

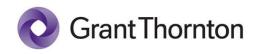
### Foundation for European Progressive **Studies**

Grant Thornton Bedrijfsrevisoren SCRL

Registered Office Potvlietlaan 6 2600 Berchem Belgium

Independent auditor's report on the financial year ended 31 December 2020

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# Independent auditor's report with respect to the Annual Accounts of the Foundation for European Progressive Studies for the year ended 31 December 2020

In accordance with our service contract dated 5 January 2021 with the European Union represented by the European Parliament, we report to you as independent auditor on the performance of our audit mandate which was entrusted to Grant Thornton Bedrijfsrevisoren CVBA. This report includes our opinion on the balance sheet as at 31 December 2020, the income statement for the year ended 31 December 2020 and the disclosures (all elements together the "Annual Accounts") using the abbreviated schedule and on the Final Statement of eligible expenditure actually incurred as well as on compliance with rules and regulations applicable to funding of European political parties and European political foundations and includes as well our report on regulatory requirements. These two reports are considered as one report and are inseparable.

We have been appointed as independent auditor by the European Parliament in our contract dated 5 January 2021. Our mandate expires after the delivery of our audit opinion for the year ended 31 December 2021.

### Report on the audit of the Annual Accounts and the Final Statement of eligible expenditure actually incurred

#### **Unqualified opinion**

We have audited the Annual Accounts of the Foundation for European Progressive Studies (the "Entity"), that comprise the balance sheet on 31 December 2020, as well as the income statement of the year and the disclosures, which show a balance sheet total of € 2.159.769 and of which the income statement shows a profit for the year of € 35.591.

In our opinion, the Annual Accounts give a true and fair view of the Entity's net equity and financial position as at 31 December 2020, and of its results for the year then ended, prepared in accordance with the financial reporting framework applicable in Belgium, using the abbreviated schedule.

We have also audited the Final Statement of eligible expenditure actually incurred for the year ended 31 December 2020, in accordance with rules and regulations applicable to funding of European political parties and European political foundations, of the Foundation for European Progressive Studies.

In our opinion, the Final Statement of eligible expenditure actually incurred of the Entity for the year ended 31 December 2020 is prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with rules and regulations applicable to funding of European political parties and European political foundations.



#### Basis for the unqualified opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing ("ISA"). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the "Our responsibilities for the audit of the Annual Accounts and the Final Statement of eligible expenditure actually incurred" section of our report.

We have complied with all ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit, including those with respect of independence.

We have obtained from the Members of the Board and the officials of the Entity the explanations and information necessary for the performance of our audit and we believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Emphasis of Matter - Basis of Accounting and Restriction on Distribution

We draw attention to the Final Statement of eligible expenditure actually incurred. This schedule is prepared to assist the Entity to meet the requirements of the European Parliament. As a result, the schedule may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

#### Material uncertainty related to going concern

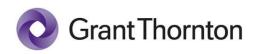
We draw your attention to the disclosure on page A-asbl 6.8 of the Annual Accounts relating to its negative cash position at the end of the year. These described circumstances indicate the existence of a material uncertainty which may cast significant doubt about the Entity's ability to continue as a Going Concern. The Annual Accounts have been prepared under the assumption that the activities will be continued. This assumption is reasonable as long as the Entity continues to receive financial support from the European Parliament or other sources. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

#### Emphasis of Matter - Re-statement of the figures 2019

We draw attention to to the disclosure on page A-asbl 6.8 of the Annual Accounts relating to the re-statement of the figures for the financial year 2019. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

#### **Other Matters**

We draw your attention to the developments surrounding the Covid-19 virus that has a profound impact on people's health and on society as a whole. This also has an impact on the operational and financial performance of organisations and the assessment of the Entity's ability to continue as a going concern. The situation gives rise to inherent uncertainty. The Entity has not made any disclosure of its assessment of the impact of Covid-19 in the Annual Accounts. We have considered the uncertainties related to the potential effects of Covid-19 and the assumptions made by the Entity in this respect on its operations and financial situation. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.



On 31 January 2020, the United Kingdom withdrew from the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community (EURATOM). Following intense negotiations, an agreement on future EU-UK relations was concluded end of December 2020. The Entity has not made any disclosure of its assessment of the impact of Brexit and the aforementioned agreement in the Annual Accounts. We have considered the uncertainties related to the potential effects of Brexit and the assumptions made by the Entity in this respect on its operations and financial situation. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

### Responsibilities of the Members of the Board for the preparation of the Annual Accounts and the Final Statement of eligible expenditure actually incurred

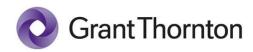
The Members of the Board are responsible for the preparation of the Annual Accounts that give a true and fair view in accordance with the reporting framework applicable in Belgium and the Final Statement of eligible expenditure actually incurred. This responsibility includes: designing, implementing and maintaining internal control which the Members of the Board determine to be necessary to enable the preparation of the Annual Accounts and the Final Statement of eligible expenditure actually incurred that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

The Members of the Board are responsible towards the European Parliament for the use of the grant awarded and must comply with the provisions of the Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014, Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 ('the Financial Regulation') and the underlying acts.

As part of the preparation of the Annual Accounts, the Members of the Board are responsible for assessing the Entity's ability to continue as a going concern, and provide, if applicable, information on matters impacting going concern. The Members of the Board should prepare the Annual Accounts using the going concern basis of accounting, unless the Members of the Board either intend to liquidate the Entity or to cease business operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

### Our responsibilities for the audit of the Annual Accounts and the Final Statement of eligible expenditure actually incurred

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance whether the Annual Accounts and the Final Statement of eligible expenditure actually incurred are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to express an opinion on these Annual Accounts and Final Statement of eligible expenditure actually incurred based on our audit. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the ISA will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these Annual Accounts and the Final Statement of eligible expenditure actually incurred.



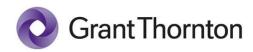
When performing our audit, we comply with the legal, regulatory and normative framework that applies to the audit of the financial statements in Belgium. However, a statutory audit does not provide assurance as to the future viability of the Entity nor as to the efficiency or effectiveness with which the governing body has conducted or will conduct the Entity's business. Our responsibilities regarding the assumption of going concern applied by the governing body are described below.

Furthermore, with respect to the Final Statement of eligible expenditure actually incurred, it is our responsibility to express an opinion on the compliance with rules and regulations applicable to funding of European political parties and European political foundations.

As part of an audit, in accordance with ISA, we exercise professional judgment and we maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also perform the following tasks:

- Identification and assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the Annual Accounts and the Final Statement of eligible expenditure actually incurred, whether due to fraud or error, the planning and execution of audit procedures to respond to these risks and obtain audit evidence which is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting material misstatements is larger when these misstatements are due to fraud, since fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control;
- Obtaining insight in the system of internal controls that are relevant for the audit and
  with the objective to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances,
  but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Entity's
  internal control;
- Evaluating the selected and applied accounting policies, and evaluating the reasonability
  of the accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Members of the Board
  as well as the underlying information given by the Members of the Board;
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Members of the Board's use of the going concern basis of accounting, and based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to event or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the Annual Accounts or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on audit evidence obtained up to the date of the auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Entity to cease to continue as a going-concern;
- Evaluating the overall presentation, structure and content of the Annual Accounts and
  the Final Statement of eligible expenditure actually incurred, and evaluating whether
  these Annual Accounts and the Final Statement of eligible expenditure actually incurred
  reflect a true and fair view of the underlying transactions and events.

We communicate with the Members of the Board regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.



#### Report on regulatory requirements

#### Responsibilities of the Members of the Board

The Members of the Board are responsible for the compliance by the Entity with the legal and regulatory requirements applicable in Belgium, its articles of association, the legal and regulatory requirements regarding bookkeeping and the provisions of the Grant Agreement between the European Parliament and the Entity ('the Funding Agreement'), Regulation (EU, Euratom) No. 1141/2014, Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 ('the Financial Regulation') and the underlying acts.

#### Responsibilities of the auditor

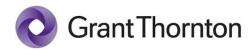
Our audit work included specific procedures to gather sufficient and appropriate audit evidence to verify, in all material respects, that the financial provisions and obligations of the grant award agreement, Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014, Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 ('the Financial Regulation') and the underlying acts have been met.

#### Independence matters

We have not performed any other services that are not compatible with the audit of the Annual Accounts and the Final Statement of eligible expenditure actually incurred and we have remained independent of the Entity during the course of our mandate.

#### Other communications

- Without prejudice to certain formal aspects of minor importance, the accounting records were maintained in accordance with the legal and regulatory requirements applicable in Belgium;
- The costs declared were actually incurred;
- The statement of revenue is exhaustive;
- The financial documents submitted by the entity to the European Parliament are consistent with the financial provisions of the Funding Agreement;
- The obligations arising from Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014, in particular from Article 20 thereof, have been met;
- The obligations arising from the Funding Agreement, in particular from Article II.9 and Article II.19 thereof, have been met;
- Any surplus of Union funding was carried over to the next financial year and has been used in the first quarter of that financial year, pursuant to Article 222(7) of the Financial Regulation;
- Any surplus of own resources was transferred to the reserve;

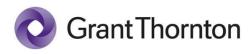


We were not yet provided with the financial statements prepared in accordance with the international accounting standards defined in article 2 of regulation (EC) No 1606/2002.
 The financial statements prepared in accordance with the international accounting standards will be subject to a separate audit opinion.

Vilvoorde, 1st September 2021

Grant Thornton Bedrijfsrevisoren SCRL Represented by

Gunther Loits Registered auditor



#### **Annex 1: Annual accounts**

#### COMPTES ANNUELS ET AUTRES DOCUMENTS À DÉPOSER EN VERTU DU CODE DES SOCIÉTÉS ET DES ASSOCIATIONS

#### DONNÉES D'IDENTIFICATION (à la date du dépôt)

Dénomination:

Forme juridique: Fondation Po	litique Europée	nne			
Adresse: Rue Montoyer			Nº: 40		Boîte:
Code postal: 1000	Commune:	Bruxelles			
Pays: Belgique					
Registre des personnes morales (	RPM) - Tribuna	l de l'entreprise de	Bruxelles, francop	hone	
Adresse Internet:					
		Numé	ro d'entreprise	BE 0896	5.230.213
Date de dépôt du document le plu	us récent mentic	onnant la date de nublic	cation des actes con	stitutif et	
modificatif(s) des statuts.		oritari la dato do public	Jan. 011 400 40100 0011	outain ot	20-09-2018

FONDATION EUROPEENNE D'ETUDES PROGRESSISTES

COMPTES ANNUELS EN EUROS approuvés par l'assemblée générale du

et relatifs à l'exercice couvrant la période du

D1-01-2020 au 31-12-2020

Exercice précédent du

01-01-2019 au 31-12-2019

Les montants relatifs à l'exercice précédent ne sont pas identiques à ceux publiés antérieurement.

Numéros des sections du document normalisé non déposées parce que sans objet:

A-asbl 6.2, A-asbl 6.3, A-asbl 6.5, A-asbl 6.6, A-asbl 7, A-asbl 8



#### LISTE DES ADMINISTRATEURS ET COMMISSAIRES ET DÉCLARATION CONCERNANT UNE MISSION DE VÉRIFICATION OU DE REDRESSEMENT COMPLÉMENTAIRE

#### LISTE DES ADMINISTRATEURS ET COMMISSAIRES

LISTE COMPLÈTE des nom, prénoms, profession, domicile (adresse, numéro, code postal et commune) et fonction au sein de l'association ou de la fondation

#### **RODRIGUES** Maria Joao

Rue Montoyer 40 1000 Bruxelles BELGIQUE

Début de mandat: 28-06-2017

Président du Conseil d'Administration

#### **GURMAI** Zita

Huvosvolgyl ut 6 1021 Budapest HONGRIE

Vice-président du Conseil d'Administration

#### **ANDOR** Laszlo

Rue Montoyer 40 1000 Bruxelles BELGIQUE

Début de mandat: 30-06-2019

Secrétaire Général

#### **MALTSCHNIG** Maria

Khlesipiatz 61 1120 Vienna AUTRICHE

Membre

#### **ROUILLON** Christophe

Rue Belliard 101 1040 Etterbeek BELGIQUE

Membre

#### **STANISHEV** Sergei

Rue Guimard 10 1040 Etterbeek BELGIQUE

Vice-président du Conseil d'Administration

#### STOSTAD Jan-Erik

c/o Arbeiderpartiet Youngstorget 2 0181 Oslo NORVEGE

N° BE 0896.230.213 A-asbl 2.1

Début de mandat: 28-06-2017

Vice-président, Trésorier

Membre

**GARCIA** Iratxe

Rue Belliard 101 1040 Etterbeek BELGIQUE

Membre

**BUFFAT** Jean-Paul

Boulevard de l'Empereur 13 1000 Bruxelles BELGIQUE

Membre

**OPTENHOEGEL** Uwe

Hiroshimastrasse 17 DE10785 Berlin ALLEMAGNE

Vice-président du Conseil d'Administration

**AYRAULT** Jean-Marc

Cité Malesherbes 19 75009 Paris FRANCE

Début de mandat: 30-08-2017

Membre

KLEVA KEKUS Mojca

Trubarjeva 79 1000 Ljubljana SLOVENIE

Membre

**BARON CRESPO** Enrique

MArtinez campos 13 28010 Madrid ESPAGNE

Début de mandat: 19-10-2018

Vice président, Président du conseil

scientifique

**HOMS** Alicia

Rue Guimard 10/12 1040 Etterbeek BELGIQUE

Membre

**BERVKENS** Arjen

Leeghwaterplein 45 2521 den haag PAYS-BAS

Début de mandat: 15-10-2019

Membre

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#### MISSION DE VÉRIFICATION OU DE REDRESSEMENT

#### Mentions facultatives:

- Dans le cas où des comptes annuels ont été vérifiés ou redressés par un expert-comptable externe ou par un réviseur d'entreprises qui n'est pas le commissaire, peuvent être mentionnés ci-après: les nom, prénoms, profession et domicile de chaque expert-comptable externe ou réviseur d'entreprises et son numéro de membre auprès de son Institut ainsi que la nature de sa mission:
  - A. La tenue des comptes de l'association ou de la fondation,
  - B. L'établissement des comptes annuels,
  - C. La vérification des comptes annuels et/ou
  - D. Le redressement des comptes annuels.
- Si des missions visées sous A. ou sous B. ont été accomplies par des comptables agréés ou par des comptables-fiscalistes agréés, peuvent être mentionnés ci-après: les nom, prénoms, profession et domicile de chaque comptable agréé ou comptablefiscaliste agréé et son numéro de membre auprès de l'Institut Professionnel des Comptables et Fiscalistes agréés ainsi que la nature de sa mission.

