



1st SUMMER COURSE ON THE EUROPEAN UNION

The Challenges of the European Union: An Expert and Institutional Perspective

Organised by the representations of the European institutions in Barcelona and CIDOB (Barcelona Centre for International Affairs)

14, 15 and 16 July, 2021

Face-to-face: CIDOB, Sala Jordi Maragall, Elisabets 12, 08001 Barcelona

Online: youtube.com/CidobBarcelona

Working languages: English, Catalan and Spanish with simultaneous translation

The European Parliament's office in Barcelona, the Representation of the European Commission in Barcelona and the Barcelona Centre for International Affairs (CIDOB) are launching their first summer course on the European Union. The days will be monographic sessions with a theoretical and practical perspective. The sessions will be divided between an intervention by a keynote speaker from the Commission or the European Parliament, followed by a dialogue with a journalist and a roundtable with CIDOB researchers; officials of the European institutions, from either the European Parliament or the European Commission; and independent experts. The aim of this summer course is to provide students with a complete perspective on the debates and challenges of the European Union in the short, medium and long term, and analytical tools so that they can analyse and understand the European reality and become an active member in it. Those enrolled in the course will receive, upon request, a certificate of participation.

The course will provide answers to the internal and international challenges the European Union is facing. The first day, we will explore how the EU has reacted to the Covid-19 and what does the launch of the Next Generation EU mean; without losing sight of the Digital Agenda and the threats that can derive from it such as disinformation. The second day will review the debates around the Conference on the Future of Europe (CoFoE). And the last day will focus on the European Green Deal and the tensions it faces, such as climate change or economic transformations with social impacts resulting from decarbonisation and the energy transition.

Programme of the course

Wednesday, 14 July, 2021

- 16.00 – 16.10 **Kick-off**
Pol Morillas, Director, CIDOB
Sergi Barrera, Head of the European Parliament's office in Barcelona
Manuel Szapiro, Director, Representation of the European Commission in Barcelona
- 16.10 – 16.15 **Welcome**
Stella Kyriakides, European Commissioner for Health and Food Safety, European Commission (*video*)

- 16.15 – 17.00 **The EU response to the Covid-19 pandemic**
Keynote **Isabel de la Mata**, Principal Adviser for Health and Crisis Management, European Commission
Dialogue with **Anna Bosch**, Journalist, RTVE
- 17.00 – 17.30 **Q&A**
- 17.30 – 17.45 **Break**
- 17.45 – 18.45 **Roundtable: The EU response to the Covid-19 pandemic**
Carme Colomina, Research Fellow, CIDOB
Alessandro D'Alfonso, Policy Analyst, Budgetary Policies Unit, European Parliamentary Research Service (EPRS)
Rafael Vilasanjuan, Director of Policy and Global Development, ISGlobal
Moderator **Anna Bosch**, Journalist, RTVE
- 18.45 – 19.15 **Q&A**
- 19.15 **End of the session**

Thursday, 15 July, 2021

- 10.00 – 10.45 **The Conference on the Future of Europe**
Keynote **Iratxe García Pérez**, Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament and member of the executive board of the Conference on the Future of Europe
Dialogue with **Shada Islam**, Commentator on EU affairs
- 10.45 – 11.15 **Q&A**
- 11.15 – 11.30 **Break**
- 11.30 – 12.30 **Roundtable: The Conference on the Future of Europe**
Héctor Sánchez Margalef, Researcher, CIDOB
Dimitri Barua, Assistant to the deputy Director-general, Directorate General for Communication, European Commission
Corina Stratulat, Senior Analyst, EPC
Moderator **Shada Islam**, Commentator on EU affairs
- 12.30 – 13.00 **Q&A**
- 13.00 **End of the session**

Friday, 16 July, 2021

- 10.00 – 10.45 **European Green Deal**
Keynote **Clara de la Torre**, Deputy Director-General, Climate Action, European Commission
Dialogue with **Poi Morillas**, Director, CIDOB
- 10.45 – 11.15 **Q&A**
- 11.15 – 11.30 **Break**
- 11.30 – 12.30 **Roundtable: European Green Deal**
Hannah Abdullah, Senior Research Fellow, CIDOB
Gregor Erbach, Head of Department, Climate Action Research and Tracking Service, Directorate Members' Research Service, European Parliament
Cristina Monge, Executive Advisor, ECODES; Associate Lecturer, University of Zaragoza
Moderator **Poi Morillas**, Director, CIDOB
- 12.30 – 13.00 **Q&A**
- 13.00 **End of the session**