, 20-21 April 2021 in collaboration with Fundación Xul;
- **Sofia (Bulgaria) - ONLINE**, 14-15 May 2021 in collaboration with UEF Bulgaria;
- **Berlin (Germany) - ONLINE**, 18, 20 May, 2021, in collaboration with Europa-Union Deutschland;
- **Strasbourg (France) - ONLINE**, 18-19 June 2021 in collaboration with UEF France;
- **La Valletta (Malta) - ONLINE**, 21, 24 June 2021.

**How?** Each lab was cross-sectorial, gathering different types of organised civil society not usually engaged in collective debates on EU with EU/local policymakers. Cross-border with citizens from different countries.

**Discover more here:**

<https://www.crossroadseurope.eu/>

Crossroads Europe aimed at fostering cross-cutting dialogue about the EU, its challenges and its future, through six events dedicated to different forms of organised civil society and citizens. The project evolved around four themes:

- **Climate change** - Reshaping the environmental spirit for the European Green New Deal after the Covid-19 Crisis.
- **Global Europe** - Affirming the role of the European Union as a "Geopolitical actor".
- **Security & Freedom** - Leaving no one behind.
- **Democracy** - Understanding the Conference on the Future of Europe, born to create an effective, democratic and sovereign Europe.

The project was implemented through an online training and six Labs hosted online and organised by a consortium of local CSOs.

The UEF was also supported by the Spinelli Group, its MEPs were in fact involved in some events and the Group was a channel to disseminate the outcomes of the project among the other MEPs and members of the European institutions. The Association Des États Généraux Des Etudiants De L'Europe (AEGEE) supported the UEF's events dissemination activities and recruitment of participants, throughout its Social Media channels and Newsletter. Despite the inability to meet physically, the UEF was able to reach out to a large number of local participants, and to involve speakers from the European institutions, the Brussels bubble, NGOs directors, journalists, scholars and activists. This combination was extremely successful and allowed the Labs to have not only a huge impact locally, but also at the EU level as it brought together participants from different socioeconomic backgrounds, and age. The project involved more than 450 people, and the Social Media and online dissemination reached out more than 31,500 people.



Crossroads Europe was an opportunity to explain the Conference on the Future of Europe (CoFoE) and to make the participants aware of the chances this democratic exercise provided, enabling them to share their ideas on the most important EU topics. During each Lab, the UEF trained the participants to use the CoFoE Digital Platform. The participants then identified, assessed, and drafted policy recommendations.



Projects partners



Movimento Federalista Europeo



Europa Union Deutschland



UEF Bulgaria



UEF France



# DEMOCRACY IS EUROPE

CO-FUNDED BY THE EUROPE FOR CITIZENS PROGRAMME OF THE EUROPEAN UNION



Co-funded by the  
Europe for Citizens Programme  
of the European Union

**When?** From August 2020 to December 2021

**What?** Six local events both online and offline, involving local communities with a final event in Brussels.

**Where?**

- Online, Germany, from 01 to 03.12.2020 in collaboration with Europa-Union Deutschland;
- Online, Hungary, from 22 to 23.01.2021 in collaboration with UEF Hungary;
- Online, Lithuania, from 8 to 12.03.2021;
- Online, Tartu, Estonia, from 23 to 24.04.2021 in collaboration with the University of Tartu;
- Hybrid, Gdańsk, Poland, 21 and 22.10.2021.
- Hybrid, Prague, Czechia, 11 and 12.11.2021
- Hybrid, Brussels, Belgium, 2 and 3.12.2021

The final conference with policy-makers was held in hybrid form on December, in Brussels.

**How?** Each event lead participants through a reflection on what the EU meant for the construction of their democracies. Today's challenges to the rule of law, democracy, and human rights were discussed, fostering a conversation on the importance to defend the role that European values, which played a leading force in their revolutions, have still nowadays as part of the democratic processes that started 30 years ago.