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#### **COMPTES ANNUELS**

#### **BILAN APRÈS RÉPARTITION**

	Ann.	Codes	Exercice	Exercice précédent
ACTIF				
Frais d'établissement		20		
ACTIFS IMMOBILISÉS		21/28	<u>1.209.480</u>	<u>146.918</u>
Immobilisations incorporelles	6.1.1	21	14.552	23.040
Immobilisations corporelles	6.1.2	22/27	1.047.937	59.343
Terrains et constructions		22		
Installations, machines et outillage		23	160.560	37.425
Mobilier et matériel roulant		24	17.378	21.918
Location-financement et droits similaires		25		
Autres immobilisations corporelles		26	869.999	
Immobilisations en cours et acomptes versés		27		
Immobilisations financières	6.1.3	28	146.991	64.535
ACTIFS CIRCULANTS		29/58	<u>950.289</u>	<u>757.834</u>
Créances à plus d'un an		29		
Créances commerciales		290		
Autres créances		291		
Stocks et commandes en cours d'exécution		3		
Stocks		30/36		
Commandes en cours d'exécution		37		i
Créances à un an au plus		40/41	538.363	402.603
Créances commerciales		40	508.551	401.712
Autres créances		41	29.812	891
Placements de trésorerie		50/53		
Valeurs disponibles		54/58	154.814	207.040
Comptes de régularisation		490/1	257.112	148.191
TOTAL DE L'ACTIF		20/58	2.159.769	904.752

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	Ann.	Codes	Exercice	Exercice précédent
PASSIF				
FONDS SOCIAL		10/15	-52.232	-87.822
Fonds de l'association ou de la fondation	6.2	10		
Plus-values de réévaluation		12	l	
Fonds affectés et autres réserves	6.2	13		81.128
Bénéfice (Perte) reporté(e) (+)/(-)		14	-52.232	-168.950
Subsides en capital		15		
PROVISIONS ET IMPÔTS DIFFÉRÉS	6.2	16		
Provisions pour risques et charges		160/5		
Pensions et obligations similaires		160		
Charges fiscales		161		
Grosses réparations et gros entretien		162		
Obligations environnementales		163		
Autres risques et charges		164/5		
Provisions pour subsides et legs à rembourser et				
pour dons avec droit de reprise		167		
Impôts différés		168		
DETTES		17/49	2,212.001	992.574
Dettes à plus d'un an	6.3	17		
Dettes financières		170/4		
Etablissements de crédit, dettes de location-				
financement et dettes assimilées		172/3		
Autres emprunts		174/0		
Dettes commerciales		175		
Acomptes sur commandes		176		
Autres dettes		178/9		
Dettes à un an au plus	6.3	42/48	1.404.204	982.622
Dettes à plus d'un an échéant dans l'année		42		
Dettes financières		43	200.000	200,000
Etablissements de crédit		430/8	200.000	200 000
Autres emprunts		439		2.7
Dettes commerciales		44	850,522	515.738
Fournisseurs		440/4	850.522	515.738
Effets à payer		441		
Acomptes sur commandes		46		
Dettes fiscales, salariales et sociales		45	263.303	96.141
Impôts		450/3	41.299	
Rémunérations et charges sociales		454/9	222.004	96.141
Autres dettes		48	90.379	170.743
Comptes de régularisation		492/3	807.797	9.952
TOTAL DU PASSIF		10/49	2.159.769	904.752

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### COMPTE DE RÉSULTATS

		Ann.	Codes	Exercice	Exercice précédent
Produits et charges d'exploitation					
Marge brute	(+)/(-)		9900	2.098.811	1.752.740
Dont: produits d'exploitation non récurrents			76A		
Chiffre d'affaires			70		_
Cotisations, dons, legs et subsides			73		
Approvisionnements, marchandises, service	s et				
biens divers			60/61		
Rémunérations, charges sociales et pensions	(+)/(-)		62	1.927.002	1.766.132
Amortissements et réductions de valeur sur fra					
d'établissement, sur immobilisations incorporel	es et				
corporelles			630	88.828	31.289
Réductions de valeur sur stocks, sur command					
en cours d'exécution et sur créances commerc			1		04.704
dotations (reprises)	(+)/(-)		631/4		21.764
Provisions pour risques et charges: dotations				34,248	
(utilisations et reprises)	(+)/(-)		635/9	34.248	945
Autres charges d'exploitation	100		640/8		945
Charges d'exploitation portées à l'actif au titre d					
de restructuration	(-)		649	493	162.604
Charges d'exploitation non récurrentes	1.3//3		66A	48.240	-229.994
Bénéfice (Perte) d'exploitation	(+)/(-)		9901	48.240 58	66.357
Produits financiers		6.4	75/76B	58	356
Produits financiers récurrents			75	56	66.001
Produits financiers non récurrents			76B	40.707	5.313
Charges financières		6.4	65/66B	12.707	
Charges financières récurrentes			65	12.707	5.313
Charges financières non récurrentes			66B	07 504	-168.950
Bénéfice (Perte) de l'exercice avant impôts	(+)/(-)		9903	35.591	-168.950
Prélèvement sur les impôts différés			780		
Transfert aux impôts différés			680		
Impôts sur le résultat	(+)/(-)		67/77		100.050
Bénéfice (Perte) de l'exercice	(+)/(-)		9904	35.591	-168.950
Prélèvement sur les réserves immunisées			789		
Transfert aux réserves immunisées			689		
Bénéfice (Perte) de l'exercice à affecter	(+)/(-)		9905	35.591_	168.950

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#### **AFFECTATIONS ET PRÉLÈVEMENTS**

		Codes	Exercice	Exercice precedent
Bénéfice (Perte) à affecter	(+)/(-)	9906	-133.359	-168.950
Bénéfice (Perte) de l'exercice à affecter	(+)/(-)	9905	35.591	-168.950
Bénéfice (Perte) reporté(e) de l'exercice précédent	(+)/(-)	14P	-168.950	59
Prélèvement sur les capitaux propres: fonds, fonds affectés				
et autres réserves		791	81.127	
Affectations aux fonds affectés et autres réserves		691		
Bénéfice (Perte) à reporter	(+)/(-)	14	-52.232	-168.950

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#### **ANNEXE**

#### **ETAT DES IMMOBILISATIONS**

	Codes	Exercice	Exercice précédent
IMMOBILISATIONS INCORPORELLES			
Valeur d'acquisition au terme de l'exercice	8059P	XXXXXXXXX [	49.332
Mutations de l'exercice		ſ	
Acquisitions, y compris la production immobilisée	8029		
Cessions et désaffectations	8039		
Transferts d'une rubrique à une autre (+)/(-)	8049		
Valeur d'acquisition au terme de l'exercice	8059	49.332	
Amortissements et réductions de valeur au terme de l'exercice	8129P	XXXXXXXXX	26.292
Mutations de l'exercice	1		
Actés	8079	8.488	
Repris	8089		
Acquis de tiers	8099		
Annulés à la suite de cessions et désaffectations	8109		
Transférés d'une rubrique à une autre (+)/(-	8119		
Amortissements et réductions de valeur au terme de l'exercice	8129	34.780	
VALEUR COMPTABLE NETTE AU TERME DE L'EXERCICE	21	<u>14.552</u>	

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			Codes	Exercice	Exercice précédent
IMMO	BILISATIONS CORPOREL	ES			
Valeu	r d'acquisition au terme de l'e	kercice	8199P	xxxxxxxxxx	235.074
Mutati	ions de l'exercice				
Acq	quisitions, y compris la productio	n immobilisée	8169	1.069.427	
Ces	ssions et désaffectations		8179	1.029	
Tra	nsferts d'une rubrique à une au	re (+)/	(-) 8189		
Valeu	r d'acquisition au terme de l'e	kercice	8199	1.303.472	
Plus-v	values au terme de l'exercice		8259P	XXXXXXXXXX	
Mutati	lons de l'exercice				
Act	ées		8219		
Acq	quises de tiers		8229		
	nulées		8239		
Tra	nsférées d'une rubrique à une a	utre (+)/	(-) 8249		
Plus-v	values au terme de l'exercice		8259		
Amort	tissements et réductions de vi	leur au terme de l'exercice	8329P	XXXXXXXXXX	175.731
Mutati	ions de l'exercice				
Act	és		8279	80.340	
Rep	oris		8289		
Acq	quis de tiers		8299	ļ	
Anr	nulés à la suite de cessions et d	esaffectations	8309	536	
Tra	nsférés d'une rubrique à une au	tre (+)/-	(-) 8319		
Amort	tissements et réductions de va	leur au terme de l'exercice	8329	255.535	
VALE	UR COMPTABLE NETTE A	U TERME DE L'EXERCICE	22/27	1.047.937	
DONT	Γ		1 1	200 - 100 -	

8349

Appartenant à l'association ou à la fondation en pleine propriété

N°	BE 0896.230.213		A-asbl 6.1.3
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		Codes	Exercice	Exercice précédent
IMMOBILISATIONS FINANCIÈRES				
Valeur d'acquisition au terme de l'exercice		8395P	XXXXXXXXXX	64.535
Mutations de l'exercice				
Acquisitions		8365	82,456	
Cessions et retraits		8375	129	
Transferts d'une rubrique à une autre	(+)/(-)	8385		
Autres mutations	(+)/(-)	8386		
Valeur d'acquisition au terme de l'exercice		8395	146.991	
Plus-values au terme de l'exercice		8455P	XXXXXXXXXX [	
Mutations de l'exercice			[	
Actées		8415		
Acquises de tiers		8425		
Annulées		8435		
Transférées d'une rubrique à une autre	(+)/(-)	8445		
Plus-values au terme de l'exercice		8455		
Réductions de valeur au terme de l'exercice		8525P	XXXXXXXXX	
Mutations de l'exercice				
Actées		8475		
Reprises		8485		
Acquises de tiers		8495		
Annulées à la suite de cessions et retraits		8505		
Transférées d'une rubrique à une autre	(+)/(-)	8515		
Réductions de valeur au terme de l'exercice		8525		
Montants non appelés au terme de l'exercice		8555P	XXXXXXXXX [	
Mutations de l'exercice	(+)/(-)	8545		
Montants non appelés au terme de l'exercice		8555		
VALEUR COMPTABLE NETTE AU TERME DE L'EXERC	ICE	28	146.991	

N° BE 0896.230.213 A-asbl 6.4
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#### **RÉSULTATS**

#### **PERSONNEL**

Travailleurs pour lesquels l'association ou la fondation a introduit une déclaration DIMONA ou qui sont inscrits au registre général du personnel

Effectif moyen du personnel calculé en équivalents temps plein

### PRODUITS ET CHARGES DE TAILLE OU D'INCIDENCE EXCEPTIONNELLE

#### Produits non récurrents

Produits d'exploitation non récurrents Produits financiers non récurrents

#### Charges non récurrentes

Charges d'exploitation non récurrentes Charges financières non récurrentes

#### **RÉSULTATS FINANCIERS**

Intérêts portés à l'actif

Codes	Exercice	Exercice précédent
9087	18,8	17,5
76 76A		66.001
76B		66.001
66	493	162.604
66A	493	162.604
66B		
6502		

Ν°	BE 0896.230.213	A-asbl 6.7
19	DE 0030.230.213	71 4001 0.7

#### Bilan social

Numéros des commissions paritaires dont dépend l'association ou la fondation:

999.000

337

### TRAVAILLEURS POUR LESQUELS L'ASSOCIATION OU LA FONDATION A INTRODUIT UNE DÉCLARATION DIMONA OU QUI SONT INSCRITS AU REGISTRE GÉNÉRAL DU PERSONNEL

Au cours de l'exercice et de l'exercice précédent

Nombre moyen de travailleurs Nombre d'heures effectivement prestées Frais de personnel

Codes	1. Temps plein	2. Temps partiel	éd	Total (T) u total en quivalents temps lein (ETP)	7	3P. Total (T) ou tot en équivalent temps plein (ETP)	
	(exercice)	(exercice)	(6	exercice)		(exercice précède	nt)
100	18,8			18,8	ETP	17,5	ETP
101	29.085			29.085	т	29.002	т
102	1,921,002		1	1.921.002	Т	1.766.132	т

A la date de clôture de l'exercice

Nombre de travailleurs

Par type de contrat de travail

Contrat à durée indéterminée Contrat à durée déterminée

Contrat pour l'exécution d'un travail nettement défini

Contrat de remplacement

Par sexe et niveau d'études

Hommes

de niveau primaire

de niveau secondaire

de niveau supérieur non universitaire

de niveau universitaire

Femmes

de niveau primaire

de niveau secondaire

de niveau supérieur non universitaire

de niveau universitaire

Par catégorie professionnelle

Personnel de direction

Employés

Ouvriers

**Autres** 

Codes	1. Temps plein	2. Temps partiel	Total en     équivalents     temps plein
105	18		18
1			
110	16		16
111	2		2
112			
113			
120	7		7
1200			
1201	2		2
1202	1		1
1203	4		4
121	11		11
1210			
1211	4		4
1212			
1213	7		7
1			
130			
134	18		18
132			744
133			

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#### TABLEAU DES MOUVEMENTS DU PERSONNEL AU COURS DE L'EXERCICE

#### **ENTRÉES**

Nombre de travailleurs pour lesquels l'association ou la fondation a introduit une déclaration DIMONA ou qui ont été inscrits au registre général du personnel au cours de l'exercice

#### **SORTIES**

Nombre de travailleurs dont la date de fin de contrat a été inscrite dans une déclaration DIMONA ou au registre général du personnel au cours de l'exercice

Codes	133	Temps plein	2.	Temps partiel	3.	Total en équivalents temps plein	
205		7					7
305		8					8.

#### RENSEIGNEMENTS SUR LES FORMATIONS POUR LES TRAVAILLEURS AU COURS DE L'EXERCICE

### Initiatives en matière de formation professionnelle continue à caractère formel à charge de l'employeur

Nombre de travailleurs concernés

Nombre d'heures de formation suivies

Coût net pour l'association ou la fondation

dont coût brut directement lié aux formations

dont cotisations payées et versements à des fonds collectifs

dont subventions et autres avantages financiers reçus (à déduire)

### Initiatives en matière de formation professionnelle continue à caractère moins formel ou informel à charge de l'employeur

Nombre de travailleurs concernés

Nombre d'heures de formation suivies

Coût net pour l'association ou la fondation

### Initiatives en matière de formation professionnelle initiale à charge de l'employeur

Nombre de travailleurs concernés

Nombre d'heures de formation suivies

Coût net pour l'association ou la fondation

Codes	Hommes	Codes	Femmes
5801		5811	
5802		5812	
5803		5813	
58031		58131	
58032		58132	
58033		58133	
1			
5821		5831	
5822		5832	
5823		5833	
5841		5851	
5842		5852	
5843		5853	

N°	BE 0896.230.213		A-asbl 6.8
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#### Règles d'évaluation

```
Asset type
Depreciation rate
 Intangible fixed assets
Software for personal computers and servers :25%, 12,5% Tangible fixed assets
Land 0%
Buildings 4%
Plant and equipment
Scientific and laboratory equipment: 25%
Tools for industry and workshops: 12,5%
Lifting and mechanical handling equipment for public works, prospecting and mining: 12,5%
Control and trensmission devices, motors, compression, vacuum and pumping equipment: 12,5%
Equipment for the supply and treatment of electric power: 12,5%, 25%
 Specific electric equipment: 25%
Office, laboratory and workshop furniture :10%

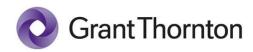
Electrical office equipment, printing and mailing equipment :25%

Printshop and postroom equipment:12,5%

Equipment and decorations for garden, kitchen, canteen, restaurant, crèche and school:12,5%

Hotorised outdoor equipment:25%
Specific furniture and equipment for schools, creches and childcare centres:25% Furniture for restaurant/cafeteria/bar area: 10%, 12,5%
Cash registers and card acceptor devices: 25%
Antiques, artistic works, collectors' items: 0%
Transport equipment (vehicles and accessories): 25%
 Computer hardware
Computers, servers, accessories, data transfer equipment, printers, screens :25%
Copying equipment, digitising and scanning equipment: 25% Other fixtures and fittings:
 Telecommunications equipment :25%
 Audiovisual equipment :25%
 Computer, scientific and general books, documentation
Computer books, CDs, DVDs: 33%
Scientific books, general books, CDs, DVDs: 25%
 Health, safety and protective equipment, medical equipment,: 12,5% Fire-fighting equipment, equipment for *urveillance and *ecurity services
 Medical and nursing equipment : 25% Other : 10%
 Tangible fixed assets under construction :0%
 Tangone ille deserts under construction (ve
La fondation a une trésorerie mégative à la in de l'année mais sa continuité est garantie aussi longtemps qu'elle recevra des subsides du
Parlement Européen et d'autres ressources. Les ràgles d'évaluation sont basées sur le principe de continuité
```

As result of a review performed by the Authority, FEPS was informed in 2021, before adopting the annual accounts as at December 31, 2020 by the bureau of the foundation, about an amount of € 90.378,92 to be reimbursed to the European Parliament concerning inflows received in previous years (2019 and before). Instead of recording this reimbursement in the 2020 accounts, FEPS decided, after agreement with the Directorate-General for Finance of the European Parliament, to re-open the 2019 accounts and adjust these figures with the amount to be reimbursed. The adjument results in a decrease of € 90.378,92 of the gross margin and of the result for the year ending December 31, 2019, compared to the audited annual accounts published last year.



