From local to European: Citizens’ dialogues and panels
in the context of the Conference on the Future of Europe
12/05/2021 – 1230-1400
From local to European:
Citizens’ dialogues and panels

Why?  How?  And what then?
92% of EU citizens agree that EU citizens’ voices should be more taken into account for decisions relating to the future of Europe.
42% of EU citizens think that they can rely most upon local and regional governments, slightly more than the European Union (37%) but significantly more than national governments (21%).

European Committee of the Regions “Have Your Say” survey
How?

The Conference on the Future of Europe

The European Union launched the CoFE as an Open Debate with citizens on the challenges Europe is facing now and how to plan the future together.

This project is one of the activities of the European Committee of the Regions to contribute to this debate and at the same time support the further development of deliberative elements of democracy.
How?

We strongly believe in the need to empower citizens and make their voices heard with innovative methods of citizens’ dialogues and citizens’ participation, including:

- Cross-border dialogues
- Town hall meetings / public debates
- Neighbourhood management
- Public consultations
- Participatory budgeting

- Citizen’s panel with randomly selected citizens
- Permanent participatory bodies
- Digital platforms for citizens’ participation
- Digital citizens’ dialogue via video-tools
Conference on the Future of Europe

The future is in your hands

This platform is the hub of the Conference on the Future of Europe. This is your opportunity to speak up, to say what kind of Europe you want to live in, to help shape our future.

Topics

- Make your voice heard
- Share your views
- Organise your views

- Change and the Future of Europe
- Health
- A stronger, smarter and fairer Europe
- EU in the world
Conference on the Future of Europe timeline

- **Launched 9 May in Strasbourg**
- **Digital Platform**
  - Plenary Session
  - European Citizens’ Panels
    - National, regional and local citizens’ panels
  - Follow-up?
- **Joint Declaration** (10 March 2021)
- **Report of the Joint Presidency**
  - Portuguese Presidency January–June 2021
  - Slovenian Presidency July–December 2021
  - French Presidency January–June 2022
  - Czech Presidency July–December 2022
And what then?

European Committee of the Regions resolution on the Conference (07/05/2021):

• Calls for the establishment of a permanent European dialogue with citizens to strengthen democracy at all levels of government and to encourage citizens' participation and ownership of the EU project

• Based on its opinion Local and Regional Authorities in the permanent dialogue with citizens, adopted in October 2020

• Considers that citizens' dialogues should not be a one-way communication exercise, but should feed into EU policy-making
European Committee of the Regions activities

- CoR+FR associations, Strasbourg, 9 May 2021
- CoR High-level group “European Democracy”
- CoR Citizens’ Dialogues in regions, cities, villages
- CoR “Future of Europe” survey
- CoR Members App

CoR debates, opinions, resolutions on the future of Europe

- CoR Barometer Oct 2021
- 9th CoR Summit of Regions and Cities

CoR members
- CoR members in the Plenary and the Executive Board;
- Events

CoR bodies and groupings
- Plenary and Commissions;
- Bureau and political groups
- Young Elected Politicians (150+)

CoR communication
- cooperation with EU institutions, EDICs and associations;
- online communication;
- local, cross-border and inter-regional citizens’ panels and events

Launch event 9 May 2021, Strasbourg

Report of the joint presidency, spring 2022

PT Presidency Jan–June 2021
Slovenian Presidency July–Dec 2021
French Presidency Jan–June 2022
CZ Presidency July–Dec 2022
And what then?

https://futureu.europa.eu

• Conference platform now live
• Multilingual – all official EU languages
• Calendar of local dialogue events
• Event organisers can upload the views and ideas of their participants for consideration for inclusion in the final report
Process

• Launch of the call for applications: 12/05
• Second webinar: 28/05
  • more in-depth project planning and design
  • partner search
• Deadline for applications: 04/06
• Workshops on planning and implementation: as of mid June
• Event implementation: Sept – Dec 2021
European Committee of the Regions support

- Guidance, training and if necessary, facilitators, for the local event partners
- Advice for the technical part of the citizens’ dialogues/panels, including support for interpretation costs on a case by case basis
- Advice for and provision of media relations (press and social media)
- Hosting of online events
- Moderator's and guest speakers' costs
- Dissemination of the event results
- Delivering the results of the reporting to the 9th European Summit of Regions and Cities
Project support - Communication

Project page or navigate through the Future of Europe Campaign page
Project support - Communication
Application form

- Geographic scope of the proposed dialogue / panel event
- Contact details of sponsors (administrative and political levels)
- Previous experience
- Interest in applying and expectations
- Key elements of methodology
- Main details of the project proposal
Contribution to the Conference

- All events to appear on the Conference online platform: https://futureu.europa.eu
- Survey on the Future of Europe: https://cor.europa.eu/futuresurvey.go
- Reporting and recommendation to be linked to CoR policy work
- European Summit of Regions and Cities: February or March 2022, in Marseille
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