**Discover more here:**

<https://bit.ly/3NAevqD>

The project "Democracy is Europe - Remember to revive" aimed at engaging students and citizens from Eastern and Central Europe and the Baltics states to retrace the changes faced in 1989-1991 with the fall of communism and the emergence of new democratic regimes. During the first reporting period, from October 2020 to March 2021, three online local events in Germany, Hungary and Lithuania were organised. From March to December 2021, three hybrid events were organised in Estonia, Poland and Czechia, as well as the hybrid final conference in Brussels.

The project reached out to citizens across Eastern and Central Europe and the Baltics from all social and economic backgrounds. In particular, the possibility to hold the events online allowed us to reach out to a more differentiated audience, from students to the elderly, and people coming from capital cities but also from more rural realities.

In each event we had the chance to discuss the democratic transition of the Eastern-Central and Baltic European regions from different perspectives:

- Historical one, by addressing the transitions/revolutions and consequent shift towards democratic governments.
- EU accession process from an economic, social and political perspective.
- Current political landscape and the impact of Euroscepticism on the citizens' perspective towards the EU.





Projects partners



# MAKE EUROPE BLOOM: THE TIME IS NOW!

CO-FUNDED BY THE EUROPE FOR CITIZENS PROGRAMME OF THE EUROPEAN UNION



Co-funded by  
the European Union

**When?** From May 2021 to June 2022

**What?** Make Europe Bloom is a project organised by the UEF and funded by the European Parliament. This project contributes to setting up the new European Bauhaus by mirroring citizens' feelings on Europe through art. In order to meet our innovative approach, the UEF counts on urban artists.

It aims at starting a political campaign at both European and national levels to raise awareness of citizens on the importance of the Conference on the Future of Europe (CoFoE).

In order for this goal to succeed, we are planning national and local marches, rallies, and street activities through the UEF's 24 member organisations.

The first stop was in **Valencia**, Spain, and on this special occasion the mural was based on the idea of "Democracy".

**Discover more here:**

<https://bit.ly/MakeEuropeBloom>

**MAKE EUROPE BLOOM:** The Time Is Now! is a project organised by the UEF and co-funded by the European Parliament. This project aims at starting a political campaign at both European and national levels to raise awareness on the importance of the CoFoE and building on the New European Bauhaus, as a framework in which to advance the reforms that can create the conditions and changes that citizens are demanding.

With this project the UEF has chosen an innovative and new form of dialogue on the future of Europe. The UEF is discussing the CoFoE with citizens through art as a form of expression. Officially launched on Europe Day, this project will mirror citizens' feelings on Europe through art. In order to meet its innovative approach, the UEF counted on renown urban artist Antonyo Marest, who helped us to make Europe bloom translating citizens surveys into art.

The project had its first mural "For the Future of Europe" inaugurated in Valencia on 3 July 2021 and will be followed by four more murals in different European cities until June 2022.







# ACTIVITIES & COMMUNICATIONS

**OUR EFFORTS TO PROMOTE FEDERALISM**



# EVENTS, POLITICAL DEBATES, AND CONFERENCES

## 18 February: CSO network on the Future of Europe meeting

### 5 March 2021: EESC Civil Society Days 2021

The UEF participated in the EESC Civil Society Days 2021 - A Sustainable Recovery for the Future of Europe's Citizens. The President of the UEF presented the organisation in the Closing session. The Civil Society days are intended to be a public forum bringing together European citizens, civil society organisations and the European institutions. While delivering on the high expectations of its citizens, Europe must ensure that the ecological and digital transitions are built on the values of solidarity and human rights, social justice, equality, and on education, culture, migration, democracy, participation and entrepreneurship.



## 8 May 2021: Meeting of Political Commission 1 - Institutions and Future of Europe

Ahead the relaunch of the Appeal, Our Federal Europe, Sovereign and Democratic, on the occasion of the opening of the Conference on 9 May 2021, the Political Commission 1 met on 8 May 2021 to discuss in one session under the moderation of the chair of PC 1 Giulia Rossolillo, The Conference on the future of Europe: a true opportunity to achieve a federal Europe? State of play and perspectives from the federalist point of view and in a second session under moderation of the EB-Member Luisa Trumellini elaborated what challenges and opportunities the interactive digital platform brings for the UEF and its sections.