Annex 2: Final Statement of eligible expenditure actually incurred

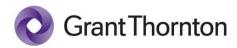
FEPS 2020 BUDGET (submitted with grant application versus realized) 01.09.2021

Reimbursable costs	Budget	Actual
A.1: Personnel costs	2.221.917,82	2.051.820,0
1. Salaries	1.999.726,04	1.830.030,8
2. Contributions	111.095,89	8\$.478,7
3. Professional training	27.773,97	137,8
4 Staff missions expenses	27,773,97	0,0
5 Other personnel costs	55.547,95	136.172,6
A.2: Infrastructure and operating costs	399.945.22	461.712,9
1. Rent, charges and maintenance costs	216.636,99	254.060,2
2. Costs relating to installation, operation and maintenance of equipment	44.438,36	31.355,9
3. Depreciation of movable and immovable		
property	83,321,92	86.251,3
4. Stationery and office supplies	16.664,38	15.198,2
5. Postal and telecommunications charges	33.328,77	26.830,2
6. Printing, translation and reproduction costs	2.221,92	0,0
7. Other infrastructure costs	3.332,88	48.017,0
A.3: Administrative costs	1.027.637,00	744.598,9
Documentation costs (newspapers, press agencies, databases)	8 332,19	5.194,8
2. Costs of studies and research	977.643,84	663.134,0
3 Legal costs	24.996,58	27.117.1
4. Accounting and audit costs	13.886,99	44.152.9
5. Support to third parties	2,777,40	5.000,0
6. Miscellaneous administrative costs	0.00	0.0
A.4: Meetings and representation costs	937.809,31	625.560,5
1. Costs of meetings	885.594,23	622.682,9
2. Participation in seminars and conferences	44.438,36	2.877,5
3. Representation costs	2.221,92	0,0
4. Costs of invitations	2,221,92	0,0
5. Other meeting-related costs	3.332,88	0,0
A.5: Information and publication costs	333.287,65	122.411,1
1. Publication costs	277.739,71	103.599,6
2. Creation and operation of internet sites	22.219,18	1.910,6
3. Publicity costs	16.664,38	0,0
4. Communications equipment (gadgets)	8,332,19	16.900,8
5. Seminar and exhibitions	2.777,40	0,0
6. Other information-related costs	5.554,79	0,0
A.6. Allocation to "Provision to cover eligible costs of the first quarter of year N"		789,172,0
A. TOTAL ELIGIBLE COSTS	4.920.597,00	4.795.275,6
Ineligible costs	4.320.337,00	41733.273,0
1. Provisions	0,00	
2. Exchange losses		-19,2
3. Doubtful claims on third parties		34.248,1
4. Contributions in kind		0,0
5.1 Expenditure from previous years		0,0
5.2 Financial charges		19.390,4
B. TOTAL INELIGIBLE COSTS	0,00	53.619,3
C. TOTAL COSTS	4.920.597,00	4.848.894,9

Revenue					
	Budget	Actual			
D.1. Dissolution of "Provision to cover eligible costs of the first quarter of year N"	n/a				
D.2. European Parliament funding	4.674.567,00	4.555.512,00			
D.3. Membership fees	35.000,00	21.000,00			
3.1 from member foundations	35.000,00	21.000,00			
3.2 from individual members					
D.4 Donations	0,00	1.500,00			
4.1 above 500 EUR		1.500,00			
D.5 Other own resources	211.030,00	306.473,33			
Support from members of FEPS	211.030,00	304.304,47			
towards activities Non-operating revenue	,				
Reserve accumulated in the previous		2.168,86			
D.6. Interest from one financia					
D.6. Interest from pre-financing					
D.7. Contributions in kind	4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4	4 004 405			
D. TOTAL REVENUE	4.920.597,00	4.884.485,33			
E. profit/loss (D-C)	0,00	35.590,36			

F. Allocation of own resources to the reserve account	35.590,36
G. Profit/loss for verifying compliance with the no-profit rule (E-F)	0,00





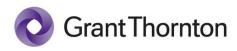
### Foundation for European Progressive **Studies**

Grant Thornton Bedrijfsrevisoren SCRL

Registered Office Potvlietlaan 6 2600 Berchem Belgium

Independent auditor's report on the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2020

www.grantthornton.be



# Independent auditor's report on the Financial Statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards of Foundation for European Progressive Studies for the year ended 31 December 2020

#### Unqualified opinion

We have audited the Financial Statements of Foundation for European Progressive Studies (the "Entity"), which comprise the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2020, as well as the statement of profit or loss and the statement of comprehensive income for the year then ended, the statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the Financial Statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying Financial Statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Entity as at 31 December 2020, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS).

#### Basis for unqualified opinion

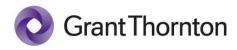
We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISA). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Entity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the Financial Statements, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Material uncertainty related to going concern

We draw your attention to the disclosure on page 11 of the Financial Statements relating to the preparation of the Financial Statements under the assumption that the activities will be continued, despite the Entity's negative equity at the end of the year. The described circumstances indicate the existence of a material uncertainty which may cast significant doubt about the Entity's ability to continue as a Going Concern. The going concern assumption is reasonable as long as the Entity continues to receive financial support from the European Parliament or other sources. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

### Other Matters - Auditor's Opinion on the Annual Accounts and the Final Statement of eligible expenditure actually incurred

We have also audited the Annual Accounts of the Entity prepared in accordance with the financial reporting framework applicable in Belgium and the Final Statement of eligible expenditure actually incurred, prepared in accordance with rules and regulations applicable to funding of political parties and political foundations at European level. In this regard, we have issued our audit report dated September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021.



#### Other Matters

We draw your attention to the developments surrounding the Covid-19 virus that has a profound impact on people's health and on society as a whole. This also has an impact on the operational and financial performance of organisations and the assessment of the Entity's ability to continue as a going concern. The situation gives rise to inherent uncertainty. We have considered the uncertainties related to the potential effects of Covid-19 and the assumptions made by the Entity in this respect on its operations and financial situation. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

On 31 January 2020, the United Kingdom withdrew from the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community (EURATOM). Following intense negotiations, an agreement on future EU-UK relations was concluded end of December 2020. The Entity has not made any disclosure of its assessment of the impact of Brexit and the aforementioned agreement in the Financial Statements. We have considered the uncertainties related to the potential effects of Brexit and the assumptions made by the Entity in this respect on its operations and financial situation. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

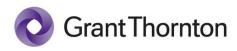
### Responsibilities of the Board of Directors for the preparation of the Financial Statements

The Board of Directors is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the Financial Statements in accordance with IFRS, and for such internal control as the Board of Directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of Financial Statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Pursuant to paragraph 1 of Article 23 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014, the Entity is required to maintain and report on their Financial Statements on the basis of international accounting standards as defined in Article 2 of Regulation (EC) No 1606/2002.

In preparing the Financial Statements, the Board of Directors are responsible for assessing the Entity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless they either intend to liquidate the Entity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

The Board of Directors are responsible for overseeing the Entity's financial reporting process.



#### Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the Financial Statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISA will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these Financial Statements.

The audit has been performed following our appointment by the European Parliament, which seeks to obtain assurance relating to the Entity's adherence to its obligations under Article 23 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2004.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISA, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the Financial Statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design
  audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of
  expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Entity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Board of Directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the Financial Statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Entity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the Financial Statements, including the disclosures, and whether the Financial Statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the Board of Directors or their delegates regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.



#### Restriction on use and distribution

The opinion transmitted is only intended for the Entity and for the European Parliament. It may not be distributed or made available to any other parties, except those who have regulatory rights of access to it. Any review, transmission, dissemination or other use of, or taking of any action in reliance upon this information by any persons or entities other than the Entity or the European Parliament is prohibited and we will not assume any duty of care or liability towards these persons or entities.

Vilvoorde, December 7, 2021

Grant Thornton Bedrijfsrevisoren SCRL Represented by

Gunther Loits Registered auditor

# Foundation For European Progressive Studies (FEPS)

Financial statements as of and for the year ended 31 December 2020

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#### FEPS—Financial statements as of and for the year ended 31 December 2020

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### Statement of financial position at 31 December 2020

EUR	Notes	31 December 2020	31 December 2019
ASSETS			
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	9	2.062.581	90.067
Intangible assets	10	306	551
Trade and other receivables	14	146.991	64.535
Total non-current assets		2.209.878	155.153
Current assets			
Trade and other receivables	14	662.889	459.995
Cash and cash equivalents	15	154.814	207.040
Total current assets		817.703	667.035
Total assets		3.027.581	822.188
		3.027.301	022.100
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES			
Reserves		(327.289)	(327.289)
Retained earnings		(90.684)	101.039
Total equity		(417.973)	(226.250)
Non-current liabilities			
Net employee defined benefit			
liabilities	16	120.191	102.371
Leasing liabilities	11	995.822	11.325
Total non-current liabilities		1.116.013	113.696
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	17	2.012.001	702.196
Leasing liabilities	11	117.540	32.546
Borrowings	11	200.000	200.000
Total current liabilities		2.329.541	934.742
Total liabilities		3.445.554	1.048.438
Total equity and liabilities		2 227 521	200.600
rotal equity and habilities		3.027.581	822.188

The accompanying notes 1 to 19 are an integral part of these financial statements.

### Statement of profit or loss for the year ended 31 December 2020

EUR	Notes	2020	2019
Revenue from contracts with customers	4	21.000	23.000
Other income	5	3.767.840	5.178.972
Revenue		3.788.840	5.201.972
General and administrative expenses	6	(3.850.974)	(5.279.593)
Other operating income/(expenses)	6	(88.742)	(22.367)
Operating profit/(loss)		(150.876)	(99.988)
Finance income	7	58	356
Finance costs	7	(23.486)	(7.500)
Profit/(loss) for the year		(174.304)	(107.132)

The accompanying notes 1 to 19 are an integral part of these financial statements.

# Statement of comprehensive income for the year ended 31 December 2020

EUR	2020	2019
Profit/(loss) for the year	(174.304)	(107.132)
Other comprehensive income		
Other comprehensive income that may be reclassified to profit or loss in subsequent periods	-	-
,		
Other comprehensive income that will not be reclassified	_	_
to profit or loss in subsequent periods		
Remeasurement gain/loss on		
defined benefit plans	(17.419)	(48.417)
Total comprehensive income for the		
year, net of tax	(191.723)	(155.549)

The accompanying notes 1 to 19  $\,$  are an integral part of these financial statements.

# Statement of changes in equity for the year ended 31 December 2020

EUR	Reserves	Retained earnings	Total equity
Balance at 1 January 2019	(327.289)	254.003	(73.286)
Effect of adoption of IFRS 16 Leases	-	2.585	2.585
OCI	-	(48.417)	(48.417)
Profit/(loss) for the year	-	(107.132)	(107.132)
Balance at 31 December 2019	(327.289)	101.039	(226.250)
Balance at 1 January 2020	(327.289)	101.039	(226.250)
OCI	-	(17.419)	(17.419)
Profit/(loss) for the year	-	(174.304)	(174.304)
Balance at 31 December 2020	(327.289)	(90.684)	(417.973)

The accompanying notes 1 to 19 are an integral part of these financial statements.

# Statement of cash flows for the year ended 31 December 2020

EUR	Notes	2020	2019
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Profit/(loss) for the year		(174.304)	(107.132)
Adjustments for:			
Finance income	7	(47)	(148)
Finance costs	7	23.486	5.256
Net foreign exchange differences		(11)	2.036
Depreciation and impairment of property, plant and equipment	9	219.865	143.977
Amortisation and impairment of intangible assets	10	245	564
Loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment		493	2.505
Loss on disposal of intangibles	6	-	-
European Parliament grant	5	(3.675.961)	(5.175.790)
Impairment loss on trade receivables	14	89.098	68.525
Movement in defined benefit obligation		(283)	(25.356)
Net profit/(loss) before changes in working capital		(3.517.420)	(5.085.563)
Changes in working capital:			
Decrease/(increase) in trade and other receivables		(374.390)	356.517
Increase/(decrease) in trade and other payables		487.994	(565.431)
Cash receipt/(reimbursement) European Parliament grant:			
Receipt of European Parliament grant	17	4.487.210	5.142.293
Net cash flows from operating activities		1.083.394	(152.184)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Purchases of intangible assets	10	-	-
Purchases of property, plant and equipment	9	(1.069.425)	(18.910)
Net cash flows from investing activities		(1.069.425)	(18.910)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Repayment of borrowings	12		
Proceeds from borrowings	12	-	200.000
Interest paid on borrowings	7	(2.145)	(150)
Interest paid on lease liabilities	7	(10.095)	, ,
Payments of lease liabilities	12	, ,	(1.452)
Net cash flows from financing activities	12	(53.956)	(118.937)
		(66.196)	79.461
Movement in cash and cash equivalents including bank overdrafts		(52.226)	(91.633)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		(52.226)	(91.633)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January		207.040	298.673
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December		154.814	207.040
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The accompanying notes 1 to 19 are an integral part of these financial statements.

# Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020

### 1. General information

Foundation For European Progressive Studies below also referred to as "FEPS" is a European political foundation incorporated and domiciled in Belgium. The registered office is located at 46 Avenue des Arts, 1000 Brussels.

In line with its statutes, FEPS shall have for objective the development of research, information and training in the areas of political, social, legal and economic science, and especially in the European and international dimensions of these disciplines.

#### Financial statements

The financial statements as of and for the year ended 31 December 2020 were authorized for issue in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors on 06/12/2021.

#### Board of directors

At the end of the financial period, the Board of Directors was composed of the following members:

Name	Function	Start of mandate	End of mandate
Andor, Laszio	General secretary	26/06/2020	01/06/2022
Berkvens, Arjen	Member	26/06/2020	01/06/2022
Buffat, Jean-Paul	Member	26/06/2020	01/06/2022
Ayrault, Jean-Marc	Member	26/06/2020	01/06/2022
Gurmai, Zita	Vice-President	26/06/2020	01/06/2022
Kleva Kekus, Mojca	Member	26/06/2020	01/06/2022
Maltschnig, Maria	Member	26/06/2020	01/06/2022
Optenhogel, Uwe	Vice-President	26/06/2020	01/06/2022
Rodrigues, Maria Joao	President	26/06/2020	01/06/2022

Stanishev, Sergei	Vice-President	26/06/2020	01/06/2022
Stostad, Jan-Erik	Vice-President, Treasurer	26/06/2020	01/06/2022
Baron Crespo, Enrique	Vice-President, Chair of the scientific council	26/06/2020	01/06/2022
Rouillon, Christophe	Member	26/06/2020	01/06/2022
Garcia, Iratxe	Member	26/06/2020	01/06/2022
Holms, Alicia	Member	26/06/2020	01/06/2022

#### **Auditors**

The statutory audit of the standalone financial statements is performed by Grant Thornton Bedrijfsrevisoren SCRL represented by Gunther Loits.

# Figures in the financial statements

These financial statements are presented in euro, which is the Foundation's presentation currency and the functional currency of the Foundation. All amounts in these financial statements are presented in euro, unless otherwise stated.

# 2. Significant accounting policies

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

## 2.1. Basis of preparation

The financial statements of the Foundation for the year ended 31 December 2020 have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS") and IFRS Interpretations Committee (IFRIC) interpretations as endorsed by the European Union. The changes in accounting policies due to new IFRS standards entered into force in 2020 are described in Note 2.3.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with IFRS requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise its judgment in the process of applying the Foundation's accounting policies. The areas involving a higher degree of judgment or complexity, or areas where assumptions and estimates are significant to the financial statements are disclosed in note 3.

### Going concern

The Foundation's statement of financial position shows a situation of negative equity at 31 December 2020. The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis on the directors' confidence that the Foundation will continue to receive the European Parliament Grant and also generate other own resources. The historical cost convention and the accrual basis of accounting have been used to prepare the financial statements.

# 2.2. Summary of significant accounting policies

#### a) Current versus non-current classification

The Foundation presents assets and liabilities in the statement of financial position based on current/non-current classification. An asset is current when it is:

- Expected to be realised or intended to be sold or consumed in the normal operating cycle, meaning within a calendar year,
- Expected to be realised within twelve months after the reporting period,
- Cash or cash equivalent unless restricted from being exchanged or used to settle a liability for at least twelve months after the reporting period.

All other assets are classified as non-current.

A liability is current when:

- It is expected to be settled in the normal operating cycle,
- It is held primarily for the purpose of trading,
- It is due to be settled within twelve months after the reporting period, or
- There is no unconditional right to defer the settlement of the liability for at least twelve months after the reporting period.

The Foundation classifies all other liabilities as non-current.

#### b) Foreign currencies

#### Functional and presentation currency

Items included in the financial statements of the Foundation are measured using the currency of the primary economic environment in which the entity operates ("the functional currency"). The financial statements are presented in euro (EUR), which is the Foundation's presentation currency and the functional currency of the Foundation.

#### Transactions and balances

Transactions in foreign currencies are initially recorded by the Foundation at their respective functional currency spot rates at the date the transaction first qualifies for recognition. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the functional currency spot rates of exchange at the reporting date.

The foundation has limited transactions in foreign currency, therefore the foreign exchange risk is not considered to have a significant impact on the profit before tax and pre-tax equity.

#### c) Intangible assets

Intangible assets acquired separately are measured on initial recognition at cost. Following initial recognition, intangible assets are carried at cost less any accumulated amortization and accumulated impairment losses. Internally generated intangibles, excluding capitalized development costs, are not capitalized and the related expenditure is reflected in profit or loss in the period in which the expenditure is incurred.

The useful lives of intangible assets are assessed as finite. The Foundation does not have any intangible assets with an indefinite useful life.

Intangible assets with finite useful lives are amortized over the useful economic life and assessed for impairment whenever there is an indication that the intangible asset may be impaired. The amortization period and the amortization method for an intangible asset with a finite useful life are reviewed at least at the end of each reporting period. Changes in the expected useful life or the expected pattern of consumption of future economic benefits embodied in the asset are considered to modify the amortization period or method, as appropriate, and are treated as changes in accounting estimates. The amortization expense on intangible assets with finite useful lives is recognized in the income statement in the expense category that is consistent with the function of the intangible assets.

An intangible asset is derecognized upon disposal or when no future economic benefits are expected from its use or disposal. Gains or losses arising from derecognition of an intangible asset are measured as the difference between the net disposal proceeds and the carrying amount of the asset and are recognized in the income statement when the asset is derecognized.

#### Website costs

Research costs are expensed as incurred. Website development costs are only recognized as intangible asset if: 1/ it can be demonstrated that the website will generate probable future economic benefits when, for example, donations can be made through the website and 2/ the Foundation can demonstrate:

- ✓ The technical feasibility of completing the intangible asset so that the asset will be available for use or sale;
- ✓ Its intention to complete and its ability and intention to use or sell the asset;
- ✓ How the asset will generate future economic benefits;
- ✓ The availability of resources to complete the asset; and
- ✓ The ability to measure reliably the expenditure during development.

Directly attributable costs that are capitalized as part of the intangible asset include costs incurred for external consultants and an appropriate portion of relevant overheads.

Other development expenditures that do not meet these criteria are recognized as an expense as incurred. Development costs previously recognized as an expense are not recognized as an asset in a subsequent period.

