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Summer University
IV edition

MORE EUROPEAN CITIZENSHIP

September 2 -3

Institut d'études européennes (IEE),

39 Avenue F.D. Roosevelt

1050 Brussels



European
Citizens' rights,
Involvement and
Trust



European Citizenship



First transnational citizenship of the modern era

WHO? Students & researchers, civil society activists and policy makers are invited to this fourth edition of the ECIT summer university. Only by bringing together a constituency of these three circles of interest can a true European citizenship emerge. ECIT has pointed the ways forward with previous events, its [guidelines](#) and [manifesto](#) for the European elections.

WHY? This year the summer university comes at a time when there is a real chance to influence the European agenda. The newly elected European Parliament will be setting its priorities and preparing hearings for the appointment of the new President and members of the European Commission. The shape of the EU budget for the next legislature should soon be emerging from protracted negotiations. For all those motivated or just curious about this first transnational citizenship of the modern era, this is a not to be missed opportunity!

WHAT? Expert will start with an analysis and debate on the current state of public opinion following the European elections on EU citizenship, examining the evidence from Eurobarometer opinion polls and how people actually voted. Has this status become sufficiently popular? What are movers and stayers looking for? On this basis, the future agenda for European citizenship should be shaped. Like any citizenship, European citizenship should be founded on the right to have **rights**, **participation** and a wider sense of **belonging**, three elements which will be discussed in three workshops. A report from each group will be presented to the plenary session of the summer university on the following day which should approve a set of recommendations to be made to the new European Parliament and the other EU Institutions. A number of partner events are foreseen. ECIT will prepare a background discussion document with draft recommendations. In the evening of 2 September there will be a display of results of different civil society projects in the run-up to the European elections followed by a master class by [The Good Lobby](#). This will be held at the Salon for European Civic Organisations a new large co-working space opposite the European Parliament.

Attendance is **free of charge**. A balanced attendance of researchers, activists and policy-makers will be observed. A limited amount of scholarships for attendees from abroad are available.

For more info, please contact: info@ecit-foundation.eu

If you want to participate please fill in the attached [registration form](#).

Programme



Monday, 2 September

9:30-11:00 AM

Welcome and registration at the Institut d'études européennes (IEE).

Following Partner meetings to take place before the opening of the conference currently explored:

- An environmental dimension of European citizenship? Setting a new agenda;
- Launch of the European citizens' initiative demanding full political rights for EU citizens on the move;
- Dialogue between associations representing EU citizens living in other EU countries or the rest of the world;

11:00 AM

Introductory plenary debate on the state of public opinion on European citizenship following the European elections.

Panel: Spokespersons for Eurobarometer and the European Parliament's communication campaign, civil society projects and sociological studies.

Whilst opinion polls suggest more and more people see themselves as European citizens and are aware of their rights, isn't European citizenship still too much of a project for the relatively well off and educated? What do the results of the European elections and turn out, especially among young people tell us? What are the implications of the European elections for more European citizenship?

12:30

Lunch



1.30 PM

Carving out an agenda for European citizenship in the new EU legislature.

In the afternoon, we look at the three dimensions of European citizenship in depth through a series of panels bringing together policy-makers, activists and the academia. The contours of the debate will first be framed by an introductory panel of academics.

2.15 PM

Coffee break

2.30 PM

i) Rights

Panel: *Representatives of the Court of Justice of the EU; European Parliament civil liberties committee; Fundamental Rights Agency; ULB.*

Issues for debate: What lessons from the recent case law of the European Court on article 20 about the scope and limits of EU citizenship? What to propose to the new EU Institutions to tackle longstanding and new barriers to freedom of movement? These are becoming more serious particularly for minorities, low-income groups and third country national family members. How to strengthen application of the Charter of fundamental rights and the rule of law? What new social, political and environmental rights should be attached to EU citizenship?

ii) Participation

Panel: *Representatives of Carnegie Europe, The Good lobby, Democracy International.*

Issues for debate: How to improve existing ways for citizens to access and participate in EU decision-making through the rights to know, to be heard and contribute to setting the agenda? Before the European elections there was a period of experimentation with citizen dialogues and participation, which should now be put on a more permanent footing. Is a citizens' agora one needed reform as ECIT has proposed? Is European legislation needed to make participatory democracy a pillar of EU decision-making?

iii) Belonging

Panel : *Representatives of the Council of Europe, the Committee on culture and education in the European Parliament and networks for civic education and lifelong learning.*

Issues for debate: Many believe that increasing citizen participation in the work of the EU can only really work if every EU citizen has rights to be better educated from an early age, informed about Europe and given the opportunity offered by the ERASMUS programme. In theory the financial perspectives of the EU will open new opportunities for civic education. To what extent can education for EU citizenship be added as an aspect of the national curriculum? Are there examples of best practice in formal and informal settings for the teaching of European citizenship? How can teaching a transnational civic culture be linked to history, languages and culture?

6.00 PM

Reception and sit-in at the salon for European civic organisations (SECO), 53 Rue D'Arlon.

A vast office floor in the heart of the European quarter, this brand new space is becoming a breeding hub for innovative citizens' ideas, a testlab for social entrepreneurs and community groups or a dynamic hub for NGOs and associations dealing with making the EU more open to its citizens! It is an ideal venue for our evening sessions. After the introduction of the space, participants can choose to join one of the three sessions:

- Transnational citizenship in action: experiences from campaigns leading up to the EP elections (Transeuropa Caravans, Agora Europe, European May, I choose Europe, European Public Sphere, ROOF);
- Master class by the Good Lobby with support from ECIT on public interest lobbying of the EU Institutions following the European elections;
- SECO as a new co-working platform for strengthening European participatory democracy.

Tuesday, 3 September

10.00 AM

Institut d'études européennes (IEE)

Participants divide into world café style tables to discuss the follow-up to the conclusions from the three panels on rights, participation and belonging from the previous day. Desired outcome: recommendations from the Summer University.

11.15 AM

Plenary session and approval of recommendations coming from the summer university.

- Keynote speech by a leading academic or policy maker;
- reports from each of the three working groups;
- general discussion and approval of the recommendations to the new European parliament and other EU institutions.

1.00 PM

Closing reception and lunch

2.30 PM*

European citizenship loss:
Brexit revisited

***Note:** This preliminary programme still leaves space on the second day for more partner meetings. In the afternoon of the second day an additional and separate public debate on BREXIT will be organised with this hot topic coming back to the top of the EU agenda in the autumn. The aim will be to examine relevant recent publications and also discuss the issue of loss of EU citizenship and its implications for the rest of Europe.