## 16 June 2021: The Future of Europe in the Digital Age Private Seminar

On 16 June 2021 UEF organized a seminar on "The future of Europe in the Digital Age" in partnership with the Berggruen Institute, a U.S. based think-tank whose mission is to develop foundational ideas and shape political, economic, and social institutions for the 21st century. High-level experts from Europe and the US discussed with MEPs and the Vice-President of the European Commission, Věra Jourová, who summarized the debate afterwards on Twitter as follows: "We had a good debate on the CoFoE and values in the online space. Our Digital Services Act makes platforms more accountable, establishes effective measures for tackling illegal content and societal risks online while preserving fundamental rights". On behalf of the UEF, President Sandro Gozi MEP, Vice-President Domènec Ruiz Devesa MEP, and Secretary-General Anna Echterhoff participated in the discussion.

## 23 June 2021: Joint Meeting of the Political Commissions

A joint online meeting of all Political Commissions of the UEF took place, in which the resolutions to be presented at Congress 2021 were discussed.

## 7 July 2022: Debate "What Future for European Democracy"

As a contribution to the Conference on the Future of Europe, the Union of European Federalists (UEF), the Spinelli Group and the Universities of Magdeburg and Passau organised the Round Table on "What Future for European democracy" to discuss with students from different universities the reform demands and proposals.

### 27 September 2021: Conference “Y-FED Final Conference: Europe is what you(th) make of it”

The UEF, as project partner of JEF, was bringing youth and decision-makers together in the heart of Europe to influence real change and organized the “Y-FED Final Conference: Europe is what you(th) make of it”. The project aimed to bring the EU closer to its young citizens by developing a proposal for an improved institutional framework of the Union in line with the European Youth Goals. The initiative, supported by an Erasmus+ “European Youth Together” grant, has been implemented in the years 2020-2021 through a series of capacity-building training courses, public policy hackathons, a large-scale simulation of a reformed EU and advocacy actions.

### 13 October 2021: second UEF Workshop on the Multilingual Digital Platform of the CoFoE

The UEF held a second Workshop on the Multilingual Digital Platform of the CoFoE with the sections. The focus was on the following questions: What themes are emerging? Have we as European Federalists succeeded in placing our positions and proposals? How can we enhance our cooperation to achieve greater visibility?

### 14 October 2021: Zoom webinar "The Union-wide electoral constituency in the reform of the European Electoral Law"

On 14 October 2021 UEF discussed with Sandro Gozi, UEF President and Member of the European Parliament, Domènec Ruiz Devesa, UEF Vice-President and EP Rapporteur on the reform of the European Electoral Law, Danuta Hübner, Member of the European Parliament and former co-rapporteur on the reform of the European Electoral law (2015), Jo Leinen, Honorary President of UEF and former Member of the European Parliament and former co-rapporteur on the reform of the European Electoral law (2015), Andrew Duff, Former UEF President and former Member of the European Parliament and former co-rapporteur on the reform of the European Electoral law (2012) María Díaz Crego, Professor of Constitutional Law, European Parliament Research Service, the topic of a Union-wide electoral constituency in the reform of the European Electoral Law.

### 20 December 2021: European Federation Now?! - Online Video Premiere

On 20 December 2021 UEF published a recorded Livestream session on the latest developments that witness the awakening of a stronger pro-European sentiment in various Member States that politically strengthen the work of the Conference on the Future of Europe. The Austrian journalist Nana Walzer discussed the President of UEF & MEP Sandro Gozi, the President of UEF Austria & MEP Lukas Mandl and with the President of UEF Germany & MEP Rainer Wieland.



### 21 December 2021: Evening Debate of PC 4 "The reform of the Stability and Growth Pact between fiscal responsibility and financial solidarity"

The Political Commission 4 discussed "The reform of the Stability and Growth Pact between fiscal responsibility and financial solidarity" with Professor Massimo Bordignon, Catholic University of Milan and Member of the European Fiscal Board and Dr Matthias Kullas, Centre for European Policy, Freiburg/Berlin. The debate was moderated by Luca Lionello. The two Vice-Presidents of UEF, Markus Ferber and Domènec Ruiz Devesa introduced into the debate.