Following initial recognition of the development expenditure as an asset, the asset is carried at cost less any accumulated amortization and accumulated impairment losses. Amortization will begin when development is completed and the asset is available for use. The costs are amortized using the straight-line method over their estimated useful lives (4 years). During the period of development, the asset is tested for impairment annually.

#### Computer software

Acquired computer software licenses are capitalized on the basis of the costs incurred to acquire and bring the specific software to use. These costs are amortized using the straight-line method over their estimated useful lives (4 years).

#### Summary of the policies applied to the intangible assets

	Computer software	Website
Useful lives	Finite (4 years)	Finite (4 years)
<b>Amortisation method used</b>	Straight-line basis	Straight-line basis
Internally generated	Acquired	Internally generated

#### d) Property, plant and equipment

The Foundation's property, plant and equipment are mainly composed of IT equipment, furniture, office equipment, leasehold improvements and right-of-use assets relating to lease contract of offices, and IT equipment.

Property, plant and equipment are stated at historical cost less subsequent depreciation and impairment. Historical cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to the acquisition of the items.

Subsequent costs are included in the asset's carrying amount or recognized as a separate asset, as appropriate, only when it is probable that future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to the Foundation and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. The carrying amount of the replaced part is derecognized. All other repairs and maintenance are charged to the income statement during the financial period in which they are incurred.

Depreciation on the assets is calculated using the straight-line method to allocate their cost over their estimated useful lives. These useful lives have been determined as follows:

Property, plant and equipment	Useful lives
IT equipment	4 years
Office equipment and furniture	10 years
Leasehold improvements	The shorter of the lease term and the asset's
	economic life

The methods of depreciation of property, plant and equipment are reviewed at each financial yearend and adjusted prospectively, if appropriate. Where an asset's carrying amount is greater than its estimated recoverable amount, it is written down to its recoverable amount.

An item of property, plant and equipment and any significant part initially recognized is derecognized upon disposal or when no future economic benefits are expected from its use or disposal. Any gain or loss arising on derecognition of the asset (calculated as the difference between the net disposal proceeds and the carrying amount of the asset) is included in the income statement when the asset is derecognized.

#### e) European Parliament grants

The Foundation receives a grant from the European Parliament, which is awarded at the beginning of each accounting year. At that moment there is a reasonable assurance that the grant will be received and all attached conditions (execution of the work plan) will be complied with. Since the grant relates to expense items, it is recognized as income on a systematic basis over the periods that the related costs, for which it is intended to compensate, are expensed.

The Foundation makes an assessment at the end of the accounting year of the amount of eligible expenditure it has incurred. The portion of the grant that will cover this expenditure is recorded as income in the income statement. Two scenarios can occur:

- Scenario 1 in which the amount of eligible expenditure matches the grant amount or exceeds the grant amount. In this scenario, the entire grant is recorded as income in the income statement,
- Scenario 2 in which the amount of eligible expenditure is less than the grant amount. In this scenario, the portion of the grant that is not used can be carried over to the next year. The amount of the carry-over will be accounted for as a liability in the balance sheet and will be released the next accounting year once the expenditure it is intended to cover has been incurred.

At the end of the reporting period, the final balance of eligible expenditure is determined after the external audit. The expenditure that is rejected through this audit may lead to a reduction of the final grant and can result in a reimbursement of a portion of the grant by the political Foundation to the European Parliament. After payment of the final balance, the European Parliament can as well perform an audit even up till 5 years after the payment. This audit can also lead to a reduction of the grant amount and a reimbursement. If the Foundation has to make a reimbursement to the European Parliament, the Foundation needs to account for a liability.

#### f) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and short-term deposits in the statement of financial position comprise cash at banks and on hand and short-term deposits with a maturity of three months or less, which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value.

For the purpose of the statement of cash flows, cash and cash equivalents consist of cash and short-term deposits, as defined above, net of outstanding bank overdrafts as they are considered an integral part of the Foundation's cash management.

#### g) Financial instruments

A financial instrument is any contract that gives rise to a financial asset of one entity and a financial liability or equity instrument of another entity.

#### Financial assets

#### Initial recognition and measurement

Financial assets are classified, at initial recognition, as subsequently measured at amortised cost, fair value through other comprehensive income (OCI), and fair value through profit or loss. The Foundation's financial assets are composed of trade and other receivables and cash and cash equivalents. These financial assets have been classified as subsequently measured at amortised cost, except for cash and cash equivalents.

The trade receivables do not contain a significant financing component and have been initially measured at the transaction price determined under IFRS 15. The cash and cash equivalents have been initially measured at fair value plus transaction costs.

#### Subsequent measurement

For purposes of subsequent measurement, financial assets are classified in three categories:

• Financial assets at amortised cost (debt instruments),

- Financial assets at fair value through OCI with recycling of cumulative gains and losses (debt instruments), or with no recycling of cumulative gains and losses upon derecognition (equity instruments),
- Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss.

The Foundation's financial assets are classified as financial assets at amortised cost (debt instruments) since both of the following conditions are met:

- The financial asset is held within a business model with the objective to hold financial assets in order to collect contractual cash flows, and
- The contractual terms of the financial asset give rise on specified dates to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest on the principal amount outstanding

Financial assets at amortised cost are subsequently measured using the effective interest (EIR) method and are subject to impairment. Gains and losses are recognised in profit or loss when the asset is derecognised, modified or impaired.

The financial assets are derecognized when the rights to receive cash flows from the asset have expired.

In terms of impairment of the trade receivables, the Foundation applies a simplified approach in calculating Expected Credit Losses (ECL). The Foundation does not track changes in credit risk, but instead recognizes a loss allowance based on lifetime ECLs at each reporting date. A provision matrix that is based on historical credit loss experience has been established, which is adjusted for forward-looking factors specific to the debtors and the economic environment.

All financial assets are fully written off after two years when there is no reasonable expectation of recovering the contractual cash flows. However, in certain cases, the Group may also consider a financial asset to be in default when internal or external information indicates that the Foundation is unlikely to receive the outstanding contractual amounts in full.

#### Financial liabilities

#### Initial recognition and measurement

Financial liabilities are classified, at initial recognition, as financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss, loans and borrowings, payables, or as derivatives designated as hedging instruments in an effective hedge, as appropriate. All financial liabilities are recognised initially at fair value and, in the case of loans and borrowings and payables, net of directly attributable transaction costs.

The Foundation's financial liabilities include trade and other payables and loans and borrowings including bank overdrafts.

#### Subsequent measurement

The measurement of financial liabilities depends on their classification. The Foundation's financial liabilities are all classified in the category loans and borrowings, or the category payables.

After initial recognition, interest-bearing loans and borrowings are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the EIR method. Gains and losses are recognised in profit or loss when the liabilities are derecognised as well as through the EIR amortisation process.

Amortised cost is calculated by taking into account any discount or premium on acquisition and fees or costs that are an integral part of the EIR. The EIR amortisation is included as finance costs in the statement of profit or loss.

The financial liabilities are derecognized when the obligation under the liability is discharged or cancelled or expires.

#### Offsetting financial instruments:

Financial assets and liabilities are offset and the net amount reported in the balance sheet when there is a legally enforceable right to offset the recognized amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or realize the asset and settle the liability simultaneously. The Foundation does not offset its financial assets and liabilities.

#### h) Impairment of non-financial assets

The Foundation assesses, at each reporting date, whether there is an indication that an asset may be impaired. If any indication exists, or when annual impairment testing for an asset is required, the Foundation estimates the asset's recoverable amount. An asset's recoverable amount is the higher of an asset's fair value less costs of disposal and its value in use. When the carrying amount of an asset exceeds its recoverable amount, the asset is considered impaired and is written down to its recoverable amount. Non-financial assets that suffered impairment are reviewed for possible reversal of the impairment at each reporting date.

There were no indications that assets may be impaired during the accounting period. Moreover, the Foundation does not have intangible assets that are not ready to use or are not subject to amortization. As a result, there is no requirement to perform a yearly impairment test.

#### i) Provisions for other liabilities and charges

A provision is recognized when the Foundation has a present obligation (legal or constructive) where, as a result of a past event, it is probable that an outflow of resources embodying economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation. When the Foundation expects some or all of a provision to be reimbursed, for

example, under an insurance contract, the reimbursement is recognised as a separate asset, but only when the reimbursement is virtually certain. The expense relating to a provision is presented in the statement of profit or loss net of any reimbursement.

If the effect of the time value of money is material, provisions are discounted using a current pretax rate that reflects, when appropriate, the risks specific to the liability. When discounting is used, the increase in the provision due to the passage of time is recognised as a finance cost.

#### j) Leases – lessee accounting

The Foundation assesses at contract inception whether a contract is, or contains, a lease. That is, if the contract conveys the right to control the use of an identified asset for a period of time in exchange for consideration.

The Foundation leases office workspace and IT equipment. The Foundation applied a single recognition and measurement approach for all leases for which it is the lessee. The Foundation recognised lease liabilities and right-of-use assets representing the right to use the underlying assets. In accordance with IFRS 16, the simplified modified retrospective has been applied for the transition to IFRS 16 at the date of initial application of 1 January 2019.

#### Lease liabilities

At the commencement date of the lease, the Foundation recognises lease liabilities measured at the present value of lease payments to be made over the lease term. The lease payments include fixed payments (including in-substance fixed payments) less any lease incentives receivable, variable lease payments that depend on an index or a rate, and amounts expected to be payable under residual value guarantees. The lease payments also include the exercise price of a purchase option if reasonably certain to be exercised by the Foundation and payments of penalties for terminating a lease, if the lease term reflects the Foundation exercising the option to terminate. Variable lease payments that do not depend on an index or a rate are recognised as expense in the period in which the event or condition that triggers the payment occurs.

In calculating the present value of lease payments, the Foundation uses the incremental borrowing rate at the lease commencement date if the interest rate implicit in the lease is not readily determinable. After the commencement date, the amount of lease liabilities is increased to reflect the accretion of interest and reduced for the lease payments made. In addition, the carrying amount of lease liabilities is remeasured if there is a modification, a change in the lease term, a change in the in-substance fixed lease payments or a change in the assessment to purchase the underlying asset.

The Foundation selected the accounting policy to present interest paid on lease liabilities as part of the cash flows for financing activities.

#### Right-of-use assets

The Foundation recognises right-of-use assets at the commencement date of the lease (i.e., the date the underlying asset is available for use). Right-of-use assets are measured at cost, less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses, and adjusted for any remeasurement of lease liabilities. The cost of right-of-use assets includes the amount of initial measurement of the lease liability, initial direct costs incurred, and lease payments made at or phefore the commencement date less any lease incentives received. Right-of-use assets are depreciated on a straight-line basis over the shorter of the lease term and the estimated useful lives of the assets, as follows:

Underlying assets	Depreciation term
IT equipment	5 years
Office	9 years

Right-of-use assets are subject to impairment.

If ownership of the leased asset transfers to the Foundation at the end of the lease term, or the cost reflects the exercise of a purchase option, depreciation is calculated using the estimated useful live of the asset.

The right-of-use assets are also subject to impairment. Refer to the accounting policies in section re 'Impairment of non-financial assets'.

#### Short-term leases and leases of low-value assets

The Foundation applies the short-term lease recognition exemption to its short-term leases (i.e., those leases that have a lease term of 12 months or less from the commencement date and do not contain a purchase option). It also applies the lease of low-value assets recognition exemption to leases of office equipment that are considered to be low value. Lease payments on short-term leases and leases of low-value assets are recognised as expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

The information about leases is included in the following notes:

Depreciation charges on right-of-use assets	Note 6 Expense by nature
Interest expense on lease liabilities	Note 7 Finance income and costs
Right of use assets movement	Note 9 Property, plant and equipment
Lease liabilities movement	Note 12 Financial risk management

#### k) Pensions

#### Defined benefit plans

The Foundation operates a defined benefit plan for its employees in Belgium funded through payments to an insurance company. The employer guarantees a minimum return of 1,75% on employee contributions and 1,75% on employer contributions resulting in a financial risk to be borne by the Foundation. Because of this minimum return all plans in Belgium are defined benefit plans.

The cost of providing benefits under the defined benefit plan is determined using the projected unit credit method. Remeasurements, comprising of actuarial gains and losses, the effect of the asset ceiling, excluding amounts included in net interest on the net defined benefit liability and the return on plan assets (excluding amounts included in net interest on the net defined benefit liability), are recognised immediately in the statement of financial position with a corresponding debit or credit to retained earnings through OCI in the period in which they occur. Remeasurements are not reclassified to profit or loss in subsequent periods.

Past service costs are recognised in profit or loss on the earlier of:

- The date of the plan amendment or curtailment, and
- The date that the Foundation recognises related restructuring costs

Net interest is calculated by applying the discount rate to the net defined benefit liability or asset. The Foundation recognises the following changes in the net defined benefit obligation under 'General and Administration expenses' in the statement of profit or loss (by function):

- Service costs comprising current service costs, past-service costs, gains and losses on curtailments and non-routine settlements,
- Net interest expense or income

#### I) Revenue from contracts with customers

IFRS 15 establishes a five-step model for recognizing revenue from contracts with customers. Under IFRS 15, revenue is recognized for the amount of consideration an entity expects to be entitled to in exchange for goods or services transferred to a customer.

Full members of FEPS have the legal obligation of contributing towards FEPS activity plan through the payment of the membership fee. Membership fees are fixed in euro; they are payable if the members do not carry out joint activities with FEPS over 5.000 EUR realized budget. The fees are paid before the annual General Assembly for a one year membership. As such, the revenue that is recorded 31 December equals the membership fees received for the respective year.

There are consequences if a member foundation accumulates arrears in the payment of their annual Membership Fee.

- One year arrears of membership fees, the party in question loses its speaking and/or voting rights within the organs and bodies of the association as well as its right to propose candidates for positions within the association, until they have paid off their arrears.
- Two years arrears of membership fees, the Presidency has to propose to the General Assembly to exclude the member foundation in question.

In line with the IFRS requirements the Foundation will cease to account for revenue when the collectability criterion is no longer met.

#### m) Joint operation

A joint operation is a joint arrangement not structured in a separate vehicle, in which the parties with joint control have rights to the assets and obligations for the liabilities relating to the arrangement. A joint operator shall recognize

- (a) its assets, including its share of any assets held jointly;
- (b) its liabilities, including its share of any liabilities incurred jointly;
- (c) its revenue from the sale of its share of the output arising from the joint operation;
- (d) its share of the revenue from the sale of the output by the joint operation; and
- (e) its expenses, including its share of any expenses incurred jointly.

The Foundation performs joint projects, in which it enters into a joint arrangement together with the member foundations. The cost incurred in these projects are for up to 50% covered by the member foundations and both parties have joint rights to the asset being created. The portion of the cost covered by the member foundation is set off against the income flowing from the invoices issued to the member foundation.

# 2.3. Changes in accounting policies and disclosures

#### Amendments to IFRS 3: Definition of a Business

The amendment to IFRS 3 Business Combinations clarifies that to be considered a business, an integrated set of activities and assets must include, at a minimum, an input and a substantive process that, together, significantly contribute to the ability to create output. Furthermore, it clarifies that a business can exist without including all of the inputs and processes needed to create outputs. These amendments had no impact on the financial statements of the Foundation, and will have no future impact.

### Amendments to IFRS 7, IFRS 9 and IAS 39 Interest Rate Benchmark Reform

The amendments to IFRS 9 and IAS 39 Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement provide a number of reliefs, which apply to all hedging relationships that are directly affected by interest rate benchmark reform. A hedging relationship is affected if the reform gives rise to uncertainty about the timing and/or amount of benchmark-based cash flows of the hedged item or the hedging instrument. These amendments have no impact on the financial statements of the Foundation as it does not have any interest rate hedge relationships.

#### Amendments to IAS 1 and IAS 8 Definition of Material

The amendments provide a new definition of material that states, "information is material if omitting, misstating or obscuring it could reasonably be expected to influence decisions that the primary users of general purpose financial statements make on the basis of those financial statements, which provide financial information about a specific reporting entity." The amendments clarify that materiality will depend on the nature or magnitude of information, either individually or in combination with other information, in the context of the financial statements. A misstatement of information is material if it could reasonably be expected to influence decisions made by the primary users. These amendments had no impact on the financial statements of, nor is there expected to be any future impact to the Foundation.

#### Conceptual Framework for Financial Reporting issued on 29 March 2018

The Conceptual Framework is not a standard, and none of the concepts contained therein override the concepts or requirements in any standard. The purpose of the Conceptual Framework is to assist the IASB in developing standards, to help preparers develop consistent accounting policies where there is no applicable standard in place and to assist all parties to understand and interpret the standards. This will affect those entities which developed their accounting policies based on the Conceptual Framework. The revised Conceptual Framework includes some new concepts,

updated definitions and recognition criteria for assets and liabilities and clarifies some important concepts. These amendments had no impact on the financial statements of the Foundation.

