



Make Europe the World Leader of Sustainable Development: A Unique Opportunity to Build a Stronger European Union

Brussels – 25th February 2019.

“Which alliances to transform Europe on the basis of Agenda 2030?”

74 Rue de Trèves, Room TRE 7701 (7th Floor) Brussels

This event is an initiative of the EESC and Europe Ambition 2030

*Chair : Mr. Peter Schmidt, EESC Sustainable Development Observatory President,
Mr. Enrico Giovannini, Europe Ambition 2030.*

14:00 – 15:45 Session 1: ***Europe the World Leader of Sustainable Development.***

Opening remarks : *Mr. Luca Jahier, President of the European Economic and Social Committee.*

Europe needs a new project based on three pillars: a new social contract in a safe operating space for humanity (Agenda 2030), citizens' rights (Charter of Fundamental Rights) and rule of law (EU Treaties).

The session will address three questions :

Which scenario to make Europe the World Leader of Sustainable Development ?

After the release of the European Commission Reflection Paper '*Towards a Sustainable Europe by 2030*', for a project such as that proposed by *Europe Ambition 2030* - to **'make Europe the world leader of sustainable development'** - the central question is this: which scenario to '*transform Europe*', to create the conditions of a leap forward? This question arises especially in a context of ecological, democratic and psychological crisis of contemporary societies that crosses all Europe and which raises key issues of governance.

Which message to be addressed to the European Council Sibiu Meeting ?

On 9 May 2019, at a summit in Sibiu, Romania, the European Council members are expected to mark the culmination of the 'future of Europe' process with a renewed commitment to an EU that delivers on the issues that really matter to people.

A draft 'appeal' will be debated.

Which alliance is needed to ensure that the President of the Commission and the new Commission college is fully dedicated to such agenda and which steps should be taken prior to and after the European Parliament elections?

To '*make Europe the world leader of sustainable development*', the European Parliament 2019 elections and nomination of a new Commission will be crucial moments for the future course of the EU.





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16:00 – 17:00 **Session 2: Inclusiveness and Enhanced Partnerships**

This session will prepare several events organized during the first half of 2019:

- **April 16th, 2019, Bucharest.** Romania EU Presidency. *Implementation of the Agenda 2030*, by the European Union Member States, Eastern Partnership countries, Western Balkans countries, Central Asia countries.
- **May 21 and 22, 2019, Rome.** Opening of the Italian Festival on Sustainable Development. European Conference. Second Conference on SDGs, climate and the future of Europe. *'A Leap Forward'*.
- **June 2019. London.** Fourth Conference on Value based Investors and the SDGs *'A Financial Spring for People and Planet'* including, in particular initiatives dedicated to Millennials and blockchain for inclusive and sustainable finance.