# RESOLUTIONS

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The following UEF resolutions were approved at the UEF XXVII Congress held in Valencia on July 3 and 4, 2021.

- **RESOLUTION 1:** OUR FEDERAL EUROPE, SOVEREIGN AND DEMOCRATIC
- **RESOLUTION 2:** ON A SYSTEMATIC APPROACH TO EUROPEAN CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION
- **RESOLUTION 3:** ON A CORPORATE DIGITAL TAX
- **RESOLUTION 4:** THE EU AS A GLOBAL ACTOR IN THE POST-COVID19 ERA: A STRONGER COMMON FOREIGN AND SECURITY POLICY
- **RESOLUTION 5:** TOWARDS A TRULY COMMON AND SECURED SPACE OF FREE MOVEMENT AND A SUSTAINABLE EU MIGRATION POLICY AND ASYLUM POLICY
- **RESOLUTION 6:** TOWARDS A COMMON EUROPEAN POLICY IN THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEA

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# PRESS RELEASES

## **January 28, 2021 - Future of Europe: The EU's Darwinian moment**

The EU institutions haven't been reformed since the Lisbon Treaty over a decade ago, resulting in Europeans being limited in what they can do, or governments sometimes being forced to take action outside the EU treaties. This situation cannot last much longer, which is why I believe that the EU is having its own 'Darwinian' moment", said UEF President Sandro Gozi.

## **February 5, 2021 - UEF President Sandro GOZI: We need to make full use of the potential of the Conference on the Future of Europe - No CoFoE light!**

In a meeting of the EU ambassadors, the Member States adopted their revised position on the Conference on the Future of Europe on 3 February. The document was proposed by the Portuguese Presidency.

"The Conference was not meant to be a general debate on topics that we already discuss every day, but to design a real and courageous future for our Europe and for us European citizens!" stated UEF President Sandro GOZI.

## **March 4, 2021 - The Conference on the Future of Europe gets under way**

The European Parliament gave the green light to the Conference on the Future of Europe. The UEF welcomed the reaching of an agreement that finally opened the opportunity to work for a new Europe together with the citizens. For the forces that believe in a federal, sovereign and democratic Europe, this is the time for commitment and mobilisation.

## **March 8, 2021 - International Women's Day will celebrate the Founding Mothers of Europe**

Gender equality is a core principle of the European Union; a lot has been done to put it in practice but we are certainly not there yet. In business, politics and society as a whole, the Union must eliminate inequalities and to promote equality. This year's theme for International Women's Day, "Founding Mothers of Europe", commemorated all the visionary female leaders who inspired the creation of the European Union.

## **March 16, 2021 - Appeal - Our Federal Europe: sovereign and democratic**

We are eagerly awaiting the start of the Conference on the future of Europe, an event designed to bring together citizens, leading exponents of civil society, NGOs, trade unions, and representatives of national and European institutions, to debate and decide how to go about adapting our institutions in a way that will complete the building of our federal Europe. Their efforts must be underpinned by the clear realisation that the fundamental decisions on common borrowing and taxation cannot indefinitely remain in the hands of national governments alone, but must be made together in an effective, transparent and democratic way.

## **18 April, 2021 - 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TREATY OF PARIS: ADDRESSING THE CRISIS OF THE EU**

The 70th Anniversary of the Treaty of Paris reminded us of the original goals of European integration and the achievements the idea of a united Europe has brought to our continent over the past seven decades. "The Paris Treaty is both legacy and mandate, and as a consequence obliges us to develop further the European integration process. Therefore, we have to ask ourselves what the "coal and steel" of our time are", says Sandro GOZI, President of UEF and MEP. "What are the problems that we have to face today united as Europeans? This should be the first question discussed with citizens at the Conference on the Future of Europe", underlined the UEF-President, Sandro GOZI.

