

## Summer University on European Citizenship

Defend European rights now against BREXIT and other crises – piece together and reconfigure a European citizenship for the future



29 - 31 August 2016

Maison des Associations Internationales  
40 Rue Washington, 1050 Brussels

This Summer University has a **double objective**:

- **act now by bringing together researchers, civil society representatives and officials involved with the study and defence of European citizens' rights to free movement and EU fundamental rights and values.**

*What has been the impact of the vote in the UK to leave the EU on the rights of EU citizens in the UK and on UK citizens in the rest of Europe? What are the other pressures on European rights? What can we do together to reaffirm and enforce European rights and citizenship?*

- **think laterally about lessons to be learned from these crises for the future so that in the medium-term European citizenship can be pieced together and reconfigured.**

*How to explain the paradox that only a citizenship beyond Member States could hold the EU together in times of crisis, yet European citizenship has been largely absent? To what extent could a stronger European citizenship be a countervailing force to the rise of nationalism? Can common ground be found between optimists and pessimists?*

The Summer University will not just raise questions but also propose answers in this period of acute uncertainty. Bringing together as proposed by ECIT the scattered elements of rights, involvement and trust which characterise European like any other citizenship is a first answer. It is an approach on which reforms can be built as proposed in the programme for the second day starting with rights, moving to the reforms needed to open up the EU to citizens and then considering the challenge of a European citizenship for all. *What else can overcome the deep societal divisions between those involved with Europe and those who feel excluded?*

### Participants:

About 75 participants are expected at the Summer University which will take the form of a dialogue among the three main protagonists of European citizenship: civil society representatives, academics and public authorities. Over 200 people are expected for the public debate in the evening: students as well as local and European citizens. The public debate is free of charge.

### Participation Fees:

To attend the 3-day Summer University a participation fee of EUR 200 is requested to cover the costs. A special participation fee of EUR 100 is foreseen for students. [Click here to register!](#)



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## Draft Programme<sup>1</sup>

### DAY 1, Monday 29 August 2016

14.00 – 15.00	<p>Arrival and Welcome coffee</p> <p>Possibilities to network organise a fringe meeting or mount an exhibition to explain what your organisation does and display its publications<sup>2</sup>.</p>
15.00 – 16.30	<p>Opening Plenary Session:</p> <p><b><i>Searching for the right emergency action to defend European rights now whilst considering strategies for the future of European Citizenship</i></b></p> <p><u>Panel:</u> <b>Sybe de Vries</b>, BEUCITIZEN  <b>Roger Casale*</b>, New Europeans  <b>Thom Brooks</b>, Durham University</p> <p><i>moderated by Dora Kostakopoulou</i>, Warwick University</p> <p><u>Location:</u> Washington Room</p> <p>Round table with introductions from participants: <i>What are they doing on European citizenship? What do they expect from the event?</i></p> <p><u>Questions for debate:</u>  <i>What is the short-term impact of BREXIT and other pressures on European rights? What is going on in different countries? How should civil society groups, the research community and public authorities respond? What answers do people need so they are not left in a state of limbo? How are current EU crises affecting the way researchers see the future of European citizenship? What are the new challenges for research but also policy making?</i></p>
17.30 – 18.30	<p>Reception</p> <p><i>Presentation of a book by Tony Venables published by NOMOS "Piecing together Europe's citizenship"</i></p>
18.30 – 20.30	<p>Public debate:</p> <p><b><i>BREXIT and what future for European citizenship?</i></b></p> <p><u>Panel:</u> <b>Andrew Duff</b>, Honorary President of the Union of European Federalists  <b>Guy Verhofstadt*</b>, President of the ALDE Group in the European Parliament</p> <p><i>moderated by Delphine Bourgeois</i>, President of the Consultative Council on European Affairs of Ixelles</p> <p><u>Location:</u> Magistrat Room</p> <p>The multi-cultural and linguistic melting pot which is Brussels makes it a laboratory for the study of the local impact of external shocks such as BREXIT or other migratory pressures. <i>More UK citizens are going to their Commune in Belgium to apply for citizenship? Is dual citizenship the answer to BREXIT? Should the EU and the UK be providing more answers about what will happen to European rights apart from "everything stays the same for 2 years until there is an agreement"? What lessons should we be learning from this mess about the future of Europe and European citizenship?</i></p>

<sup>1</sup> Speakers still to be confirmed are indicated with a \*.

<sup>2</sup> If you are interested in promoting your organisation and your activities, please contact [info@ecit-foundation.eu](mailto:info@ecit-foundation.eu).

