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EUROPEAN
FEDERALISTS



ACTION COMMITTEE FOR THE UNITED STATES OF EUROPE

PRESENTATION



2024-2026

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THIRD ACTION COMMITTEE FOR THE UNITED STATES OF EUROPE

Introduction

The Action Committee for the United States of Europe (USE), first created by Jean Monnet in 1955, was an organization dedicated to promoting European integration and the concept of a united Europe with the objective of organising peace in Europe and worldwide. It is considered often as a forerunner of the European Council.

In 1984 by a common initiative of Max Kohnstamm, former VP of the first Action Committee and first President of the European University Institute in Florence, Belgian Minister Léo Tindemans, author of the Tindemans Report, former chancellor of Germany Helmut Schmidt and former PM of the UK Edward Heath, actively supported by the EC President Jacques Delors, a second Action Committee was launched, which was instrumental in fixing the 1992 time table, the development of the practical design of the internal market and in paving the way for the Single European Act.

The recent relaunch of an Action Committee aimed at mobilising prominent members of the European society to advocate notably for the implementation of the Letta report on completing the internal market, the Draghi report on the future of European competitiveness, the launching of an ambitious MFF post 2027 and the establishment of a Defence Union, paving the way for a deeper political union by way of a Treaty reform.



JEAN MONNET

Founder of the First Action Committee
for the United States of Europe

ICI,
JEAN MONNET
FONDATEUR
DE LA
COMMUNAUTE EUROPEENNE
CREA ET ANIMA
DE 1955 A 1975
LE COMITE D'ACTION
POUR
LES ETATS UNIS D'EUROPE

Cette plaque a été inaugurée par Michel ROCARD,
Premier Ministre à l'occasion du centième anniversaire
de la naissance de Jean MONNET.

PARIS 1988



THIRD ACTION COMMITTEE FOR THE UNITED STATES OF EUROPE

Our Members and High Patrons

Currently, the Third Action Committee (TAC) for the USE is composed of:

- 5 organizations - Union of European Federalists, The Spinelli Group, JEF Europe, Civico Europa and the Association Jean Monnet;
- 54 individual members;
- 14 supporting High Patrons.

The Monnet Method as source of inspiration for its work

Strategically the Committee explicitly wants to draw its inspiration from both Jean Monnet's and Max Kohnstamm's approach in the previous two Committees. It means to build upon a single unified idea for policy makers to follow and to build via direct and informal contacts with decision makers on different relevant levels the necessary political support for it, putting forward a clear list of priorities and a clear timetable, having in mind it is all about organising peace and trust.



MAX KOHNSTAMM

Founder of the Second Action Committee
for the United States of Europe



Apartment building at 3, Avenue Foch in Paris, where the Action Committee had its permanent offices on the third floor



Source: The Jean Monnet Foundation

1. Political Union and European Sovereignty

A recurring concept throughout the documents is the need for genuine 'European sovereignty', meaning:

- autonomous defence capabilities
- energy and industrial strategic autonomy
- the ability to act globally without excessive dependence on the USA
- a unified geopolitical role for Europe

The Committee advocates in particular 'a Union within the Union', meaning a more integrated core group of countries willing to move ahead toward increased political federation in order to overcome the limits of the current intergovernmental system, increasing the Union's capacity to act collectively in foreign policy, defence and economic governance, in respect of the principle of subsidiarity as understood by Jacques Delors who was closely involved in the launch of the second Action Committee.

The Committee considers unavoidable institutional reform and a more dynamic understanding of the current treaties, in regard to the various challenges we are confronted with, in particular the current geopolitical competition, the security and energy threats and the necessity of green and digital transition.

2. Creation of a Common European Defence and work further at the civilian and military preparedness

This is one of the most developed priorities in the Committees Documents.

The proposals include:

- strengthening the EU's role as a security actor as proposed in the Niinisto Report and to develop further the concrete spirit of the solidarity clause in Art 42.7 of the TEU
- establishing a 'European Defence System'
- creating a 28th European army, complementary to national armed forces
- developing a rapid deployment capability of 60 000 troops
- integrating the French nuclear deterrent into a European framework
- coordinating investments in armaments, research, and procurement
- building a stronger European pillar within NATO
- The rationale here is explicitly geopolitical in presence of the Russian threat, the growing unpredictability of the USA and the weaponization of trade dependencies.

3. Strengthening the EU's Economic and Industrial capacities

The Committee supports;

- full implementation of the Letta report on the single market
- implementation of the Draghi report on European competitiveness
- increased common European investments
- an effective European industrial policy daring to make choices
- striving for technological and open strategic sovereignty in a realistic way, developing pathways to optimal resilience in dynamic political, economical, social and cultural environments.

Among the proposed instruments are:

- new EU own resources
- permanent eurobounds

It further considers it important to advance in the development of the Savings & Investment Union and in the completion of the Banking Union.