## **20 April, 2021 - CoFoE: Spinelli MEPs and the UEF launch Europe-wide network with federalist and pro-European MPs from Member States**

The meeting was organized by the Spinelli Group, in cooperation with the Union of European Federalists (UEF), who invited the federalist and pro-European members of the parliaments of the Member States to its Plenary Session on 16 April 2021. The meeting was attended by a large group of national MPs from many EU countries, as for instance from Austria, Bulgaria, Germany, Italy, Romania and Spain. The Plenary Session was also attended by the Presidents and Secretary Generals of the UEF Member Sections. The many interventions in the debate confirmed the common will to work in order to make the process of the Conference a political game changer for Europe.

**17 May, 2021 - the UEF presents its new project MAKE EUROPE BLOOM: The time is now!**

On this special day in which we not only celebrated Europe Day but also welcomed the long-awaited launching of the Conference on the Future of Europe, we unveiled our new project MAKE EUROPE BLOOM: The time is now!

**21 July, 2021 - XXVII Congress of the UEF in Valencia discusses the Conference on the Future of Europe and celebrates the 75th anniversary of UEF!**

On 3 and 4 July 2021, the time had finally come: after more than a year in online formats, the XXVII European Congress of the UEF at the Jardí Botanique de Valencia offered the possibility of face-to-face meetings for the delegates of the UEF sections and guests. Around half of the 149 registered Delegates and Observers had travelled to Valencia to attend the Congress, which also celebrated the 75th anniversary of the UEF. For the remaining participants, the hybrid format chosen offered an active online participation.

**26 August, 2021 - THE TRAGEDY OF AFGHANISTAN**

Europe must use the opportunity of the Conference on the Future of Europe to change and become able to take responsibility.

**7 September, 2021 - UEF PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT ON A EUROPEAN FOREIGN AND DEFENCE POLICY**

The President of the Union of European Federalists and Member of the European Parliament, Sandro GOZI, urged for a determined improvement of the EU foreign, security and defence policy.

**14 September, 2021 - State of the Union Speech: UEF live coverage**

On 15 September, the European Commission President Ursula VON DER LEYEN delivered her annual State of the Union Speech. She addressed the European Parliament and all citizens in the European Union on last year's achievements, the most pressing challenges of our time and her plans for a sustainable and successful future. Right after, a Live Stream analysis from the federalist perspective was scheduled with the President of UEF & MEP Sandro GOZI and the President of UEF Austria & MEP Lukas MAND. The event was moderated by Dr. Nana WALZER.

**15 September, 2021 - UEF President Sandro Gozi on SOTEU 2021: "We need the courage to build a sovereign and democratic Europe - the time is now!"**

UEF welcomed the assessment made by Commission President Ursula von der Leyen : the attention to young people, the attention to security, the reference to the greatest merit in the past year, and, the proposal for the EU to initiate the development of a true European Defence Union and to set up quickly an autonomous rapid reaction force.

**08 November, 2021 - A big step towards a Federal Europe**

The Union of European Federalists very much welcomed the clear commitment of the coalition partners to the creation of a European Federation. The call for the creation of a European Federation is our core petition that we, together with our Sections, have been calling for since our foundation 75 years ago.

**19 November, 2021 - The Future of Europe blooming with the New European Bauhaus and the CoFoE**

Officially launched on Europe Day 2021, #makeEuropeBloom consists primarily of painting murals at different peripheral European locations. We shared the video of the making of and the final results of our first artwork in cooperation with Marest Studio, Generalitat Valenciana and Ajuntament de València in the city of Valencia (Spain), which was painted in parallel to UEF's XXVII European Congress.

**23 November, 2021 - Letter from UEF President Sandro GOZI to UEF Sections**

As the CoFoE progresses towards the drafting of concrete recommendations, the latest developments witness the awakening of a stronger pro-European sentiment in various Member States that politically strengthen the work of the Conference itself. We must boost our efforts to raise awareness about this positive momentum, with a view to engage citizens directly, and to gain wider support for our ideas, projects, and proposals.



