



PUBLIC DEBATE

Politics and Leadership

How are Populist Movements attracting Millennials and why?

Thursday, 29th September 2016

Mundo-b

Rue d'Edimbourg n. 26, 1050 Brussels

Context: On the 2nd of October Hungary will hold a referendum on the European Union's mandatory migrant quotas. On the 4th of December Austria will re-run its presidential election and chances are that election results are to favour for the first time a far-right candidate. Such circumstances and the growth of populism and right-wing extremisms in Europe brought together FEPS and Policy Solutions to analyse these dynamics as they entail a serious risk for the core of the European project and social democratic values.

Join us on Thursday, 29th of September for the launch of ***Populism Tracker***, a comprehensive website that aims at shedding a deeper political understanding of the distancing between citizens and their institutions of governances as a reaction and a product of this worrying phenomena. The analysis of populist trends in Europe will serve as a constructive tool for progressives to counterbalance the growing forces of populism in Europe.

The same day FEPS will present its 2nd edition of the **Progressive Post** magazine which focuses on the youth - **the Millennial generation in Europe** - and their views and aspirations towards politics. How can progressives reclaim the ground of populist forces that seemingly are capturing the hearts and minds of the younger generation?

With this two-fold event we will look into the European tendencies and Millennial's political engagement in order to find inspiration for progressives to battle the growing populism wave in Europe.

Draft programme

18:15 - 18:30 Opening Remarks

Javier MORENO, Secretary General, S&D Group, European Parliament

Sergei STANISHEV, President of the Party of European Socialists

18:30 - 18:45 Presentation of *Populist Tracker* website

Tamas BOROS, Co-Director and Head of Strategy of Policy Solutions, member of FEPS Scientific Council

18:45 – 20:00 Panel Discussion

Evelyn REGNER, Member of the European Parliament, S&D Group

Fabio WOLKENSTEIN, Researcher, European Institute London School of Economics and Justitia Amplificata, Goethe-Universität

Laura SLIMANI, President of the Young European Socialists

Moderated by: **Maria FREITAS**, Policy Advisor, FEPS

*Followed by an **evening reception and launch of the 2nd issue of the “Progressive Post”**, the new European and progressive magazine of FEPS which is looking at young people and their disenchantment with Europe and politics in general. Although alarming, a recent international study of FEPS [*“The Millennial Dialogue”*](#) shows that the opposite might be true.*