4. Defense of the European Model and Socio-Liberal Democracy, intensifying the democratization of the EU

The documents link European federalism to the protection of the rule of law against the tendencies which proceed in ruling by law, the further development of the European social model based on social justice and solidarity and the effective organization of trust among the different economical, political, social and cultural actors and thus of peace in Europe.

European integration is presented as the answer to:

- the return of 'imperial powers'
- nationalism
- global geopolitical fragmentation.

The democratic priorities include:

- transnational lists for European elections and strengthening the European Parliament position
- strengthening a genuinely pan-European political debate
- enhancing the democratic legitimacy of the EU
- mobilizing European citizens against nationalism and Euroscepticism

The Committee argues European challenges must be addressed within a common European political sphere rather than exclusively through national frameworks. Working at a European Demos present on all levels of decision making, public and private, remains a continuous battle, especially through permanent education and dialogue amongst and with citizens, social partners and different communities, giving new impulses to representative democracy and civil engagement from all layers of the population.

Timeline of the Activities

2024 — Relaunch of the Action Committee

Spring 2024 — Launch of the “Appeal to Citizens and Political Parties” in the European Parliament

Publication of:

“Towards the United States of Europe – Appeal to Citizens and Political Parties”

The Third Action Committee was officially launched as a pan-European federalist political platform inspired by Jean Monnet's first Action Committee.

Main objectives of the appeal

- transform the EU into a democratic federation;
- overcome the intergovernmental model;
- strengthen the European Parliament;
- abolish national veto powers;
- create a common foreign and defence policy;
- mobilize citizens and pro-European political parties ahead of the 2024 European elections.

Political significance

The appeal represented:

- the founding manifesto of the new Committee;
- the beginning of a transnational campaign for EU federal reform;
- the creation of a broad cross-party pro-European coalition.

2024 — Ventotene Partnership Agreement

Signing of the “Partnership and Memorandum of Understanding” in Ventotene

The Action Committee signed a political and organizational memorandum on the island of Ventotene, a symbolic place in the history of European federalism.

Actions undertaken

- strengthening cooperation among European federalist movements;
- coordinating strategy among civic and political organizations;
- defining a common roadmap toward a federal European Union.

Symbolic importance

The choice of Ventotene directly connected the Committee:

- to the Ventotene Manifesto;
- to the legacy of Spinelli, Rossi, and Coloni;
- to the historical tradition of European federalism.

2025 — European Security and Political Sovereignty Become Central

Early 2025 — Publication of the “Memorandum on European Defence Union”

The Committee published one of its most important strategic documents.

Main proposals

Creation of:

- a European defence system;
- a “28th European army”;
- a permanent common military capability;
- integrated European defence procurement and industry;
- common defence investments;
- a stronger European pillar within NATO.

Political objective

To transform European defence:

- from intergovernmental cooperation,
- into a genuine federal European competence.



Timeline of the Activities



9 May 2025 — “A Second Schuman Plan for a Common Defence and Political Union”

On Europe Day, the Committee published a proposal inspired by the original 1950 Schuman Plan.

Main proposals

- create a European defence community;
- gradually unify military capabilities;
- develop European political sovereignty;
- use common defence as the engine of federal integration.

Political significance

The Committee argued that:

- European security requires a federal leap forward;
- the EU must become an autonomous geopolitical actor;
- common defence can play in the 21st century the same role that coal and steel played in the 1950s..

October 2025 — First General Meeting of the Third Action Committee

“First General Meeting – A More Secure Union”

The first general meeting of the Action Committee took place at the Maison Jean Monnet in Houjarray.

Activities carried out

- consolidation of the Committee's governance;
- expansion of the network of supporters;
- political coordination among European federalists;
- definition of common strategic priorities.

Main themes discussed

- European security;
- strategic autonomy;
- federal Treaty reform;
- European competitiveness;
- overcoming unanimity voting.

2025 — European Security and Political Sovereignty Become Central

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To transform European defence:

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- into a genuine federal European competence.

Timeline of the Activities

December 2025 — “Time for an EU Declaration of Independence”

The Committee published one of its strongest geopolitical statements: Europe must become politically autonomous from the United States.

Main demands

- a common European defence;
- strategic autonomy;
- stronger economic sovereignty;
- a federal European budget;
- eurobonds;
- a European industrial policy;
- abolition of national veto powers.

Public impact

The declaration was circulated in several major European newspapers and became a political manifesto for the Committee.



6 March 2026 — Launch of the Design Office of the Third Action Committee

“Ideas for european open strategic sovereignty in an interdependent world: digital, financial, energy, defence”

The first meeting of the Design Office took place in Lillois (Wallon Brabant) and featured key interventions of Herman van Rompuy, Domenec Ruiz Devesa, Klaus Welle, Christophe Leclercq, Koen de Leus, Ronnie Belmans and Monica Frassoni.