# NEWSLETTERS



## The Time is Now! - CoFoE Newsletter

- Issue 13 - 23rd December 2021
- Issue 12 - 30th November 2021
- Issue 11- 19th November 2021
- Issue 10 - 29th October 2021
- Issue 9 - 5th October 2021
- Issue 8 - 1st October 2021
- Issue 7 - 17th September 2021
- Issue 6 - 30th July 2021
- Issue 5 - 13th July 2021
- Issue 4 - 1st June 2021
- Issue 3 - 18th May 2021
- Issue 2 - 30th April 2021
- Issue 1 - 19th April 2021



## UEF Insider - Newsletter

- Christmas Edition 24th December 2021
- 4th Issue, 17th November 2021
- 3rd Issue, 30th September 2021
- 2nd Issue, 29th July 2021
- 1st Issue, 11th May 2021







# STRUCTURE

**AN ASSOCIATION FIT FOR ITS PURPOSE**

# INTERNAL REFORMS

An organisation – like the UEF – is never static but always on the move and has to undergo critical self-reflection at regular intervals. During the first semester of 2020, the UEF faced severe internal challenges and was obliged to look for institutional responses. A first deeper analysis of the specific provisions of the UEF Statutes revealed gaps in the description of the tasks allocated to the Organs of the association as well as the need for a wider revision of key provisions in order to improve the functioning of the UEF and incorporate best practices based on the experience gained by national sections.

Already in July 2020, the President and Secretary-General had called on the Sections to nominate members of their sections for a Working Group on Statutes and Rules of Procedures. The sections were also given the opportunity to contribute. The Working Group can be seen as good example for cooperation within the association: it worked in a collective and inclusive way, analyzing the contributions submitted by national sections, identified main gaps, defined the scope of the revision, discussed different options for core provisions and focused on practical and operational solutions. It worked in an intensive way, sharing experiences and conceiving a more effective and modern management of the organization, respecting traditions but also facing the new realities of people mobility and the digital transformation. In this way, a new Statutes could be presented to Congress, making the UEF fit for its purpose and for the future. The new Statutes foresee also the transfer of the registered office to Belgium, a long overdue step.

After the adoption the new Statutes at the XXVII European Congress, the Working Group met over the summer months and prepared a proposal of a Financial and Contributions Order (FCO) for the UEF.

The FCO could be adopted at an extraordinary Federal Committee meeting on 4 September 2021. The FCO is guided by the principles of clarity and truth which seemed to be of great importance, especially against the background of the financial situation of the UEF and the experiences of the recent past.

Here are the most important changes in a nutshell: The FCO proposal establishes rules for the preparation of the budget. The operational costs for the Secretariat to be strictly separated from the project costs. Furthermore, the auditors will have a greater control on the one hand and an advisory function on the other hand. The rules for payment of the contributions of the Sections and the membership fees of the individual members have been clarified and simplified. Due to the financial situation of the UEF, it is important that the Sections and individual members meet their financial obligations. The Working Group considered it appropriate to subject the payment of dues by the sections to strict regulation. No loopholes or even "rewards" for non-payment of dues and fees should be left in future. However, the FCO also addresses exceptional and difficult situations.

After a short break, the Working Group resumed its work at the beginning of October 2021. The original composition of the Working Group was extended by the inclusion of Members of the Presidium of the Federal Committee. The Rules of Procedures recall the duties of the Federal Committee by quoting the relevant articles of the Statutes. This serves to provide a better overview. Then the types of meetings, i.e. plenary meetings or meetings in the Political Commissions are described.





The online and/or hybrid formats already used in 2020 and 2021 meetings are now regulated in the Rules of Procedures. The Political Commissions meet during the regular Federal Committee meetings and are encouraged to meet as well outside. The overall aim is to create a living organisation as a place of European-wide exchange. Therefore, Political Commissions are to draw up an annual work programme which will be incorporated into the overall work programme of the UEF. Resolutions can be submitted by the Executive Bureau, the Political Commissions, Federal Committee members and authorised persons with declarations made in the name of their Sections.

In addition to the Working Group on Statutes and Rules of Procedures, a Financial Task Force was set up which met a couple of times in spring/summer 2021 under the lead of the former Treasurer, François Mennerat.

With the adoption of the new Statutes by the Congress and with the adoption of Financial and Contributions Order and the new Rules of Procedures by the Federal Committee the course for a new future is set!