#### Amendments to IFRS 16 Covid-19 Related Rent Concessions

On 28 May 2020, the IASB issued Covid-19-Related Rent Concessions - amendment to IFRS 16 Leases. The amendments provide relief to lessees from applying IFRS 16 guidance on lease modification accounting for rent concessions arising as a direct consequence of the Covid-19 pandemic. As a practical expedient, a lessee may elect not to assess whether a Covid-19 related rent concession from a lessor is a lease modification. A lessee that makes this election accounts for any change in lease payments resulting from the Covid-19 related rent concession the same way it would account for the change under IFRS 16, if the change were not a lease modification.

The amendment applies to annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 June 2020. Earlier application is permitted. This amendment had no impact on the financial statements of the Foundation.

# 2.4. Standards issued but not yet effective

The new and amended standards and interpretations that are issued, but not yet effective, up to the date of issuance of the Foundation's financial statements are disclosed below. The Foundation intends to adopt these standards and interpretations, if applicable, when they become effective.

The following new and amended standards and interpretations have not yet been endorsed:

- Amendments to IAS 1 Presentation of Financial Statements Classification of Liabilities as Current or Non-current, effective 1 January 2023
- Amendments to IAS 1 Presentation of Financial Statements Disclosure of Accounting Policies, effective 1 January 2023
- Amendments to IAS 8 Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors –
   Definition of Accounting Estimates, effective 1 January 2023
- Amendments to IFRS 16 Leases Covid-19-Related Rent Concessions beyond 30 June 2021, effective 1 April 2021 (endorsement expected to occur after the effective date)
- Amendments to IAS 12 Income Taxes Deferred Tax related to Assets and Liabilities arising from a Single Transaction, effective 1 January 2023
- IFRS 17 Insurance Contracts, effective 1 January 2023

The following new and amended standards and interpretations have already been endorsed:

• Amendments to IAS 16 Property, plant and equipment – Proceeds before intended use, effective 1 January 2022

- Amendments to IAS 37 Provisions, contingent liabilities and contingent assets onerous contracts—cost of fulfilling a contract, effective 1 January 2022
- Amendments to IFRS 3 Business combinations References to the conceptual framework, effective 1 January 2022
- Amendments to IFRS 4 Insurance Contracts deferral of IFRS 9, effective 1 January 2021
- Amendments to IFRS 9 Financial Instruments, IFRS 7 Financial Instruments: Disclosures, IAS 39 Financial Instruments: Recognition and measurement, IFRS 4 Insurance contracts and IFRS 16 Leases- Interest Rate Benchmark Reform Phase 2, effective 1 January 2021
- Annual Improvements Cycle 2018-2020, effective 1 January 2022

## 3. Critical accounting estimates and judgments

The preparation of the Foundation's financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of revenues, expenses, assets and liabilities, and the accompanying disclosures, and the disclosure of contingent liabilities. Uncertainty about these assumptions and estimates could result in outcomes that require a material adjustment to the carrying amount of asset or liability affected in future periods.

Estimates and judgments are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

The key assumptions concerning the future and other key sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date, that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year, are described below. The Foundation based its assumptions and estimates on parameters available when the financial statements were prepared. Existing circumstances and assumptions about future developments, however, may change due to market changes or circumstances arising beyond the control of the Foundation. Such changes are reflected in the assumptions when they occur.

#### Provision for expected credit losses of trade receivables and contract assets

The Foundation uses a provision matrix to calculate ECLs for trade receivables. The provision rates are based on days past due for groupings of various customer segments that have similar loss patterns (i.e. by customer type).

The provision matrix is initially based on the Foundation's historical observed default rates. The Foundation will calibrate the matrix to adjust the historical credit loss experience with forward-looking information. For instance, if forecast economic conditions are expected to deteriorate over

the next year this could lead to an increased number of defaults and an adjustment of the historical default rates. At every reporting date, the historical observed default rates are updated and changes in the forward-looking estimates are analysed.

The assessment of the correlation between historical observed default rates, forecast economic conditions and ECLs is a significant estimate. The amount of ECLs is sensitive to changes in circumstances and of forecast economic conditions. The Foundation's historical credit loss experience and forecast of economic conditions may also not be representative of customer's actual default in the future.

#### Determining the lease term of contracts with renewal options

The Foundation determines the lease term as the non-cancellable term of the lease, together with any periods covered by an option to extend the lease if it is reasonably certain to be exercised, or any periods covered by an option to terminate the lease, if it is reasonably certain not to be exercised. For extension options, the Foundation applies judgement in evaluating whether it is reasonably certain to exercise the option to renew. That is, it considers all relevant factors that create an economic incentive for it to exercise the renewal.

After the commencement date, the Foundation reassesses the lease term if there is a significant event or change in circumstances that is within its control and affects its ability to exercise (or not to exercise) the option to renew (e.g., a change in business strategy).

#### Defined benefit plans (pension benefits)

The Foundation operates a pension plan funded through payments to an insurance company. Due to the minimum return employers in Belgium are required to guarantee, this plan meets the definition of a defined benefit plan under IAS 19.

The cost of defined benefit pension plans and the present value of the pension obligation are determined using actuarial valuations. An actuarial valuation involves making various assumptions which may differ from actual developments in the future. These include the determination of the discount rate, future salary increases, mortality rates and future pension increases. Due to the complexity of the valuation, the underlying assumptions and its long-term nature, a defined benefit obligation is highly sensitive to changes in these assumptions. All assumptions are reviewed at each reporting date.

The parameter most subject to change is the discount rate. In determining the appropriate discount rate, management considers the interest rates of corporate bonds in currencies consistent with the currency of the post-employment benefit obligation with at least an 'AA' rating or above, as set by an internationally acknowledged rating agency, and extrapolated as needed

along the yield curve to correspond with the expected term of the defined benefit obligation. The underlying bonds are further reviewed for quality. Those having excessive credit spreads are removed from the analysis of bonds on which the discount rate is based, on the basis that they do not represent high quality bonds.

The mortality rate is based on publicly available mortality tables for the specific country. Those mortality tables tend to change only at intervals in response to demographic changes. Future salary increases and pension increases are based on expected future inflation rates for the respective countries.

#### 4. Revenue from contracts with customers

The line item "Revenue from contracts with customers" in the income statement relates to:

Total revenue from contracts with customers         21.000         23.00           Geographical market         Membership fees:           Austria         1.000         2.00           Belgium         1.000         2.00           Bulgaria         -         2.00           Denmark         1.000         1.00           Germany         1.000         1.00           Greece         2.000         2.00           Luxembourg         1.000         1.00           Italy         2.000         2.00           Latvia         -         1.00           Macedonia         -         1.00           Malta         1.000         1.00           The Netherlands         1.000         1.00           Nordic council         1.000         1.00           Portugal         1.000         1.00           Poland         1.000         1.00	EUR	2020	2019
Intervenue from contracts with customers         21.000         23.00           Geographical market         Membership fees:           Austria         1.000         2.00           Belgium         1.000         2.00           Bulgaria         -         2.00           Denmark         1.000         1.00           Germany         1.000         1.00           Luxembourg         1.000         1.00           Ireland         1.000         1.00           Italy         2.000         2.00           Latvia         -         1.00           Malta         1.000         1.00           The Netherlands         1.000         1.00           Nordic council         1.000         1.00           Portugal         1.000         1.00           Poland         1.000         1.00	Type of revenue		
Securios de geographical market         Membership fees:         Austria       1.000         Belgium       1.000         Bulgaria       -         Denmark       1.000         Germany       1.000         Greece       2.000         Luxembourg       1.000         Ireland       1.000         Italy       2.000         Latvia       -         Macedonia       -         Malta       1.000         The Netherlands       1.000         Nordic council       1.000         Portugal       1.000         Poland       1.000	and think thanks	21.000	23.000
Membership fees:       1.000         Belgium       1.000       2.00         Bulgaria       -       2.00         Denmark       1.000       1.00         Germany       1.000       1.00         Greece       2.000       2.00         Luxembourg       1.000       1.00         Ireland       1.000       2.00         Latvia       -       1.00         Macedonia       -       1.00         Malta       1.000       1.00         The Netherlands       1.000       1.00         Nordic council       1.000       1.00         Portugal       1.000       1.00         Poland       1.000       1.00	Total revenue from contracts with customers	21.000	23.000
Austria       1.000         Belgium       1.000       2.00         Bulgaria       -       2.00         Denmark       1.000       1.00         Germany       1.000       1.00         Greece       2.000       2.00         Luxembourg       1.000       1.00         Italy       2.000       2.00         Latvia       -       1.00         Macedonia       -       1.00         Malta       1.000       1.00         The Netherlands       1.000       1.00         Nordic council       1.000       1.00         Portugal       1.000       1.00         Poland       1.000       1.00	Geographical market		
Belgium       1.000       2.00         Bulgaria       -       2.00         Denmark       1.000       1.00         Germany       1.000       1.00         Greece       2.000       2.00         Luxembourg       1.000       1.00         Italy       2.000       2.00         Latvia       -       1.00         Macedonia       -       1.00         Malta       1.000       1.00         The Netherlands       1.000       1.00         Nordic council       1.000       1.00         Portugal       1.000       1.00         Poland       1.000       1.00	Membership fees:		
Bulgaria       -       2.00         Denmark       1.000       1.00         Germany       1.000       2.00         Luxembourg       1.000       1.00         Ireland       1.000       2.00         Italy       2.000       2.00         Latvia       -       1.00         Macedonia       -       1.00         Malta       1.000       1.00         Nordic council       1.000       1.00         Portugal       1.000       1.00         Poland       1.000       1.00	Austria	1.000	-
Denmark       1.000       1.00         Germany       1.000       1.00         Greece       2.000       2.00         Luxembourg       1.000       1.00         Ireland       1.000       2.00         Italy       2.000       2.00         Latvia       -       1.00         Macedonia       -       1.00         Malta       1.000       1.00         Nordic council       1.000       1.00         Portugal       1.000       1.00         Poland       1.000       1.00	Belgium	1.000	2.000
Germany       1.000       1.00         Greece       2.000       2.00         Luxembourg       1.000       1.00         Ireland       1.000       2.00         Italy       2.000       2.00         Latvia       -       1.00         Macedonia       -       1.000         The Netherlands       1.000       1.00         Nordic council       1.000       1.00         Portugal       1.000       1.00         Poland       1.000       1.00	Bulgaria	-	2.000
Greece       2.000       2.00         Luxembourg       1.000       1.00         Ireland       1.000       2.00         Italy       2.000       2.00         Latvia       -       1.00         Macedonia       -       1.00         Malta       1.000       1.00         The Netherlands       1.000       1.00         Nordic council       1.000       1.00         Portugal       1.000       1.00         Poland       1.000       1.00	Denmark	1.000	1.000
Luxembourg       1.000       1.000         Ireland       1.000       2.00         Italy       2.000       2.00         Latvia       -       1.00         Macedonia       -       1.000         Malta       1.000       1.00         Nordic council       1.000       1.00         Portugal       1.000       1.00         Poland       1.000       1.00	Germany	1.000	1.000
Ireland     1.000       Italy     2.000     2.00       Latvia     -     1.00       Macedonia     -     1.00       Malta     1.000     1.00       The Netherlands     1.000     1.00       Nordic council     1.000     1.00       Portugal     1.000     1.00       Poland     1.000     1.00	Greece	2.000	2.000
Italy     2.000     2.00       Latvia     -     1.00       Macedonia     -     1.000       Malta     1.000     1.000       Nordic council     1.000     1.000       Portugal     1.000     1.000       Poland     1.000     1.000	Luxembourg	1.000	1.000
Latvia       -       1.00         Macedonia       -       1.00         Malta       1.000       1.00         The Netherlands       1.000       1.00         Nordic council       1.000       1.00         Portugal       1.000       1.00         Poland       1.000       1.00	Ireland	1.000	-
Macedonia       -       1.000         Malta       1.000       1.000         The Netherlands       1.000       1.000         Nordic council       1.000       1.000         Portugal       1.000       1.000         Poland       1.000       1.000	Italy	2.000	2.000
Malta       1.000         The Netherlands       1.000       1.00         Nordic council       1.000       1.00         Portugal       1.000       1.00         Poland       1.000       1.00	Latvia	-	1.000
The Netherlands       1.000       1.00         Nordic council       1.000       1.00         Portugal       1.000       1.00         Poland       1.000       1.00	Macedonia	-	1.000
Nordic council       1.000       1.000         Portugal       1.000       1.000         Poland       1.000       1.000	Malta	1.000	-
Portugal       1.000         Poland       1.000	The Netherlands	1.000	1.000
Poland 1.000 1.00	Nordic council	1.000	1.000
	Portugal	1.000	-
Romania 1.000 2.00	Poland	1.000	1.000
	Romania	1.000	2.000
Slovenia 1.000 1.00	Slovenia	1.000	1.000
Spain 1.000 1.00	Spain	1.000	1.000
Sweden 2.000 2.00	Sweden	2.000	2.000
United Kingdom 1.000 1.00	United Kingdom	1.000	1.000

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# Total revenue from contracts with customers 21.000 23.000

The revenue of the membership fees is recorded over time as the service is delivered throughout the year. The trade receivables amount to EUR 508.551 at 31 December 2020 (EUR 401.712 in 2019). These receivables are non-interest bearing and are generally on terms of 30 days. In 2020 EUR 132.586 (EUR 90.799 in 2019) was recognized as a provision on ECL on trade receivables.

### 5. Other income

The line item "Other income" in the income statement relates to:

EUR	2020	2019
Other income		
European Parliament Grant	4.555.512	5.073.991
EP carry-over	(789.172)	101.799
Donations:		
- Above EUR 500	-	-
Other	1.500	3.182
Total other income	3.767.840	5.178.972

# 6. Expenses by nature and other operating income

A breakdown of the "General and administrative expenses" by nature can be found in the table below:

EUR	2020	2019
Advertising and promotional costs	5.575	42.014
Amortization intangible assets	245	564
Depreciation Property Plant and Equipment	75.783	24.712
Depreciation on right of use - offices	140.614	116.376
Depreciation on right of use - IT equipment	3.468	2.889
Event costs	195.739	361.691
Meetings and representation costs	1.738	18.030
Building & materials	4.118	90.284
Office cost	53.028	61.164
Office equipment	57.896	11.037
Infrastructure and operating costs	4.428	73.298
Rent	164.241	9.079
Utilities and maintenance	-	121
Accounting cost	44.153	37.316
Documentation costs (newspaper, database, press agencies)	42.989	8.539
Research and development costs	266.357	614.460
Information and publication costs	182.841	432.886
IT, phone & internet	25.458	36.865
Website	1.483	1.745
Travel expenses	82.440	1.135.544
Wages and salaries	1.378.674	1.219.195
Social security cost	357.600	335.477
Consulting fees	340.825	164.533
Fees audit, translators and others	80.850	118.510
Post-employment benefit expenses	75.986	60.460
Employer related costs – cars, trainings and others	6.595	70.779
Other personnel costs	181.815	145.250
ECL of trade receivables	76.035	68.525
Other	-	18.250
Total	3.850.974	5.279.593

A breakdown of the "Other operating income/(expenses) - net" by nature can be found in the table below. The income is presented with a negative sign and the expenses are presented with a positive sign.

	20	20	19	
EUR	Other operating (income)	Other operating expenses	Other operating (income)	Other operating expenses
Payment differences	-	-	(6.082)	5.313
(Gain)/Loss on sale of assets	-	493	2.505	-
Impairment on financial assets	-	-	-	77.905
Recovery on EP grant	-	90.379	-	-
Other extraordinary income	(2.130)	-	(66.001)	16.398
Other (income)/expense	-	-	(8.406)	735
Total	(2.130)	90.872	(77.984)	100.351

Other extraordinary income for 2019 include gains on write-off of old trade payables as well as project contribution from previous years. The extraordinary operating expenses for 2020 include a recovery order of 90.379 EUR from the European Parliament.