The Design Office of the TAC is going to organise a permanent exchange with experts to mobilise for the members of the Committee the expertise necessary at different design stages, in order to be in a position to influence already in the concept phase and not only after strategies and action plans are proposed, by Integrating inputs from diverse academic sources and think tanks, as well as from different societal actors in the economic, social, cultural, and political sphere, such as the social partners (business and trade unions sectoral and umbrella organizations) and NGOs.



Timeline of the Activities

9 May 2026 — “We Need a Union within the Union”

The Committee explicitly proposed the creation of a federal avant-garde within the EU.

A group of member states willing to move more rapidly toward:

- political integration,
- common defence,
- fiscal union,
- federal sovereignty.

Political objectives

- avoid paralysis caused by unanimity;
- allow differentiated integration;
- build the institutional core of the future United States of Europe.

Strategic significance

This proposal marked:

- the transition from a general federalist agenda,
- to a concrete institutional strategy for building a European federation.

2026 — From European Federalism to Strategic Sovereignty

The Committee further developed its geopolitical agenda.

Political diagnosis

- possible strategic disengagement of the United States;
- crisis in transatlantic relations;
- need for European self-sufficiency.

Operational proposals

- Acceleration of common European defence;
- industrial and technological integration;
- stronger European fiscal capacity;
- energy and military autonomy;
- creation of genuine European sovereignty.



September 2024

Relaunch of the Action Committee in Ventotene

On the 1st and 2nd of September 2024, in the municipality of Ventotene, representatives of the Union of European Federalists, Association Jean Monnet, the Young European Federalists, the Spinelli Group, as well as significant political figures signed the Political Declaration and the Memorandum of Understanding for the re-launch the Action Committee for the United States of Europe.

On this occasion, the 'Ventotene Declaration for a more and better Europe' was presented.

The partnership was signed by:

- Domènec Ruiz Devesa (former MEP, UEF President)
- Sandro Gozi (MEP, Chair of the Spinelli Group)
- Christelle Savall (JEF Europe President)
- Philippe Laurette (Association Jean Monnet President)

The partnership was endorsed by:

- Josep Borrell (High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, Vice-President of the European Commission)
- Thijs Reuten (MEP, Spinelli Group)
- Klaus Welle (Former Secretary-General of the European Parliament, Martens Centre's Academic Council Chair)
- Stefano Castagnoli (Altiero Spinelli Institute President and MFE President)
- Guy Verhofstadt (former MEP, European Movement International President)
- Luisa Trumellini (Secretary General of Movimento Federalista Europeo)
- Giulia Rossolillo (UEF Vice-President)
- Roberto Sommella (Associazione Nuova Europa President)
- Carmine Caputo (Vice-Mayor of Ventotene)

1. Read the document [here](#)

2. PDF document [here](#)

3. Original document signed [here](#)



October 2025

First General Meeting of the Action Committee for the USE: A more Secure and Perfect Union

On the 70th anniversary of the founding of the First Action Committee by Jean Monnet, the first meeting of the Third Action Committee was held at the Maison Jean Monnet in Bazoches-Sur-Guyonne on 16-18 October 2025. With the participation of, among others, Josep Borrell, Mario Monti, Enrico Letta, Andrea Wechsler, Enrique Barón Crespo, Othmar Karas, Ana Palacio, Klaus Welle, and Domènec Ruiz Devesa.

“The third Action Committee is aiming at developing a ‘collective Monnet’, composed pro-European personalities to foster a common vision for a stronger and federal Union”, *Domènec Ruiz Devesa, Former MEP 2019-2024 and President of UEF*

“We should not take for granted the European project and be aware of the challenges we need to overcome. All pro-European forces need to fight together, starting by implementing the necessary institutional challenges to tackle the EU's challenges.”, *Fernando Mariano Sampedro Marcos, Spanish State Secretary for the European Union*

“European federalism is the most ambitious political project in mankind”, *Mario Monti, Professor at University Bocconi, former Prime Minister of Italy, former European Commissioner and Member of the Senate of the Italian Republic.*

“The West as we knew it doesn't exist anymore. As Europeans, we need to overcome our internal institutional competition, clarify and use the tools that we already have on the table to finally build our strategic autonomy.” *Josep Borrell, former EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and former President of the European Parliament*

“We can criticise the functioning of the EU institutions, but we can not make the big mistake of delegitimising them. We should build the future together, constructively”, *Enrico Letta, President of the Jacques Delors Institute and former Prime Minister of Italy*

“If we want a peaceful future, it must be federal”, *Enrique Barón Crespo, former President of the European Parliament and President of UEF Spain*

“Uniting the pro-European forces of Europe is a start. But thinking of the states alone without the citizens won't work”, *Othmar Karas, Former First Vice President of the European Parliament*

Declaration A Roadmap to European Sovereignty [LINK](#)

Pictures here by the photographer David Arous: Day 1 [LINK](#), Day 2 [LINK](#)

Program, List of Participants and Background Paper [LINK](#)



March 2026

First Design Office meeting

The first 2026 meeting of the Design Office of the Action Committee for the United States of Europe marked an important milestone in the Committee's efforts to develop concrete policy proposals capable of strengthening the European Union's capacity to act in an increasingly complex and volatile geopolitical environment.