# EXECUTIVE BUREAU

## PRESIDENT



**Sandro GOZI**

## VICE-PRESIDENT



**Markus FERBER**



**Domènec RUIZ DEVESA**



**Luisa TRUMELLINI**

## SECRETARY-GENERAL



**Anna ECHTERHOFF**

## TREASURER



**Dominique OSTYN**



MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE BUREAU



**Raphaël BEZ**



**Daniel GERER**



**Daphne GOGOU**



**François MENNERAT**



**Eszter NAGY**



**Giulia ROSSOLILLO**



**Laura TATARÉLYTÉ**



**Wolfgang G. WETTACH**



**Birgit WILLE**



# FEDERAL COMMITTEE 2021 - 2023 MEMBERS

## PRESIDIUM OF THE FEDERAL COMMITTEE

Philipp AGATHONOS

Matilde CERON

Julian PLOTTKA

## EB-MEMBERS (also FC-Members = NEW)

Sandro GOZI

Markus FERBER

Domènec Ruiz DEVESA

Luisa TRUMELLINI

Anna ECHTERHOFF

Dominique OSTYN

Raphaël BEZ

Daniel GERER

Daphne GOGOU

François MENNERAT

Eszter NAGY

Giulia ROSSOLILLO

Laura TATARELYTE

Wolfgang WETTACH

Birgit WILLE

## DIRECTLY ELECTED FC-MEMBERS

Ophélie OMNES

Eva LICHTENBERGER

Julian PLOTTKA

Leonie MARTIN

Pierangelo CANGIALOSI

Christopher GLÜCK

Florian ZIEGENBALG

Alejandro PEINADO GARCIA

Camilla WALSTAD

Sebastiano PUTOTO

Giannis NIKOS

## NOMINATED MEMBERS & SUBSTITUTES

### UEF AUSTRIA

Delegates

10

NOMINATED

Philipp AGATHONOS  
Abdul AYDEMIR  
Friedhelm FRISCHENSCHLAGER  
Marc GERMESHAUSEN  
Lukas MANDL  
Masoumeh MORDIAN  
Julia NEWLAND  
Sabrina NEWLAND  
Alin KALAM  
N.N.

SUBSTITUTES

<b>UEF BELGIUM</b>		<b>Delegates</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>NOM.</b>	Jean MARSIA Nezka FIGELI	<b>SUB.</b>	Paul FRIX
<b>UEF BULGARIA</b>		<b>Delegates</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>NOM.</b>	Velko IVANOV Emil DIMITROV	<b>SUB.</b>	
<b>UEF CYPRUS</b>		<b>Delegates</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>NOM.</b>	N.N. N.N.	<b>SUB.</b>	
<b>UEF CZECHIA</b>		<b>Delegates</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>NOM.</b>	Ivo KAPLÁN Karel SCHWARZ	<b>SUB.</b>	Paul FRIX
<b>UEF FINLAND</b>		<b>Delegates</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>NOM.</b>	Henrik SODERMAN N.N.	<b>SUB.</b>	
<b>UEF FRANCE</b>		<b>Delegates</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>NOM.</b>	Pauline GESSANT Hervé MORITZ Silvia ROMANO	<b>SUB.</b>	Noé DÉTHIER Julien BOURGEOIS
<b>UEF GERMANY</b>		<b>Delegates</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>NOMINATED</b>	Harm ADAM Ulrich BEUL Gabriele BISCHOFF Katharina BORNGÄSSER Anton von CETTO Tobias FLESSENKEMPER Thorsten FRANK Anne GÖDDE Maria-Elisabeth KALB Enrico KREFT Bettina KÜMMERLE Heinrich KÜMMERLE Michael MONTAG Robert NORTHOFF Marcus OBERSTEDT Fridjof RINDERMANN Isabella-Ines RITTER Heinz SCHAUMANN Barbara SCHENNERLEIN Jan-Philipp SCHEU Florian STAUDT Rainer WIELAND	<b>SUBSTITUTES</b>	Anna ECHTERHOFF Markus FERBER Marianne HÜHN Julian PLOTTKA Wolfgang WETTACH Birgit WILLE Florian ZIEGENBALG