### 7. Finance income and costs

#### Finance income

EUR	2020	2019
Interest income on:		
Realised exchange gains on foreign currencies	11	208
Other finance income	47	148
Total finance income	58	356
Finance costs		
Interest expense on bank borrowings	2.145	150
Leases interest expenses	10.095	1.452
Interest expense on defined benefit obligation	684	735
Bank charges	10.473	2.919
Foreign exchange (gain)/loss	-	2.244
Other finance costs	89	-
Total finance costs	23.486	7.500

# 8. Employee benefit expense

	2	020	2	2019
EUR	Included in General and administrative expenses	Included in Other operating income/expenses	Included in General and administrative expenses	Included in Other operating income/expenses
Wages and salaries	1.378.674	-	1.219.195	-
Social security costs	357.600	-	335.477	-
Employer related costs	181.815	-	145.250	-
Post-employment benefit expenses	75.986	-	60.460	
Total employee benefit expense	1.994.075	-	1.760.382	-

# Average number of employees

	2020	2019
Average number of employees - head office	19	18
Total average number of employees	19	18

# 9. Property, plant and equipment

EUR	Plant, Machinery and equipment	Furniture and material	Leasehold improvem ents	Right of use - offices	Right of use - IT equipment	Total
At 1 January 2019						
Cost or valuation	174.974	27.664	25.878	-	-	228.516
Accumulated depreciation, impairments and other adjustments	(137.055)	(17.958)	(18.672)	-	-	(173.685)
Opening net book value at 1 January 2019	37.919	9.706	7.206	-	-	54.831
Period ended 31 December 2019 Initial application of IFRS 16 as of 1 January 2019	-	-	-	145.469	-	145.469
New leases	-	-	-	-	17.339	17.339
Additions	17.460	1.450	-	-	-	18.910
Disposals	(6.034)	(6.321)	-	-	-	(12.355)
Closing Cost or Valuation at 31 December 2019	186.400	22.793	25.878	145.469	17.339	397.879
Accumulated depreciation on disposals	3.529	6.321	-	-		9.850
Depreciation charge for the year	(16.899)	(2.182)	(5.631)	(116.376)	(2.889)	(143.977)
Closing Accumulated depreciation, impairments and other adjustments at 31 December 2019	(150.425)	(13.819)	(24.303)	(116.376)	(2.889)	(307.812)
Closing net book value at 31 December 2019	35.975	8.974	1.575	29.093	14.450	90.067
Period ended 31 December 2020						
New Leases	-	-	-	1.103.920	-	1.103.920
Extension Lease	-	-	-	19.527	-	19.527
Additions	126.969	-	942.456	-	-	1.069.425
Disposals	(1.029)	-	(25.878)	(164.996)	-	(191.903)
Closing Cost or Valuation at 31 December 2020	312.340	22.793	942.456	1.103.920	17.339	2.398.848
Accumulated depreciation on disposals	536	-	25.878	164.996	_	191.410
Depreciation charge for the year	(17.339)	(4.539)	(53.905)	(140.614)	(3.468)	(219.865)
Closing Accumulated depreciation, impairments and other adjustments at 31 December 2020	(167.228)	(18.358)	(52.330)	(91.994)	(6.357)	(336.267)
Closing net book value at 31 December 2020	145.112	4.435	890.126	1.011.926	10.982	2.062.581

The Foundation has lease contracts for offices and IT equipment. Leases have lease terms between 5 and 9 years.

The significant increases of the year are explained by a new lease contract for a building and leasehold improvements performed in this building. The new lease agreement commenced in April 2020 and is agreed upon for a lease term of 9 years. This lease term includes a renewal option that the foundation will reasonably certain take. The prior lease of the building was extended for 2 months, which increased the ROUA by 19.527 EUR. This extension is fully depreciated in 2020.

The Foundation has the option, under its leases of IT equipment to extend for additional term of one year, after a first lease term of 5 years. The Foundation did not include the renewal period as part of the lease term for leases of IT equipment because there is no market advantage to exercise it, so it judges that it is not reasonably certain that the option to extend will be exercised.

# 10. Intangible assets

EU	К
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LON	Software and licences
At 1 January 2019	
Cost or valuation	13.109
Accumulated amortization, impairments and other adjustments	(11.994)
Opening net book value at 1 January 2019	1.115
Period ended 31 December 2019	
Additions	_
Disposals	-
Closing Cost or Valuation at 31 December 2019	13.109
Accumulated depreciation on disposals	
Depreciation charge for the year	(564)
Closing Accumulated depreciation, impairments and other adjustments at 31	(304)
December 2019	(12.558)
Closing net book value at 31 December 2019	551
Period ended 31 December 2020	
Additions	_
Disposals	-
Closing Cost or Valuation at 31 December 2020	13.109
Accumulated depreciation on disposals	
Depreciation charge for the year	(245)
Closing Accumulated depreciation, impairments and other adjustments at 31	(2.13)
December 2020	(12.803)
Closing net book value at 31 December 2020	306
	300

# 11. Financial assets and financial liabilities

# a) Financial assets

#### Financial assets

	31 December 2020	31 December 2019
	EUR	EUR
Debt instruments at amortised cost		
Trade & Other receivables (Note 14)	780.068	524.530
Total financial assets	780.068	524.530
Total current	633.077	459.995
Total non-current	146.991	64.535

# b) Financial liabilities: Borrowings

#### **Financial Liabilities**

	31 December 2020	31 December 2019
	EUR	EUR
Other financial liabilities at amortised cost, other than interest-bearing loans and borrowings		
Trade and other payables (Note 17)	869.147	537.753
European parliament grant	879.551	68.302
Total other financial liabilities	1.748.698	606.055
Total current	1.748.698	606.055
Total non-current	-	_

In 2020, the financial liability for the European parliament grant increased to 879.551 EUR because of a carry-over to 2021 of 789.172 EUR.

#### Interest-bearing loans and borrowings

	Interest rate	Maturity	31 December 2020	31 December 2019
	%		EUR	EUR
Current interest-bearing loans				
and borrowings				
Leasing liabilities	1,15-3,88%	2021	117.540	32.546
Bank loan	2%	2021	200.000	200.000
Total current interest-bearing loans			317.540	232.546
and borrowings		_		
Non-current interest-bearing loans				
and borrowings				
Leasing liabilities	1,15-3,88%	2029	995.822	11.325
Total non-current interest-bearing			995.822	11.325
loans and borrowings				
Total interest-bearing loans			1.313.362	243.871
and horrowings				

### c) Fair Values

Set out below is a comparison, by class, of the carrying amounts and fair values of the Foundation's financial instruments:

	31 December 2020		31 December	2019
	Carrying amount	Fair value	Carrying amount	Fair value
	EUR	EUR	EUR	EUR
Financial assets				
Non-current trade receivables	146.991	146.991	64.535	62.965
Trade & Other receivables	663.077	663.077	459.995	459.995
Total	780.068	780.068	524.530	522.960
Financial liabilities				_
Leasing liabilities	1.113.362	1.113.362	43.871	43.871
Bank loan	200.000	200.000	200.000	200.000
Trade & Other payables	1.748.698	1.748.698	606.055	606.055
Total	3.062.060	3.062.060	849.926	849.926

Apart from the non-current trade receivables, the Foundation has mainly short term financial assets and financial liabilities for which the carrying amount is a reasonable approximation of the fair value. Moreover the carrying amount of leasing liabilities is also a reasonable approximation of the fair value. The trade and other payables increased significantly in 2020 related to the carry-over from 2020 to 2021 of the European parliament grant as discussed in Note 11a.

# 12. Financial risk management

#### a) Financial risk factors

The Foundation's principal financial liabilities comprise loans and borrowings, lease liabilities, and trade and other payables. The main purpose of these liabilities is to finance the Foundation's operations. The Foundation's principal financial assets include trade receivables, and cash and short term deposits that derive directly from its operations. The Foundation is exposed primarily to market risk, currency risk and liquidity risk. Foundation's managers oversee the management of these risks.

The Foundation's overall risk management program focuses on the unpredictability of financial markets and seeks to minimize potential adverse effects on the Foundation's financial performance. The objective is to identify, quantify, manage and then monitor events or actions that could lead to financial losses.

#### Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that a counterparty will not meet its obligations under a financial instrument or customer contract, leading to a financial loss. The Foundation is exposed to credit risk from its operating activities (primarily trade receivables) and from its financing activities, including deposits with banks and financial institutions.

#### Credit risk from operating activities

The trade receivables balance contain the member Foundation contributions to be received. The impairment policy of the Foundation is to write-off receivables as soon as they remain unpaid for two years. When members are excluded, the related receivable is often waived and written-off.

For its receivables, the Foundation has policies to ensure that her receivables on member foundations or external third parties are closely monitored by the finance department. Credit quality of a customer is assessed based on an extensive credit rating scorecard and individual credit limits are defined in accordance with this assessment.

An impairment analysis is performed at each reporting date using a provision matrix to measure expected credit losses. The provision rates are based on days past due for groupings of various customer segments with similar loss patterns (i.e. customer type and rating, and coverage by letters of credit or other forms of credit insurance). The calculation reflects the probability-weighted outcome, the time value of money and reasonable and supportable information that is available at the reporting date about past events, current conditions and forecasts of future economic conditions. Generally, trade receivables are written-off if past due for more than two years and are not subject

to enforcement activity. The maximum exposure to credit risk at the reporting date is the carrying value of each class of financial assets. The Group does not hold collateral as security.

Set out below is the information about the credit risk exposure on the Foundation's trade receivables and contract assets using a provision matrix:

Trade Receivables
Days past due

31 December 2020	Current	<30 days	30-60 days	61–90 days	>91 days	Total
	EUR	EUR	EUR	EUR	EUR	EUR
Expected credit loss rate (%)	17%	17%	31%	41%	53%	
Estimated total gross carrying amount at default	316.571	64.722	(5.049)	(1.048)	133.355	508.551
Expected credit loss	53.240	11.055	(1.567)	(430)	70.288	132.586

# Trade Receivables Days past due

31 December 2019	Current	<30 days	30-60 days	61–90 days	>91 days	Total
	EUR	EUR	EUR	EUR	EUR	EUR
Expected credit loss rate (%)	9%	10%	17%	28%	42%	
Estimated total gross carrying amount at default	228.970	11.823	2.180	(3.666)	162.405	401.712
Expected credit loss	21.700	1.167	373	(1.011)	68.570	90.799

#### Credit risk from financing activities

Credit risk from balances with banks and financial institutions is managed by the Foundation's finance department in accordance with the Foundation's policy. The Foundation's maximum exposure to credit risk for the components of the statement of financial position at 31 December 2020 and 2019 is the carrying amounts as illustrated in Note 14.

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# Liquidity risk

The Foundation monitors its risk of a shortage of funds using a liquidity planning tool. The amounts disclosed in the table are the contractual undiscounted cash flows.

At 31 December 2020 (EUR)	Total Contractual cashflow	Less than 1 year	Between 1 and 2 years	Between 2 and 5 years	Over 5 years
Borrowings	200.000	200.000	-	-	-
Trade and other payables	1.132.450	1.132.450	_	-	=
Leasing liabilities	1.113.362	117.540	139.345	403.466	453.011
European Parliament grant	879.551	879.551	-	-	-
At 31 December 2019 (EUR)	Total Contractual cashflow	Less than 1 year	Between 1 and 2 years	Between 2 and 5 years	Over 5 years
At 31 December 2019 (EUR)  Borrowings	Contractual				Over 5 years
	Contractual cashflow	year			Over 5 years -
Borrowings	Contractual cashflow 200.000	year 200.000			Over 5 years

Changes in liabilities arising from financing activities are shown in the table below:

# **Liabilities from financing activities**

	1 January 2020	Move Non- Current to Current	Cash outflows	Cash inflows	New Lease	Interest	Extension	31 Decembe r 2020
	EUR	EUR	EUR	EUR	EUR	EUR	EUR	EUR
Current leasing liabilities Non-current interest-	32.546	117.540	(52.644)	-	-	571	19.527	117.540
bearing loans and borrowings (excluding items listed below)	200.000	-	-	-	-	-	-	200.000
Non-current leasing liabilities	11.325	(117.540)	(11.407)	-	1.123.447	9.523	(19.537)	995.811
Total liabilities from financing activities	243.871	-	(64.051)	-	1.123.447	10.094	(10)	1.313.351

	1 January 2019	Cash outflows	Cash inflows	IFRS 16 impact & Other	31 December 2019
	EUR	EUR	EUR	EUR	EUR
Current interest-bearing loans and borrowings (excluding items listed below)	-	-	-	-	-
Current leasing liabilities	-	(118.937)	-	151.483	32.546
Non-current interest-bearing loans and borrowings (excluding items listed below)	-	-	200.000	-	200.000
Non-current leasing liabilities	-	-	-	11.325	11.325
Total liabilities from financing activities	-	(118.937)	200.000	162.808	243.871

# 13. Joint Operations

The Foundation has a minimum of 50% interests in joint arrangements with the Member Foundations or third parties for which they conduct together joint projects, such as: conferences, debates, research papers, internal trainings, public events, etc. . The foundation will call for proposals to partners and choose projects that will go through an approval process conducted by the Secretary General under the supervision of the Bureau. Once the project is approved they implement the project together with their partner. The portion of the cost covered by the Member Foundations or third parties is set off against the income flowing from the Member Foundation or third parties.

### 14. Trade and other receivables

#### **Trade and other receivables**

EUR	31 December 2020	31 December 2019
Trade receivables	508.551	401.712
Less: allowance for ECL	(132.586)	(90.799)
Trade receivables - net	375.965	310.913
Payroll receivable	29.812	-
Accrued income and deferred charges	257.112	148.191
Rental deposits	146.991	64.535
Other receivables	-	891
Total	809.880	524.530
non-current portion	146.991	64.535
Current portion	662.889	459.995

The movements in the Foundation's bad debt allowance are as follows:

EUR	31 December 2020	31 December 2019
At 1 January	90.799	68.812
Addition to the ECL allowance	76.035	68.525
Reversal ECL allowance	13.063	-
Write-off	(47.311)	(46.538)
At 31 December	132.586	90.799

# 15. Cash and cash equivalents

EUR	31 December 2020	31 December 2019
Cash at banks and on hand	154.814	207.040
Total cash and cash equivalents (excluding bank overdrafts)	154.814	207.040

Cash at banks earns interest at floating rates based on daily bank deposit rates.

At 31 December 2020, the Foundation had available EUR 300.000 (2019: EUR 300.000) of undrawn committed borrowing facilities.

Cash and cash equivalents include the following for the purposes of the statement of cash flows:

EUR	31 December 2020	31 December 2019
Cash and cash equivalents	154.814	207.040
Bank overdrafts	-	-
Cash and cash equivalents (including bank overdrafts)	154.814	_ 207.040

## 16. Pensions and other post-employment benefit plans

EUR	31 December 2020	31 December 2019
Post-employment Pension Plan	120.191	102.371
Total	120.191	102.371

The Foundation's defined benefit pension plan is a final salary plan for employees, which requires contributions to be made to a separately administered fund. This plan is governed by the employment laws. The level of benefits provided depends on the member's length of service and salary at retirement age.

The following tables summarise the components of net benefit expense recognised in the statement of profit or loss and the funded status and amounts recognised in the statement of financial position for the respective plans:

Net benefit expense (recognised in profit or loss - EUR)	2020	2019
Current Service cost	75.986	60.460
Interest cost on benefit obligation	684	735
Net benefit expense	76.670	61.195

Changes in the present value of the defined benefit obligation are, as follows:

## Net defined benefit obligation at 1 January 2019

Net defined benefit obligation at 13anuary 2013	78.575
Interest cost	735
Current service cost	60.460
Actuarial gains/losses	48.417
Contribution received	(85.816)
Not defined honefit abligation at 21 December 2010	
Net defined benefit obligation at 31 December 2019	102.371
Interest cost	684
Current service cost	75.986
Actuarial gains/losses	17.419
Contribution received	(76.269)
Not defined hanefit abligation at 21 December 2020	
Net defined benefit obligation at 31 December 2020	120.191

Arhold

EUR	2020	2019
Defined benefit obligation at 1 January	675.515	638.183
Pension cost charged to profit or loss		
Service cost	75.986	60.460
Tax paid	(10.080)	(10.951)
Net interest expense	7.384	10.554
Administration costs	(4.790)	(4.673)
Sub-total included in profit or loss	68.500	55.390
Remeasurement gains/(losses) in OCI	105.838	132.762
Experience adjustments	6.317	11.610
Sub-total included in OCI	112.155	144.372
Benefit payments	29.609	(162.430)
Defined benefit obligation at 31 December	885.779	675.515
EUR	2020	2019
Fair value of plan assets at 1 January	573.144	559.608
Pension cost charged to profit or loss		
Tax paid	(10.080)	(10.951)
Expected return on plan assets	6.700	9.819
Administration costs	(4.790)	(4.673)
Sub-total included in profit or loss	(8.170)	(5.805)

94.736

94.736

76.269

29.609

765.588

The principal assumptions used in determining pension and post-employment medical benefit obligations for the Foundation's plans are shown below:

Remeasurement gains/(losses) in OCI

Fair value of plan assets at 31 December

Sub-total included in OCI

Contributions by employee

Contributions by employer

Benefit payments

Assumptions	31 December 2020	31 December 2019
	%	%
Discount rate:		
Defined Contribution pension plan	0,60	1,10
Future salary increases:		
Defined Contribution pension plan	2,85	2,85
Future consumer price index increases:		
Defined Contribution pension plan	1,70	1,70

95.955

95.955

85.816

23.277

573.144

(185.707)

The following are the expected payments or contributions to the defined benefit plan in future years:

	31 December	31 December
	2020	2019
	EUR	EUR
Within the next 12 months (next annual reporting period)	97.870	84.224
Total expected payments	97.870	84.224

## 17. Trade and other payables

EUR	31 December 2020	31 December 2019
Trade payables	850.522	515.738
Social security and other taxes	263.303	96.141
European Parliament Grant	879.551	68.302
Accrued expenses and deferred income	17.955	9.953
Other liabilities/payables	670	12.062
Trade and other payables	2.012.001	702.196
Non-current portion	<del>-</del>	<u>-</u>
Current portion	2.012.001	702.196

The trade and other payables of the Foundation are current financial liabilities and are non-interest bearing and are normally settled on 60 day terms.