The first session examined the implementation of Article 42.7 of the Treaty on European Union and the broader challenge of strengthening European defence cooperation.

A second discussion focused on the resilience of Europe's information environment. Speakers analysed the growing impact of disinformation campaigns, foreign interference and emerging technological threats on democratic processes and public trust. The debate highlighted the importance of strengthening media literacy, safeguarding democratic institutions and developing coordinated European responses to information manipulation. Energy security represented another key theme of the meeting.

The final policy session addressed the creation of a European Savings and Investment Union. Participants considered how Europe can better mobilise private and public capital to support innovation, competitiveness, defence investments and long-term economic growth.

The meeting featured a distinguished group of speakers and experts representing European institutions, academia, business, energy policy, economics and civil society. Key interventions were delivered by **Herman Van Rompuy**, former President of the European Council; **Klaus Welle**, former Secretary-General of the European Parliament; **Christophe Leclercq**, founder of EURACTIV; **Ronnie Belmans**, leading expert in energy systems and sustainability; and **Monica Frassoni**, former Member of the European Parliament and prominent advocate of the European Green Deal.

Throughout the event, participants emphasised the need to transform Europe's political unity into effective common action. The discussions highlighted that the challenges facing the European Union can only be addressed through stronger cooperation, deeper integration and a renewed commitment to shared European interests.

The dedicate page of the Design Office of the TAC: [LINK](#)



The Design Office

Developing a Design Office (DO) for the Third Monnet Action Committee (TAC)

“Not all problems can be solved, but all problems can be illuminated. If the eggs are scrambled, they’re scrambled. You can’t unscramble them. All you can possibly do is cook them and share them with somebody”

Ursula Martius Franklin

Physician- metallurgist and peace militant, Munich 1921-Toronto 2016, in discussion with Meredith Meredith, internet researcher and poet, in December 2015.

Both previous Action committees functioned with a 'bureau d'études' which gives in translation the term 'design office'. This permanent exchange with experts was of precious help to illuminate the problems the European Communities were confronted with. These design offices were in a certain sense the intellectual kitchens where the problems European countries encountered were illuminated and possible solutions were pre-cooked for political decisions on the level of the then European Communities.

To be an effective influential group and collective Monnet, as we like to portray the TAC, we need to be able to mobilize the expertise necessary at different design stages of new legislation and instruments in the EU, and therefore we need not to be in the position of only reacting after strategies are proposed. Helping the members of the TAC to formulate single unified ideas with clear lists of priorities and timetables, based upon inputs from diverse academic sources and think tanks, from different societal actors, economical, social, cultural, political such as the social partners (business and trade unions sectoral and umbrella organizations) and NGOs, is the main reasoning behind the launch of the DO for the TAC.

Bringing effective results as DO goes also through the possibility the existence of the network of experts mobilized by the DO offers to exchange on a high level with international organizations such as the OECD, The CoE, etc. to finetune proposals and interventions and have these organizations take into account our views. It must further give us the possibility for the TAC to inject into international gatherings of importance for the EU and Europe such as the G7, G20, etc. and even non-Western high level gatherings our insights and proposals.

This is in line with the needs of Europe and the EU: even more than now upstream coordination at the design stage, not after strategies are finalized.

This is in line with the needs of Europe and the EU: even more than now upstream coordination at the design stage, not after strategies are finalized.

No competition to Think Tanks private and public, on the contrary. But bringing together, confronting, and so giving incentives to practical and thoughtful design, remind and clarify common principles that could and should guide further action. Helping to install resilience in the informational sphere—integrating diverse efforts, bridging silos, and ensuring that responses are coherent, transparent and rooted in democratic values. Central in all research and design models to be developed is the purpose of organizing trust and so organizing peace, which was the motor for Jean Monnet's and Max Kohnstamm's actions. In accordance with work of previous AC's and of the historical engagement of the founding organizations an approach through the perspective of institutional design is going to be very present and needs deliberation beyond silos and specific expertises.

When developing this design academy, we intend to appeal in the first instance to all those experts that participated in the Houjarray Foresight Talks in the Maison Monnet since 2023 and on all those who helped us to make the discussions in Houjarray and Paris fruitful.

On March 6, a first successful gathering was organized in La Rivelaine in Lillois, near Brussels. The talks were instrumental for the memo sent by the TAC on March 11 to the European Council President Antonio Costa in view of the EU summit of March 19&20, 2026.