<b>UEF GREECE</b>		<b>Delegates</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>NOM.</b>	George KOLYVAS N.N.	<b>SUB.</b>	
<b>UEF HUNGARY</b>		<b>Delegates</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>NOM.</b>	Miklos DERER Ákos OSTADAL-SZEDERJEI	<b>SUB.</b>	
<b>UEF ITALY</b>		<b>Delegates</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>NOMINATED</b>	Paolo ACUNZO Antonio ARGENZIANO Brando BENIFEI Stefano CASTAGNIOLI Fabio Massimo CASTALDO Matilde CERON Virgilio DASTOLI Matteo GORI Alfonso IOZZO Lucio LEVI Luca LIONELLO Massimo MALCOVATI Domenico MORO Stefano MOSCARELLI Davide NEGRI Carlo Maria PALERMO Alessandro PILOTTI Sergio PISTONE Franco SPOLTORE	<b>SUBSTITUTES</b>	Gianluca BONATO Roberto CASTALDI Marco CELLI Simone CUOZZO Claudio FILIPPI Franco FRANCESCO, Valentina MAESTRI Paolo MILANESI
<b>UEF LITHUANIA</b>		<b>Delegates</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>NOM.</b>	N.N.	<b>SUB.</b>	
<b>UEF LUXEMBOURG</b>		<b>Delegates</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>NOM.</b>	Alain CALMES Chiara CIPOLETTA	<b>SUB.</b>	
<b>UEF MONTENEGRO</b>		<b>Delegates</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>NOM.</b>	Ljubomir FILIPOVIC	<b>SUB.</b>	Boro MILOVIC
<b>UEF ROMANIA</b>		<b>Delegates</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>NOM.</b>	N.N.	<b>SUB.</b>	
<b>UEF SERBIA</b>		<b>Delegates</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>NOM.</b>	N.N.	<b>SUB.</b>	

<b>UEF SLOVAKIA</b>		<b>Delegates</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>NOM.</b>	Norbert KUCHARIK	<b>SUB.</b>	
<b>UEF SLOVENIA</b>		<b>Delegates</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>NOM.</b>	N.N.	<b>SUB.</b>	
<b>UEF SPAIN</b>		<b>Delegates</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>NOMINATED</b>	Francisco ALDECOA LUZÁRRAGA Enrique BARÓN CRESPO Mireia ESTEVA SALÓ José FÉLIX MERLADET Carme VALLS LLOBET Gloria VARA GINER	<b>SUBSTITUTES</b>	
<b>UEF SWITZERLAND</b>		<b>Delegates</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>NOMINATED</b>	Janina AEBERHARD Sebastian von GRAFFENRIED Barbara GEISER Cécile KESSLER Claude NICATI Eric NUSSBAUMER Roland RINGGENBERG Chantal TAUXE	<b>SUBSTITUTES</b>	
<b>UEF UK</b>		<b>Delegates</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>NOM.</b>	N.N.	<b>SUB.</b>	
<b>UEF GROUPE EUROPE</b>		<b>Delegates</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>NOM.</b>	Catherine VIEILLEDENT Giorgio CLAROTTI	<b>SUB.</b>	Francesco FRANCO Lothar JASCHKE
<b>JEF EUROPE</b>		<b>Delegates</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>NOMINATED</b>	ALESE Diletta BARBATI Jacopo BRANDT Balázs Sean DEVOS Simon FALCONE Mariasophia HANFF Jean-Louis JARVINIEMI Juuso POWERS Chris SAVALL Christelle STEPNIAK Tosia STEUBER Malte	<b>SUBSTITUTES</b>	

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**Cecilia COMASTRI**  
**Assistant Project Officer**



**Mariona ESPIN ONIEVA**  
**Policy and Communication  
Officer**

UEF warmly thanks the UEF interns of the year 2021 for their commitment and Cecilia Comastri and Giulia Stefano for their excellent work in the Secretariat. UEF wishes them all the best and every success for their future private and professional path.













Union of European Federalists  
Union Europäischer Föderalisten  
Union des Fédéralistes Européens



**EUROPE, UNITE OR PERISH**