The movement of the European Parliament Grant of the period is further detailed in the table below:

Opening 1 January 2019	101.799
Release grant into income statement	(5.073.991)
Grant carried-over 2018	(101.799)
Grant award 2019	5.142.293
Closing 31 December 2019	68.302
Release grant into income statement	(4.555.512)
Grant carry over to 2021 through income statement	789.172
Reimbursement of grant	(68.302)
Recovery order prior year	90.379
Grant award 2020	4.555.512
Closing 31 December 2020	879.551

## 18. Commitments and contingencies

## Contingent liabilities

The rental agreements for the office space contains a restoration clause. However the restoration obligation is at the discretion of the lessor and therefore not within the control of the Foundation.

## 19. Events after the reporting date

### 1. COVID-19 Crisis:

During 2020, the coronavirus outbreak has had huge impacts on the EU economy. In response to the pandemic worldwide spread, many governments in affected jurisdictions-imposed travel bans, quarantines and other emergency public safety measures. For example, governments have imposed restrictions on travel and the movement and gathering of people. In general, the effects of the outbreak on the foundation were mainly linked to the cancellation of events. This resulted in less income from these events, but also less expenses for the organization. Overall the impact was rather limited for the foundation in 2020.

For the reporting period 2021, COVID-19 may affect the recognition and measurement of some assets and liabilities on the balance sheet and also of some revenue and expenses recognized in the statement of financial performance. For example, some planned events and meetings were cancelled, and revenues from external sources has decreased. The impact of these, among other effects, on the financial performance may be significant for the reporting year 2021. Based on the information available at the date of signature of these annual accounts, the financial effects of the coronavirus continuance in 2021 cannot be reliably estimated. The situation gives rise to uncertainty on the ability of the entity to continue as a going concern. The Board is evaluating the possible measures to combat the outbreak of activities and to sustain our going concern. As a non-adjusting event, the outbreak of the coronavirus does not require any adjustments to the figures reported in these annual accounts.

## 2. 2018/2019 recovery order to the grant

On 12/01/2021 and on 08/02/2021, the European Parliament, based on the Bureau Decision of, provided FEPS with a recovery order of 32.160 EUR and 58.219 EUR. The Foundation account for this recovery order as an adjusting event of 2020 financial year.

Arhold

## FOUNDATION FOR EUROPEAN PROGRESSIVE STUDIES FONDATION EUROPÉENNE D'ÉTUDES PROGRESSISTES

## Annual Activity REPORT 2020







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## **FEPS TEAM**



**László ANDOR** Secretary General



**Johan ROBBERECHT** *Director of Operations* 



**David RINALDI**Director of Studies and Policy



**Roberto PAREDES**Head of Finance and Audit



Maria FREITAS Senior Policy Advisor



**Hedwig GIUSTO**Senior Policy Advisor and
Editor-in-Chief of The Progressive Post



**Justin NOGAREDE** *Digital Policy Adviser* 



Euléane OMEZ
Project Officer



Christine RUGURIKA

Administrative and Events Officer



**François BALATE**Head of Office of the President



**Ania SKRZYPEK**Director for Research and Training



Ainara BASCUÑANA
Head of Communication and Deputy
Editor-in-Chief of The Progressive Post



Charlotte BILLINGHAM
Senior Policy Advisor



**Elena GIL** New Media Advisor



**Céline GUEDES**Project Officer



Vassilis NTOUSAS Senior Policy Advisor -International Relations



**Susanne PFEIL**Project Officer



Laeticia THISSEN
Policy Advisor

## MESSAGE BY THE PRESIDENT



The year 2020 brought us exceptional times and a new phase of the European project. The scale of the economic and social crisis propelled by the pandemic has pushed Europe to take bolder steps for a comprehensive and coordinated response, building up a stronger budgetary capacity to counter the recession. The aim, this time, is not only to recover but to build back better by turning this fiscal stimulus into a larger agenda for transformation: driving the green and digital transition while reducing regional and social inequalities.

The external front, the European Union's profile was redesigned by Brexit, but at the same time it was possible to turn the page of the Trump era in the United States. In this multipolar world, marked by the strategic competition between US and China, Europe started to wake up to the need of a bolder external action, while cooperating with all who want to renew multilateralism to cope with the new global challenges. Against this new background, Europeans should be much more involved in setting the ambitions of the European project for the next phase and this was the announced purpose for the Conference on the Future of Europe.

FEPS reinvented itself in order to navigate through these new big waves, discovering the potential and the limits of becoming hybrid. We could develop our cooperation in different shapes with policymakers, civil society leaders and a large network of experts and renowned intellectuals. Being a central reference of progressive thinking is a huge and permanent challenge, but it is more important than ever. In these exceptional times, the only solutions that can really work for European citizens are the progressive ones. This is a real opportunity for progressive actors to regain the leadership of the European project. FEPS worked hard

to meet this responsibility and give its contribution by focusing on the following priorities:

- shaping the strategy for economic recovery, while tackling social inequalities;
- designing the green transition with social fairness;
- identifying new forms of taxation to finance a stronger budgetary capacity;
- exploring the ways to renew multilateralism for the 21st century;
- working out steps towards a feminist Europe;
- identifying the European way to defend democracy in the digital era;
- setting up an ambitious project for the Conference on the Future of Europe.

The interplay between the world of ideas and the world of action is a difficult art which a think tank must excel in. Even more as FEPS is a network-based organisation, involving many other foundations and partners across Europe and beyond. But yes, it is possible to develop a common progressive agenda building on our amazing diversity and cultural richness. This is indeed a fascinating work for us and the many thousands who have been working with us!

Maria João Rodrigues

President

# FEPS IS THE EUROPEAN PROGRESSIVE POLITICAL FOUNDATION

The Foundation for European Progressive Studies (FEPS) is the think tank of the progressive political family at EU level. Our mission is to develop innovative research, policy advice, training and debates to inspire and inform progressive politics and policies across Europe.

We operate as a hub for thinking to facilitate the emergence of progressive answers to the challenges that Europe faces today.

FEPS works in close partnership with its members and partners, forging connections and boosting coherence among stakeholders from the world of politics, academia, and civil society at local, regional, national, European, and global levels.

Today FEPS benefits from a solid network of 68 member organisations. Among these, 43 are full members, 20 have observer status and 5 are ex-officio members. In addition to this network of organisations that are active in the promotion of progressive values, FEPS also has an extensive network of partners, including renowned universities, scholars, policymakers, and activists.

Our ambition is to undertake intellectual reflection for the benefit of the progressive movement, and to promote the founding principles of the EU – freedom, equality, solidarity, democracy, respect of human rights, fundamental freedoms, human dignity, and the rule of law.

## Background

FEPS was created in 2008 as the European-level political foundation associated with – but independent from – the Party of European Socialists (PES) and the Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament (S&D). Since its creation, FEPS has mainly been funded by the European Parliament.

FEPS was set up to "serve as a framework for national political foundations, academics, and other relevant actors to work together at the European level" (art. 1.4 of Regulation (EC) 1524-2007).

These credentials have made FEPS into an important stakeholder, recognised by foundations and international think tank rankings such as the Pennsylvania Global Think Tank Index. In 2020, FEPS was ranked fourth best party-affiliated think tank worldwide.

In August 2017, FEPS was officially registered with the status of European political foundation (number: EUPF 4BE0896.230.213).

In 2019, FEPS was honoured to be granted Special Consultative Status to the **United Nations Economic and Social Council** (ECOSOC), the highest status given by the UN to non-governmental organisations, thus allowing it to participate in the work of the UN.

At the European Progressive Annual Autumn Academy 2019



## **FOREWORD** BY THE SECRETARY **GENERAL**



of Europe, mainly due to the coronavirus pandemic. In March 2020, our lives changed, and our work had to change too. Under the circumstances of Covid-19 lockdowns, a major collective effort was required to keep FEPS afloat and competitive in the world of online think tank activities.

With the European Union diving into health policy coordination, establishing a counter-cyclical budgetary component financed from joint debt issuance (Next Generation EU), promoting Kurzarbeit schemes (SURE), and reinforcing the youth guarantee, 2020 offered itself to be a Social Democratic momentum.

While responding to the Covid-19 emergency with a newly discovered sense of solidarity, the question was whether at the period of recovery we manage to keep the European Green Deal and the social agenda in the focus, and seize the momentum for deepening European integration. The answers to these questions will determine It is a commonplace at the time of crises that the world our future for a very long period.

FEPS projects have contributed to the development of new concepts and policies, including the Health Union, the rule of law conundrum, pioneering policies like the Child Guarantee, and the analysis of the added value of Social Democratic governments. In September 2020, a major FEPS event celebrated the establishment of the United Nations and discussed how to reform multilateralism.

2020 was an extraordinary year for FEPS, as for the rest We were witnessing how the US elections unfolded on the other side of the Atlantic with great concern. But we also took note of the delays of the Conference on the Future of Europe, we masterminded a meta-project to prepare ourselves and our political family for this over-arching debate.

> From an operational point of view, FEPS started 2020 with a compressed budget and continued with a process of forced reprogramming. The Team faced multiple challenges including: new methods of project management, new processes to produce publications, and a shift to online organisation of internal as well as public events (including the main annual conference of FEPS: Call to Europe).

> In 2020, FEPS had to learn working amidst the extraordinary circumstances, adapting to the conditions of confinement, organising research projects and public events online, and maintain close collaboration with our member foundations despite all that.

> will not again be what it was before. This is perhaps double true this time, due to Covid-19 and its manifold consequences. In 2021, we look forward to continuing the move to a new operational model, return to our new headquarters, and putting the newly learned skills at the service of the progressive recovery and partnerships.

> > László Andor Secretary General

## **CORE MISSION FOR 2020**

In the 2019 European Parliament elections, the Progressive family preserved its position as a strong European political force, assuming political initiative already in the negotiations about the priorities and key positions across the EU institutions in the new legislative period 2019-2024.

The new situation invited FEPS to be a strong contributor of policy ideas, in line with its general mandate at the service of the progressive movement, in pursuit of strengthening and promoting the founding principles of the European Union, namely: freedom, equality, solidarity, democracy, respect of human rights, fundamental freedoms and human dignity, and of the rule of law.

Taking stock of the challenges ahead of 2020, we also had to appreciate that the progressive political forces and their constituencies became particularly concerned by three major developments:

- rising inequality regarding incomes and social conditions;
- climate change endangering environmental and social sustainability;
- the far-right threat to democracy, human rights, and multilateralism.

Though these have been in the focus of analysis and political debate of the centre-left for some time, we consider it our mission to overcome anxiety and present sound analysis and building on that effective and consistent solutions.

Together with its member foundations and a wide progressive expert community, FEPS represents a vision which is progressive instead of neo-liberal, and aims at tackling the great transformational challenges of the 21st century. This requires framing, launching, and pursuing crucial initiatives that will make European citizens see the added value of Social Democracy and the potential to form progressive alliances and to pursue a new social contract in the 21st century.



## **KEY FACTS AND FIGURES 2020**

The FEPS Framework Activity Programme for 2020 was adopted in the aftermath of the European Elections 2019. This meant that in designing its strategy, FEPS drew conclusions from the results of the vote and aimed at setting its short- and mid-term priorities to ensure that its initiatives correlate with the demands originating from the political responsibilities that the Progressive family undertook inside of the EU institutions for the new mandate. At the same time, it made sure to keep a good balance between these and working on the long-term commitments, which reflect the ambition of helping Social Democracy to raise from the current predicament and to become the political force shaping the new paradigm for next decades of the 21st century.

This led to maintaining the structure of six thematic fields, each of which to be described along two objectives – when it comes to orienting research, activities, communication, and training:

## **FOCUS AREAS FOR 2020**

### **Next Left**

- How can we effectively renew and re-energise Social Democracy in various parts of Europe, promoting a progressive intellectual reconstruction?
- How can we build sustainable alliances for social solidarity within and between European countries in a volatile political context?

### **Democratic Empowerment**

- How can we renew European democracy(ies), both in the sense of increasing civic participation and improving on its governance methods?
- How can we ensure that digital technologies, including artificial intelligence, strengthen citizens' autonomy and democracy, instead of facilitating polarisation and manipulation?

## **Progressive and Sustainable Economy**

- How can we shape the fiscal capacity of the European Union, and of the euro area in the future, in order to promote upward economic and social convergence?
- How can we create a European approach to digital technology that protects citizens' rights and does not exacerbate inequality? And what type of industrial policy would this require?

## **Social Europe**

- How can we implement the European Pillar of Social Rights so that it stands for the European strategy to fight inequalities and deliver tangible results improving people's lives?
- How can we build a Feminist Europe that fights existing inequalities and puts in place mechanisms preventing gender discrimination in the future?

## Migration, Asylum, and Integration

- How can we overcome the political impasse of the reform of the Common European Asylum System and ensure a reform that is based on solidarity?
- How can we ensure common integration standards within the European Union?

## **Europe in the World**

- How can we keep the commitment for reducing emissions and strengthen a progressive coalition, aiming at building a socially just, equitable de-carbonised society?
- How to consolidate the EU Global Strategy, ensuring that the ambition included in the document continues translating into action after the year of institutional renewal in the EU?







**FEPS EVENTS** 

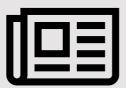
FEPS PUBLICATIONS

**FEPS TALK PODCASTS** 













**NEWSLETTERS** 

PROGRESSIVE PAGES

PROGRESSIVE POST







**MAGAZINES** 





FACEBOOK FOLLOWERS

TWITTER FOLLOWERS





## FEPS NETWORK

### NATIONAL POLITICAL FOUNDATIONS **AND THINK TANKS AUSTRIA** Karl Renner Institut • **BELGIUM** Institut Emile Vandervelde **BULGARIA** Institute for Social Integration • **BULGARIA** Institute for New Economic Progress (INEP) •-CZECH REPUBLIC Masarykova Democratická Akademie • **DENMARK** Arbejderbevaegelsens Erhvervsrad (ECLM) • **DENMARK ESTONIA** Johannes Mihkelson Centre -EU Solidar **FINLAND** Kalevi Sorsa Säätiö • **FRANCE** Fondation Jean-Jaurès • **GERMANY** Friedrich Ebert Stiftung **GERMANY** Das Progressive Zentrum (DPZ) • **GERMANY** Humboldt Viadrina Governance Platform **GREECE GREECE** Institute for Strategic and Development Studies (ISTAME) HUNGARY Policy Solutions ← HUNGARY Táncsics Mihály Alapítvány HUNGARY Institute for Social Democracy (ISD) **IRELAND** TASC ◆ **ITALY** Fondazione Socialismo • **ITALY** Fondazione Gramsci • ITALY Centro Studi di Politica Internazionale (CeSPI) • **ITALY** Fondazione Italianieuropei • **ITALY** Fondazione Pietro Nenni **LATVIA** Freedom and Solidarity Foundation **LUXEMBOURG** Fondation Robert Krieps • MALTA Fondazzjoni Ideat • **NETHERLANDS** Foundation Max Van Der Stoel **NETHERLANDS** Wiardi Beckman Stichting • NORDIC COUNCIL SAMAK • **POLAND** Centrum im. Ignacego Daszyńskiego • **PORTUGAL** ResPublica • **ROMANIA** Foundation for a Democratic Left • **SLOVENIA** Progresiva -**SPAIN** Fundación Felipe González • **SPAIN** Fundació Rafael Campalans • SPAIN Fundación Pablo Iglesias • **SWEDEN** Tankesmedja Tiden • **SWEDEN** Olof Palme International Center **UNITED KINGDOM** Mutuo • UNITED KINGDOM Policy Network

## **OBSERVER** NATIONAL FOUNDATIONS

**ALBANIA** / Foundation Qemal Stafa AUSTRALIA / Chifley Research Centre CANADA / Broadbent Institute

CHILE / Fundación Salvador Allende

CROATIA / Novo Društvo

**CROATIA** / CEE Network for Gender Issues

**ISRAEL** / The Macro Center for Political Economics

ITALY / Istituto Affari Internazionali **ITALY** / Fondazione Di Vittorio

**NETHERLANDS** / European Forum

**NORTH MACEDONIA / Progress Institute** 

**MEXICO** / Foundation of Progressive Political,

**Economic and Social Studies** 

**SERBIA** / Center for Democracy Foundation

SWITZERLAND / Anny Klawa Morf Stiftung

SWITZERLAND / Social Democratic Party (SP)

(Observer member of PES)

TURKEY / SODEV Sosyal Demokrasi Vakfi\*\*

**TURKEY** / Progressive Thought Institute

**UNITED KINGDOM** / SPERI, University of Sheffield

**UNITED KINGDOM** / Greenwich Political Economy Research

Centre (GPERC)

**UNITED KINGDOM** / Institute for Public Policy Research (IPPR)

**UNITED STATES** / Center for American Progress

## **EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS**

**EU** / Party of European Socialists

**EU** / S&D Group in the European Parliament

**EU** / PES Group in the Committee of the Regions

**EU** / PES Women

**EU** / YES - Young European Socialists

**UNITED KINGDOM** The Fabian Society

## FEPS AT WORK: RESEARCH AND STUDIES

## **Review meeting concept**

FEPS is committed to fostering and promoting the debate within the progressive family and to help developing policy pathways towards a progressive outcome.

FEPS Review Meetings are designed to provide space for a fruitful interaction between top policy experts, academics, and policymakers. The informal roundtable setting facilitates an open debate on the priorities for a more ambitious progressive way forward.