Communications

Our presence on Press and Social Media

05.03.2025 | Press Release, [It's time for a European Defence Union. A Memorandum of the Action Committee for the United States of Europe](#)

22.10.2025 | Press Release, [First General Meeting of the Action Committee for the USE: A more Secure and Perfect Union](#)

26.12.2025 | [Time for an EU Declaration of Independence](#)

The Declaration - open to signatures - has been published as an opinion article in the following newspapers:

- [La Repubblica \(Italy\)](#).
- [El Pais \(Spain\)](#).
- [Le Soir \(Belgium\)](#).
- [Gazeta Wyborcza \(Poland\)](#).
- [Le Monde \(France\)](#).
- [Delo \(Slovenia\)](#).
- [Dnevnik \(Bulgaria\)](#).
- [România Liberă \(Romania\)](#).
- [Diario de Noticias \(Portugal\)](#).
- [TO BHMA \(Greek\)](#).

22.01.2026 | [Proposal for real strategic sovereignty in view of the transatlantic breakup](#)

The Appeal has been published as an opinion article in the following newspapers:

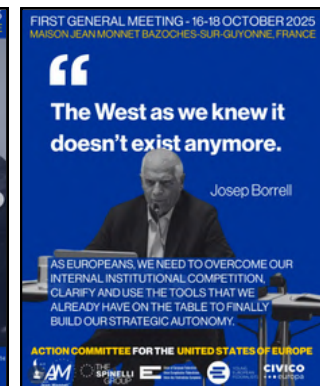
- [El Pais \(Spain\)](#).
- [La Repubblica \(Italy\)](#).
- [Euractiv Europe](#)

17.03.2026 | Press Release, [The EU Council conclusions... for the Action Committee for the USE](#)

09.05.2026 | [We need a Union in the Union](#)

The Declaration - open to signatures - has been published as an opinion article in the following newspapers:

- [El Pais \(Spain\)](#).
- [Le Nouvel Obs \(France\)](#).
- [FocusEurope \(Italy\)](#).



The Third Action Committee for the United States of Europe has represented since its launch in 2024 a significant attempt to accompany the revitalization of federal methods in EU governance in formulating adequate responses to the new geopolitical context, marked by the war in Ukraine, the crisis of the liberal international order, the return of imperialism and of great power competition, and the growing difficulties faced by the EU in acting as a unified political actor.

Explicitly inspired by the original Action Committee for the United States of Europe created by Jean Monnet in the 1950's, the new Committee has pursued the objective of relaunching the project of European federal integration.

Among its most significant successes is the Committee's capacity to formulate concrete proposals on European defence and strategic sovereignty. The 'Memorandum on European Defence Union' represents one of the most comprehensive, clearly focused, strategic documents produced in the recent years, both by the UEF and its partners in the Committee, these last years on the issue of a genuine European Defence Union based on common investments, industrial integration, permanent military capabilities, and the gradual establishment of a European security system. The proposal for a '28th European army' , complementary to national armed forces, carried strong symbolic and political significance and contributed to relaunching the debate on Europe's need for autonomous defence capabilities.

A major achievement, along with other political actors, has been the introduction into the European debate of the concept of "strategic sovereignty". The Committee develops a systematic reflection on the risks associated with the growing fragility of transatlantic relations and on the need for Europe to acquire greater political, economic, energy, technological, and military autonomy. Documents such as 'Time for an EU Declaration of Independence' and 'Proposal for Real Strategic Sovereignty in view of the Transatlantic Breakup' contributed to shifting the federalist debate from a predominantly institutional dimension toward a genuinely geopolitical one. In this respect, the Committee sought to reinterpret European federalism not only as a constitutional project, but also as an instrument of democratic power and as Europe's response to the fragmentation of the international system.

5

Member Organizations

54

Individual Members

14

High Patrons

9

Political documents

16

Times published in national newspapers

200

Number of experts in Design Office network

1888

Signatures collected in support of the Declaration

"Time for an EU Declaration of Independence"

1.002.566.

Views of Facebook and Instagram posts about the Action Committee

Action Committee of the USE Outputs

The Committee works at further developing and promoting coherent political narratives based on the idea that no European state can independently address today's global transformations. An important element in its action is that it succeeds, with increasing success, to animate a broad transnational network of political, cultural, and civil society support. The Committee brings now together in dialogue former Prime Ministers, former Presidents of European Institutions, former European Commissioners, former foreign ministers, former and current members of the European Parliament, entrepreneurs, business and trade union leaders, intellectuals, representatives from different European movements and cultural actors as well as civil society organizations from across Europe. This network has created a remarkable space for coordination among different pro-European and federalist traditions of advocacy, overcoming thus much of the historical fragmentation within the European federalist movement. The presence of personalities from diverse political and ideological backgrounds strengthens the cross-party nature of the initiative, helping to present European federalism not as a partisan project, but as a strategic response to the transformation of the international order.