## DAY 2, Tuesday 30 August 2016

9.30 – 10.00	Welcome coffee	
10.00 – 13.00	<b>1. Panel - <i>Rights</i></b> <b>Panel:</b> <b>Marie-Hélène Boulanger</b> , European Commission, DG Justice <b>Thomas Kramer*</b> , Programme Director of the Master of European Legal Studies  <i>moderated by Aino Salmi</i> , Researcher  <u>Questions for debate:</u> <i>How to work together in response to Brexit and other crisis? How to make European citizenship work properly and close the gap between the fine principles of European Law and how people especially those who are vulnerable, are treated in practice? What reforms are necessary to enforce rights?</i>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Case-law of the European Court of Justice on EU citizenship. How to improve enforcement of European rights?</li> </ul>	Equip citizens' advice NGO with knowledge of case law and other tools to enforce European rights.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scope and limits of the Charter of fundamental rights.</li> </ul>	Clarify when Charter is enforceable.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>European Citizenship and minority groups suffering discrimination.</li> </ul>	How to use European law to protect such groups, i.e. Roma.
13.00 – 14.00	Lunch Break	
14.00 – 16.00	<b>2. Panel – <i>Involvement</i></b> <b>Panel:</b> <b>Pamela Bartlett Quintanilla</b> , Transparency and Democracy Campaigner, Greens/EFA Group in the European Parliament <b>Daniel Freund</b> , Transparency International EU Office  <i>moderated by Alberto Alemanno</i> , The Good Lobby  <u>Questions for debate:</u> <i>How well does the concept of citizenship fit with the Institutions and different decision-making processes of the EU? Will citizens really have a voice through existing channels dominated by expertise and lobbies? How to ensure that expectations created by the promise of involvement are not disappointed as the recent failure of European citizens' initiative suggests?</i>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The public right to know and to be heard.</li> </ul>	Explore EU access to documents and consultation standards and their reform
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Transparency in lobbying – how to clarify the legislative footprint.</li> </ul>	Assess the usefulness of the register and how to improve its accuracy.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>European citizens' initiatives (ECI's) – can they be made to work?</li> </ul>	Examine scope for reform of ECI's, learn how to use such an instrument.
16.00 – 16.15	Coffee Break	

16.15 – 18.00	<p><b>3. Panel - <i>Trust</i></b></p> <p><u>Panel:</u> <b>Carmen Mazijn</b>, President of Erasmus Student Network Brussels  <b>Sophie Gaston</b>, Demos  <b>Elisa Pinelli</b>, Europe Direct Forli</p> <p><i>moderated by Federica Chiarella</i>, ECIT Foundation</p> <p><u>Questions for debate:</u>  <i>How to educate from an early age, communicate and involve for a European citizenship based on mutual trust and which belongs to all? Its advantages are enjoyed by a relatively privileged, mobile, well-educated and linguistically competent few, excluding those less fortunate. Could there be a right to education for all European citizens? How to create European citizens and a European public sphere?</i></p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education for citizenship and human rights.</li> </ul>	<p>Acquaint participants with the current state of citizenship education.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Models of best practice on education for European citizenship</li> </ul>	<p>Present specific examples to share with participants.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EU mobility programmes: more equal and universal access.</li> </ul>	<p>Explore link between an Erasmus for all and European citizenship.</p>

## DAY 3, Wednesday 30 August 2016

9.30 – 10.00	<p>Welcome coffee</p>	
10.00 – 13.00	<p>Final brainstorming session:  <b><i>Quo Vadis? “Civis europeus sum” after all and for all!</i></b></p> <p><u>Panel:</u> <b>Nuala Mole</b>, AIRE centre  <b>Niccolo Milanese</b>, European Alternatives</p> <p><i>moderated by Inga Wachsmann*</i>, Fondation Charles Léopold Mayer pour le Progrès de l’Homme</p> <p><u>Location:</u> Washington Room</p> <p>Statement from the Chairs of the previous day</p> <p><u>Questions for debate:</u>  <i>Could the components of this first transnational citizenship of the modern era-rights, involvement, trust- be brought together in a more organising framework? What did we learn from the 2014 European elections and what could be done to increase real European choice, turnout and democratic legitimacy in 2019? What are the other future deadlines and challenges?</i></p> <p>Three possible ways forward are proposed by the ECIT foundation for European citizenship:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• all those attempting to <b>strengthen enforcement of European rights</b> through collective complaints, petitions and legal action should act together;</li> <li>• test the <b>feasibility of an ECI</b> collecting over million signatures to demand a stronger European citizenship to counteract the resurgence of racism and xenophobia;</li> <li>• from the first two actions, <b>create a broad coalition for European citizenship</b> to take on a responsibility which is currently everyone’s and no one’s.</li> </ul>	

