



Online session

22 June 2020

16:00 – 17:30 Brussels time on Webex

The COVID-19 pandemic has changed everyday life.

How well are people across Europe dealing with the new reality of closed businesses, shuttered schools, social distancing and the threat of the coronavirus itself? And how did [young elected politicians \(YEPs\)](#) cope with the pandemic themselves? What role did they play in their local communities?

Europe in my living room is an online session featuring six YEPs sharing thoughts and giving insights on the situation in their hometown. It will focus on how local communities were affected and lived through the pandemic; how did they react and unite to put in practice concrete initiatives that made a difference and what the future looks like after this crisis. The role of the EU and future perspectives.

Grab your coffee or tea, sit down and [join us](#) to hear about innovative ideas that helped communities go through the crisis; how YEPs contributed to help their region and how life has changed where they live.

Agenda

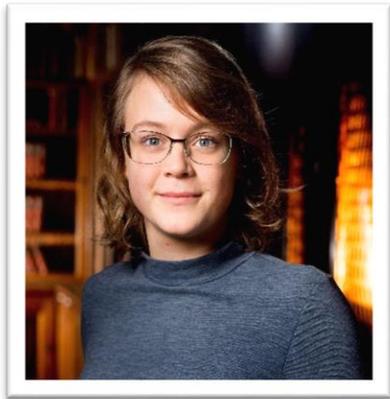
- **Arnaud Michel**, city councillor, Arras, France;
- **Astrid Aller**, municipal councillor, Copenhagen, Denmark;
- **Bernadette van den Berg**, regional councillor, Drenthe, Netherlands;
- **Elisenda Alamany**, city councillor, Barcelona, Spain;
- **Isabel Cardermatori**, city councillor, Mannheim, Germany;
- **Miia Eskelinen-Fingerroos**, city councillor, Kuopio, Finland;

Moderator: Vivienne Parry, writer and broadcaster.



Arnaud Michel, city councillor, Arras, France;

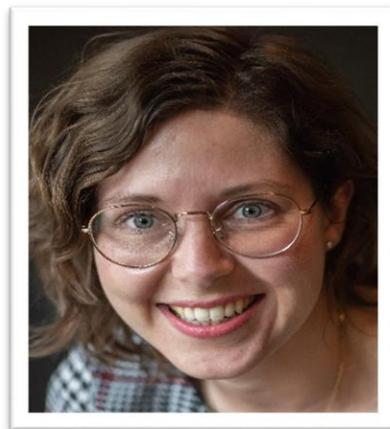
Arnaud was recently elected as a member of the city council of Arras, with responsibility for European affairs and "duty of memory". A graduate in law from the Université de Lorraine (France), with a master's in international relations from the Université Libre de Bruxelles (Belgium), he started his career at the European Parliament as an MEP's assistant. At the age of 28, he is taking his first steps as a young elected politician who has been in office for just one month.



Astrid Aller, municipal councillor, Copenhagen, Denmark

Astrid is a geography student. At the age of 25, she is the youngest member of the municipal council of Copenhagen.

She works mainly on housing, employment and climate/environment policies but takes an interest in practically anything to do with inequality. She lives in a dorm where dinner, facilities and many other aspects are shared with 23 other students, and enjoys doing acroyoga in her free time.



Bernadette van den Berg, regional councillor, Drenthe, Netherlands

Bernadette lives in the north of the Netherlands, in the province of Drenthe. For the past five years, she has been the chair of the ChristenUnie party on the regional council of Drenthe.

Her main areas of activity are the economy, social affairs, governance and finance.

At the age of 37, Bernadette is the mother of two daughters, aged eight and eleven.



Elisenda Alamany, city councillor, Barcelona, Spain

Elisenda is a Catalan teacher and politician, and has been involved in municipal movements since 2005.

She is a member of Barcelona City Council and of the government of the Barcelona Metropolitan Area.

She is involved in many international networks of local, regional and metropolitan governments committed to representing and amplifying the voices of local and regional governments.



Isabel Cadermartori, city councillor, Mannheim, Germany

Isabel is a Member of the city council of in Mannheim, Germany.

In her work, she deals mainly with urban mobility, sustainability, as well as diversity and inclusion.

At the age of 32, Isabel says that one of her objectives is to work to shape a socially inclusive and sustainable city of for the future.



Miia Eskelinen-Fingerroos, city councillor, Kuopio, Finland

Miia is a city councillor and member of the city board in Kuopio, Finland.

She also has a career in the private sector – she is the CEO of a company working in digital education.

Miia sees herself a modern influencer with a passion for societies and for a brighter, more innovative future.



Vivienne Parry, writer and broadcaster

Vivienne is a writer and broadcaster. A scientist by training, Vivienne hosts medical programmes for BBC Radio 4, writes widely on health, presents films, facilitates many high level conferences and trains young researchers. She has a part time role as Head of Engagement at Genomics England.