With the launch of the Design Office in March 2026 , building upon the work previously done during the Houjarray Foresight Talks in the Maison Monnet, it further ensures itself to be able to rely upon an extensive network of experts to underbuild technically and philosophically its concrete proposals and when developing its narratives.

Through memoranda and appeals addressed to the European leaders when preparing summits, through the publication of appeals and declarations in major European newspapers and magazines, carrying each time the signatures of several of its most distinguished members and patrons, the Committee has already shown its determination to help to develop a common roadmap toward European sovereignty and showing ways, in line with the two previous Action Committees, how to organise peace and trust in the world akin to European values.

Through the different gatherings and conferences, starting with the meeting in Ventotene, Italy in 2024 and a year later the first general meeting held at the Maison Jean Monnet in Houjarray, France, directly linking the new Committee to the legacy of both the Ventotene Manifesto and the first Action

Committee, members and patrons of the Third Action Committee show their ambition to actualize in the new global context the legacy of the different European leaders and citizens who helped to make European Union a beacon of how to organize peace and economic, social and cultural welfare.

From a communication and visibility perspective, the Committee succeeded in obtaining significant international attention through the publication of appeals and declarations in major European newspapers and through the participation of prominent political, academic, and cultural figures. This contributed to strengthening the presence of the federalist debate within the European public sphere and to reviving the discussion on European political unity at a time of increasing geopolitical polarization.

Overall, the achievements of the Action Committee cannot yet be measured solely in legislative or institutional terms, since the process of European integration remains long and complex. Nevertheless, the Committee has already achieved important political, cultural, and strategic results: it has rebuilt a pan-European federalist network, brought European federalism back into public debate, developed concrete proposals on European sovereignty, and contributed to redefining the geopolitical role of the European Union in the 21st century. In this sense, the new Action Committee has emerged as one of the main political laboratories of contemporary European federalism and as one of the most ambitious attempts to revive the project of the United States of Europe in the new global context.



High Patrons of the Action Committee



Enrique Barón Crespo

Former President of the European Parliament and former Minister



Josep Borrell Fontelles

Former High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and former President of the European Parliament



Mercedes Bresso

Former President of the European Committee of the Regions and former MEP



Włodzimierz Cimoszewicz

Former Prime Minister of Poland and former MEP



Paolo Gentiloni

Former Prime Minister of Italy and Former Commissioner



Klaus Hänsch

Former President of the European Parliament



Enrico Letta

Former Prime Minister of Italy and former MEP



Toomas Hendrik Ilves

Former President of Estonia



Mario Monti

Former Prime Minister of Italy and former President of EU Commission



Niko Peleshi

President of the Parliament of Albania



Rosen Plevneliev

Former President of the Republic of Bulgaria



Hans-Gert Pöttering

Former President of the European Parliament



Petre Roman

Former Prime Minister of Romania



Herman van Rompuy

Former President of the European Council and Former Prime Minister of Belgium



Guy Verhofstadt

President of European Movement International and former Prime Minister of Belgium

Individual members of the Action Committee

1. **Francisco Aldecoa**, Professor and President of European Movement Spain
2. **László Andor**, Former Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion
3. **Konstantinos Arvanitopoulos**, Former Minister of Education and Director General of the Constantinos Karamanlis Institute for Democracy
4. **Jacques Attali**, Writer and Founder and First President of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
5. **Petras Austrevicius**, Member of the European Parliament
6. **Monica Baldi**, Former Member of the European Parliament
7. **Mathilde Baudouin**, Secretary-General of the Union of European Federalists
8. **Brando Benifei**, Member of the European Parliament and former Spinelli Group President
9. **Gabriele Bischoff**, former President of the Spinelli Group and Member of the European Parliament
10. **Elmar Brok**, Former Chair of the AFET Committee of the European Parliament, former Co-Chair of the Spinelli Group and former President of the UEF
11. **Roberto Castaldi**, Political Philosopher and Director of the International Centre for European and Global Governance
12. **Alessia Centioni**, President of Civico Europa
13. **Richard Corbett**, former MEP and Former Special Advisor to the President of the European Council
14. **Dani Cohn-Bendit**, Writer and former Member of the European Parliament
15. **Pier Virgilio Dastoli**, President of European Movement Italy
16. **Andrew Duff**, Former Member of the European Parliament and former President of the Union of European Federalists
17. **Isabelle Durant**, Former Vice President of the European Parliament
18. **Michele Fiorillo**, Philosopher and Coordinator of Civico Europa and Citizens Take Over Europe; Co-Founder of Europa Power Initiative
19. **Monica Frassoni**, President of the European Center for Electoral Support and former MEP
20. **Daniel Freund**, Member of the European Parliament and former President of the Spinelli Group
21. **José Manuel García-Margallo**, Former Spain's Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation and former MEP
22. **Raphaël Glucksmann**, Member of the European Parliament and of the Spinelli Group
23. **Dafni Gogou**, Former Commission Official and President of UEF Greece
24. **Sandro Gozi**, Member of the European Parliament, former Spinelli Group President and former President of the UEF
25. **Moritz Hergl**, President of the Young European Federalists
26. **Raquel García Hermida-van der Walle**, Member of the European Parliament and President of the Spinelli Group
27. **Danuta Hübner**, economist, former European Commissioner for Regional Policy, former Member of the European Parliament (Poland)
28. **Othmar Karas**, Former First Vice President of the European Parliament and former MP Austria
29. **Guillaume Klossa**, Writer, President of EuropaNova, Chairman of Conclave, and Co-Chair of Europa Power Initiative.
30. **Erato Kozakou-Marcoullis**, Former Cyprus Minister of Foreign Affairs and former Minister for Communications and Works
31. **Pierre Larrousurou**, Former Member of the European Parliament
32. **Reinier van Lanschot**, Member of the European Parliament and Co-Founder of Volt Europa
33. **Pascal Lamy**, Former Commissioner and Former Secretary General of the World Trade Organisation
34. **Philippe Laurette**, President of the Jean Monnet Association
35. **Jo Leinen**, Former President of the European Movement International, former President of the UEF, former MEP and Co-Founder of Europa Power Initiative
36. **Javi López**, Vice President of the European Parliament
37. **Esther Lynch**, President of ETUC
38. **Lukas Mandl**, MEP and Former President of the Spinelli Group
39. **Miguel Ángel Martín Ramos**, Former President of the Cooperation Network of the European Routes of Emperor Charles V and VP of Association Jean Monnet
40. **Robert Menasse**, Writer and Co-Founder of Europa Power Initiative
41. **Ana Palacio**, Former Minister of Foreign Affairs and Former MEP
42. **Margherita Orsi**, Political Scientist
43. **Francesca Ratti**, Former Vice Secretary General of the European Parliament
44. **Domenech Ruiz Devesa**, President of the Union of European Federalists and former MEP; Co-Founder of Europa Power Initiative.
45. **José Ignacio Salafranca**, Former President of EuroLat, former EU Ambassador to Argentina
46. **Christelle Savall**, Former President of JEF Europe and President of UEF Luxembourg
47. **Nicolas Schmit**, Former Commissioner for Jobs and Social Rights and former Minister; Co-Chair of Europa Power Initiative.
48. **Lieven Taillie**, Honorary President of the Association of European Journalists
49. **Luisa Trumellini**, President of the Mario and Valeria Albertini Foundation
50. **Luca Visentini**, Former President of the European Trade Union Confederation.
51. **Andrea Wechsler**, Member of the European Parliament and President of Europa Union Deutschland
52. **Klaus Welle**, Former Secretary General of the European Parliament, former Secretary General of the EPP Group
53. **Jordi Xuclá**, former member of the Congress of Deputies of Spain and the Senate of Spain
54. **Slavoj Žižek**, Philosopher and Co-Chair of Europa Power Initiative.

Our Organizations Members



Union of European Federalists (UEF)

The Union of European Federalists (UEF) is a supranational, non-governmental political organization founded in 1946 to promote the federal integration of Europe and the creation of a democratic and sovereign European Union. Emerging from the cooperation of national federalist movements after the Second World War, the UEF advocates for a federal Europe capable of acting effectively in foreign policy, defence, economic governance, climate action, and the protection of fundamental rights. Throughout its history, the organization has supported major initiatives for European integration, including the strengthening of the European Parliament, the abolition of national veto powers, and the reform of the EU Treaties. Today, the UEF coordinates national sections and activists across Europe, working with institutions, civil society, and pro-European networks to advance democracy, peace, solidarity, and European unity.



The Spinelli Group

The Spinelli Group is a European federalist initiative founded in 2010 to revive the project of European political integration inspired by the vision of Altiero Spinelli, one of the founding fathers of a united Europe. Created as a cross-party network of Members of the European Parliament, the Spinelli Group promotes a democratic European federation capable of acting effectively in economic governance, foreign affairs, security, and defence. The group advocates the abolition of unanimity voting, the strengthening of European institutions, and the federal reform of the EU Treaties. Through campaigns, public events, and political initiatives, it contributes to the debate on the future of Europe and the development of a stronger common European sovereignty. In May 2026 it counts 90 members while it counted 53 after the European Elections in 2024.



Young European Federalists (JEF Europe)

JEF Europe (Young European Federalists) is a pan-European youth organization founded in 1972 to promote European integration, democracy, and European federalism among younger generations. Active in dozens of European countries, JEF Europe brings together young activists committed to building a more democratic, united, and effective Europe capable of addressing global challenges collectively. The organization supports the federal reform of the European Union, the strengthening of European citizenship, democratic participation, and the protection of the rule of law, human rights, and peace. Through campaigns, public events, educational activities, and political advocacy, JEF Europe fosters debate on the future of Europe and encourages young people to actively engage in European public life.

Organizations Members



Association Jean Monnet

In 1986, former collaborators and relatives of Jean Monnet created the Association of Friends of Jean Monnet.

Two years later, in 1988, decreed as "the first *European Jean Monnet Year*" "On the occasion of the centenary of his birth, President François Mitterrand paid a final tribute to this "Great Man" by having his ashes transferred to the Panthéon during a solemn ceremony attended by the heads of state and government of European countries.

Since its inception, the Jean Monnet Association's main objective has been to pass on the memory and legacy of the man who is today considered one of the Fathers of Europe. Today, it continues to share the power of Jean Monnet's actions and teachings with an ever-growing public.

Maintaining the legacy of Jean Monnet also means contributing to the development and strengthening of his legacy, the European Union. This is why the Association strives to convey the values of the Union, such as peace, solidarity, tolerance and the common interest, as well as to shed light on the construction of Europe and the current state of affairs in Europe today.



Civico Europa

CIVICO Europa is an non-profit, independent, and transnational association, aiming to give a new impulse to the European project and, specifically, to democracy and citizenship in a radically changing world.

CIVICO was born out of the May 9 Movement (M9M): a collection of individuals from all horizons, generations, and backgrounds who, after on May 9th 2016, came together to spur a revival of the European project, calling for citizens, opinion leaders, as well as national and European leaders, to launch a common reflection on the future of the EU. The resulting "May 9th Appeal for a European renaissance" gained significant momentum: it was published in several leading European newspapers, thousands of citizens expressed their eagerness to join the movement, and heads of states and government solicited members of the M9M, who were then received by the presidents of the European Commission and Council.

CIVICO was launched as a result of this appeal. Its first act was to author a report on "The European Way for a Better Future" (available below) structured around the realisation that in order to preserve our threatened democracies, and the EU specifically, their representative character must be complemented by a new form of direct and continuous civic participation. This appeal also was published and presented to high-level decision-makers (including presidents Juncker and Macron), thereby significantly contributing to the creation of the current political momentum for democratic consultations.

Since then, CIVICO has been working on this democratic complement, fueled by its core belief that the time has come to reinvent the link between EU citizens and EU institutions and, generally, to bridge the representative gap in modern democracies.

Indeed, in order to guarantee the Union a sustainable future, citizens must now be placed at the heart of its political dynamic and regain ownership over their representation through enhanced participation and deliberation. CIVICO takes it as its mission to carry such change through any positive project aiming at empowering a European civic society and creating a citizens' Europe.

The first of these projects is the [#WeEuropeans](#) initiative.

MANIFESTO | Towards the United States of Europe for a Union that acts and protects | What is at stake in the European elections on 6-9 June 2024

DECLARATION | The Ventotene Political Declaration for a More and a Better Europe signed in Ventotene | 1 September 2024

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING | 1 SEPTEMBER 2024

MEMORANDUM on European Defence Union | 5 March 2025

DECLARATION | A Second Schuman Plan: for a Common Defence and Political Union | 9 May 2025

BACKGROUND PAPER: Relaunch of the Action Committee for the United States of Europe | 16 October 2025

DECLARATION: A Road Map to European Sovereignty | 18 October 2025

Adopted by the Third Action Committee for the United States of Europe, 18 October 2025, Jean Monnet House, Bazoches-sur-Guyonne, France.

DECLARATION | It's time for a European Union Declaration of Independence | 11 December 2025

This text is based on the declaration adopted by the relaunched Action Committee for the United States of Europe, 18 October 2025, Jean Monnet House, Houjarray/ Bazoches-sur-Guyonne, France

DECLARATION | Proposal for real strategic sovereignty in view of the transatlantic breakup

- Letter addressed to the EU Council, President Antonio Costa, by the Action Committee for the United States of Europe, 21 January 2026
- Appeal and Opinion Article based on this letter and published on El Pais and La Repubblica

DOCUMENTS | The Design Office and the Houjarray Foresight Talks documents

DECLARATION | We need a Union within the union | 9 May 2026



the 1990s, the number of publications on the topic has increased steadily, and the number of authors has increased from 1 to 100.

There are a number of reasons for the increase in research on the topic. First, the number of people who are interested in the topic has increased. This is due to the fact that the topic has become more relevant in the 1990s, as a result of the increasing number of people who are interested in the topic.

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**We are in difficulties.
That is a good sign.
If we were not,
we would never change anything.
And making Europe
means changing things.**

Jean Monnet