## In detail, Review Meetings serve different objectives:

- They are moments of assessment of what has been achieved within the respective thematic programmes of FEPS and may encourage the re-launch of some of the FEPS initiatives that for different reasons have been put on hold;
- 2. they set new research questions, which could eventually feed into the creation of new FEPS-led projects;
- 3. they serve as opportunities for stakeholders from the world of politics and academia, to debate the outcomes and deliberate on potential new objectives;
- 4. they enable identifying new potential interlocutors, who could contribute to the further developments of FEPS initiatives especially with reference to deepening the studies on the aforementioned eight priority topics.



## FEPS Review Meeting on Gender Equality (5 February 2020)

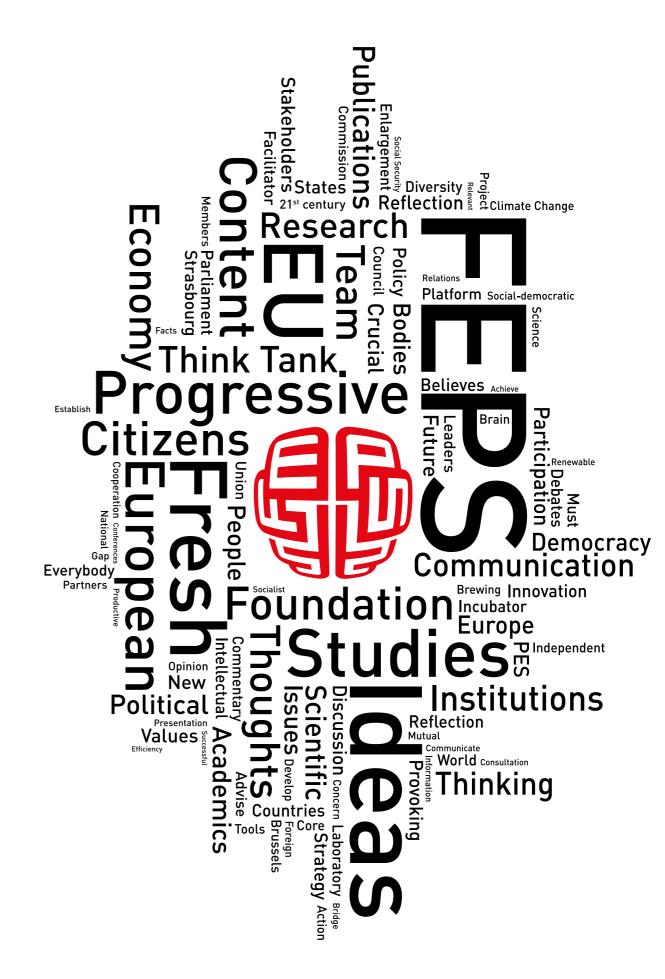
The purpose of this FEPS Review Meeting was to provide expertise and intellectual stimulation feeding into:

- In terms of content and inspiration, the upcoming EU Gender Equality Strategy;
- Progressive policy proposals and priorities for 2019– 24;
- Major progressive debates around 2020 milestones, such as the International Women's rights Day, the 64th session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women (9-20 March, New York), FEPS Call to Europe (10-11 June, Brussels), and the Global Gender Equality Forum (7-10 July, Paris).

Attendance: 35 people

## **Programme**

- Introductory remarks by Maria João Rodrigues, FEPS President, László Andor, FEPS Secretary General, and Renate Tenbusch, Director, FES Brussels Office;
- Input speech by Josiane Cutajar, Member of the European Parliament (S&D, Malta);
- Keynote speech by Helena Dalli, European Commissioner for Equality;
- Roundtable discussion #1: 'The EU Gender Strategy: Does Europe Care for Care?';
- Roundtable discussion #2: '2020, an Auspicious Year for Women's Rights and Gender Equality: It's time to secure bold actions for real progress!';
- Concluding Remarks by Maria João Rodrigues, FEPS President.



AFT REPORT 2020

## MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS/ DEMOCRATIC **EMPOWERMENT**

### **Ambition**

Launching the work on the field of democracy for the year 2020, FEPS was taking several issues into consideration. Firstly, the European Elections results offered several reasons for cautious optimism (with the turnout growing for the first time in four decades and with lesser representation of the anti-democratic parties inside of the EP than it had been anticipated). But still, they also showed that there is a great difference in the socio-economic and demographic profiles of those who participate in elections and those who do not. Secondly, there was a sense of responsibility to re-connect with young people, who not so long ago had taken their issues (including fight against climate change) to the street across the world. And thirdly, there has been a growing worry about increasing authoritarian tendencies, which have been manifesting themselves in policies of the respective governments, whose actions kept undermining human rights and the rule of law.

## **CASE 1 // MILLENIALS AND GEN Z SURVEY**

2020 was the preparatory year of what is going to be an exciting new research on the Millennials and Gen Z project in 2021. In this project, FEPS and partners will be updating and building on the insights and analysis derived from the insightful Millennial Dialogue research carried out in the past five years by FEPS and several partners. The opening of a new chapter of the project is called 'adding pieces to complete the Millennial puzzle' whereby a carefully selected network of youth representatives, member foundations and partners have come together in view of framing the research with the most pertinent questions to ask to these two generations. Amidst a global health pandemic, FEPS continued to give a voice to Millennials and Gen Z and strove to be a bridge between progressive policymakers and young people against the backdrop of the debates around the conference on the Future of Europe and its launch.







## **CASE 2** // TRANSNATIONAL PARTIES AND POLITICAL UNION

of Europe and the upcoming PES Congress –, FEPS the research objectives. It includes among the others: re-established a research group named 'The Future J. Leinen, R. Corbett, L. Bardi, A. Paczesniak, R. Ladrech, of transnational parties and Political Union', which G. Moschonas, L. Kinsky, T. Raunio, Ch. Lord, D. Bell, aims to examine avenues for Progressives to give new I. Hertner, F. Puckelsheim, M. Kaeding, M. Schwarz, and participatory democracy. The group gathered in PES, PES Women, YES and PES in CoR.

In 2020 – anticipating on the Conference on the Future November 2020, setting up diagnosis and defining impulses on how to enhance European representative A. Bondesio, as also representatives of the S&D Group,



## **CASE 3** // SUPPORTING THE FIGHT FOR DEMOCRACY AND **SELF-DETERMINATION IN BELARUS**

Upon the eruption of the protests in Belarus, which followed the disputable Presidential elections, FEPS ensured a space for debate that put the country, the demonstrations and democratic aspirations of the people there in spotlight. The actions involved: a podcast interview with former President of Poland, A. Kwasniewski, a a Progressive Post dossier and an online seminar (with, among others R. Biedron, MEP). The topic was initially part of a conversation at the online seminar on '50 years anniversary of the Willy Brandt knee fall in Warsaw – do we need a new progressive Ost-Politik' (which was held in online in cooperation with DPZ).



ikthrough: a momentum in which the power of the people would rise above the last naining European dictator ruling their country. With every day passing, with every struggle and push back against police, against intimidation, with every act of resistance and every strike, there is

Consequently, the upcoming FEPS webinar will look at the past months and will draw conclusions regarding the impact they had on the political reality in the country itself, on the region, on the European Union and the global community. The panelists will examine the steps that the EU has taken so far, looking at what could and what shouldn't be done in order to fulfill the historical

- r. Robert Bledron, Member of the European Parliament, Head of the Polish Dele
- ryna Wolczuk, Professor of East European Politics, Centre for Russian, European and

n and Moderation by Dr. **László Andor**, Secretary General, Foundation for Europ Studies (FEPS)

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## FEPS AT WORK: RESEARCH AND STUDIES

## MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS/ **NEXT LEFT -**RENEWAL OF SOCIAL **DEMOCRACY**

2020 saw the re-establishment of the Next Left Research Programme, which, since 2009, has been a transversal, pan-European initiative, offering a common platform connecting the global, pan-European and national debates about the renewal of Social Democracy. The re-launch of the Next Left – in cooperation with the programme's founding partner, the Renner Institut – saw a new set of guidelines and the election of a new Chair. Andreas Schieder. MEP and the Head of the Austrian Delegation inside of the S&D Group.

## **Ambition**

The situation of the centre-left in Europe is a very difficult one in overall terms. There are member states, where Social Democratic parties are in peril, whose decline is explained both by meta trends (demographic changes, structural changes of labour market, overall decline of the traditional political parties), and by country-specific contexts. There are points to be made about the difficulties that the centre left has with regaining credibility for its agenda, as well as when it comes to providing mid- and

long-term distinctive policy proposals. It is being pointed out that there is a need to rethink profoundly the narrative, and to develop a sound, competitive socio-economic paradigm that is fit to ensure social progress for all in the aftermath of the Covid-pandemic. Even though the Social Democrats that are in power showed the capacity to go beyond crisis management and govern in their respective countries, there is still a persistent worry that, in overall terms, Social Democrats will need to rethink their strategy. Indeed, the strategy needs to ensure the primacy of progressive politics and therefore also take a closer look at how they approach potential alliances on the broad spectrum of the centre-left. With that in mind, and having an ambition to deliver some proposals ahead of the PES Congress in 2021, FEPS and the Renner Institut launched a two-tier process featuring: the High Level Conversation and the Focus Group. In the course of 2020, members of both held meetings, defined the starting points and the questions for further deliberations, laying ground ahead of the work for the subsequent twelve months. These will observe the finalisation of the research papers, the production of audio-visual material and high-level research-policy dialogue meetings regarding the main recommendations.

### **CASE 1** // NEXT LEFT HIGH-LEVEL CONVERSATION

Next Left High-Level Conversation is a new stream of work inside of FEPS involving top level academics, working on history, theory, and social appeal of Social Democracy. The list includes, among others: T. Abou-Chadi, J. Andersson, S. Berman, C. Boix, J. Callaghan, C. Crouch, C. De Vries, D. G. Dimitrakopoulos, G. Duncan, A.Gamble, J. Gingrich, B. Jackson, H. Kitschelt, R. Liddle, P. Marliere, W. Merkel, D.Sassoon, I. Schmidt,







## **CASE 2 // NEXT LEFT FOCUS GROUP**

The Next Left Focus Group was established for a new which includes the following members: A. Antal, work by identifying the key topics for research papers,

round and with a new composition, building on the D. Bailey, C. Ban, O.Bartomeus, A. Bielskis, F. Butzlaff, engagement of some of the members who have been N. Carboni, M. Dâmaso, P. Diamond, C. D'ippoliti, part of the process since the start, and adding new K. Jablonowski, A. Krouwel, R. Ladrech, L. Lombardozzi, academics – with complimentary profiles, expertise G. Moschonas, M. Nahtigal, E.Poli, B. Rydlinsk, and geographical origins. The Focus Group began the M. Skora, E. Sundström, D. Tsarouhas, K. Vössing, B.Ward, S. Wood,



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## **FEPS AT WORK: RESEARCH AND STUDIES**

## MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS/ PROGRESSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY

### **Ambition**

While the global health crisis and its socio-economic repercussions disrupted our planning, the resulting new relevant priorities have been swiftly taken up. Originally, FEPS focused on challenging economic models and redirect European policy towards a fair, digital, and green transition. The growing digitalisation of the economy has generated new forms of value creation and altered existing patterns of income distribution and employment. Such trends are further threatening the already undermined social contract, which fuels disenchantment, protest, and anti-systemic voting.

Moreover, the unregulated use of digital technology increases challenges to the organisation of the post-war welfare state, and to European democracies. We wanted to explore how to invert these trends, ensure that digital technologies strengthen workers' power and citizens' autonomy and propose ways to adapt the welfare state and democracy to the digital age.

Likewise, the ecological transition has often been linked to the disruption of employment and industrial systems. Ensuring that the EU Green Deal becomes the catalyst for a new socio-economic and environmental pact, and that the recovery from the pandemic gets to be social, green, and digital, was part of our policy ambitions.

FEPS continued to work on the reform of the Economic and Monetary Union institutions to deliver on a better architecture for the European economy and for monetary governance. In short, we focused on ensuring that economic policies deliver on the ongoing transitions and the design of recovery measures.

## **Results**

The crisis deviated FEPS' initial focus on economic matters, yet we used the opportunity to further influence and promote upward economic, social and environmental convergence. Prior to the Covid-19 outbreak, FEPS supported Social-Democratic policy actors in EU institutions and national governments to move forward the EU plans on wage coordination, a stabilisation function for the EMU and a more 'social' EU budget.

In partnership with the UWE and Roskilde University, under the scientific lead of D. Gabor and J. Vestergaard, FEPS put

forward a series of publications on the potential reforms of the European economic architecture, from the construction of a European Financial Supervision Authority, to a revision of the ECB's mandate and ESM's scope. Strong proposals 'On a common withholding tax on dividend, interest and royalties in the European Union' by A. Lejour and M. van 't Riet were presented to the EP Fiscal coordination committee.

On several occasions, such as the Reset! conference, a rethinking of the European economy and the reduction of inequalities were debated online. FEPS co-hosted a series of expert-meetings on fiscal rules with the S&D group, on the reinsurance scheme and employment, as well as larger public webinars in collaboration with ETUI on the Covid-19 response. The day of Progressive Economic Policy, in partnership with FES, took place online, with conversations between Commissioner E. Ferreira, J. von Weizsäcker, L. Andor and A. Chmelař on the agenda for the German Presidency, as well as a panel discussion on the recovery plan and the adaptation of the EU financial and investment strategy in the aftermath of the pandemic, with Minister N. Calvino, Prof. J. E Stiglitz, Commissioner P. Gentiloni and FEPS President M. J. Rodrigues.

Together with SAMAK, FEPS published 'A Progressive Approach to Digital Tech — Taking Charge of Europe's Digital Future' indicating an alternative path for the digital transition, one that treats digital technology as an instrument in achieving a socially and environmentally sustainable society. FEPS and the Fabian Society published a book titled 'Public Service Futures: Welfare States in the Digital Age' which analyses how post-war welfare states are under increasing strain, and how new technologies, innovative thinking, and the perspectives of citizens can help deliver high-quality services for all.

The EU Green Deal has come to the fore of economic discussions and in the 'Green deal for all', policy report published with IEEP, proposals for achieving sustainability and equity are put forward. Furthermore, the first publication within the research developed in partnership with the Karl-Renner Institut and the Austrian Federal Chamber of Labour, on 'How to boost the European Green Deal's scale and ambition' significantly calls for a higher 2030 emissions reductions target. The implication of the Green Deal with regards to intergenerational, inter-country and intra-country justice in Europe was discussed amongst experts across three occasions throughout the year, so this issue was an underlying thread.

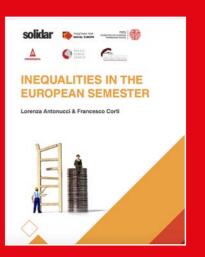
As the European Semester plays a key role in the implementation of the Recovery Plans, it becomes essential to push forward the revision process of this fundamental coordination tool and transform it into an instrument able to grasp the changes affecting vital aspects of our daily life: health, education and work.

To overcome the lack of monitoring of social and economic inequalities in the European Semester and within member states, L. Antonucci and F. Corti propose a new framework to address its limitations by considering the rising socio-economic insecurity of the European lower-middle classes; connecting the social and economic aspects of the Semester; exploiting the redistributive effects of taxation.

Monitoring work precarity, households' financial insecurities. Access to key services like child and elderly care must be part of the European toolkit for the coordination of the recovery.

This study, carried out by FEPS in partnership with SOLIDAR, Kalevi Sorsa Foundation, Fondazione Pietro Nenni and Progresiva, was presented on three

occasions: online, in Ljubljana, as well as in Italy, with national experts and policymakers. Commissioner N. Schmit attended the presentation of the Policy Study a few days ahead of the submission of National Recovery Plans. A follow up with the Commissioner's cabinet and high-level staff of DG EMPL clarified that several of the points made in the study had been taken up by internal EC's processes.



## CASE 2 // THE PEOPLE'S TRANSITION: COMMUNITY-LED DEVELOPMENT FOR CLIMATE JUSTICE

Perhaps the greatest challenge facing European leaders during the coming decade will be to implement transformative climate action in such a way that it benefits from enduring public support and achieves its long-term objectives without strife, disruption or delay.

This publication, authored by Sean McCabe, in partnership with TASC, analyses the needs of communities that are transitioning at a significant rate, together with the needs of the wider society, and considers the political and socio-cultural contexts in which they stand. The subsequent assumptions and policy proposals are based on these needs and the principles of climate justice. Various approaches on how to encourage stronger development in this area and how to operationalise climate-related commitments are discussed and presented.

Mary Robinson, former President of Ireland, Diederik Samson, Head of Cabinet for Vice-President of the European Commission Frans Timmermans and Joe O'Brien, Minister of State at the Department of Rural and Community Development for rural affairs in

Ireland, were amongst the notable speakers at the launch debate. Consequently, two pilot projects have been initiated by the ministry employing this model in Ireland. The relevance of the findings of this research and subsequent models of inclusive transition bring valuable proposals to EU level on how to ensure good governance and a participatory approach in terms of the EU Green Deal and Just Transition policies, which

The People's Transition:
Community-led Development for Climate Justice

are important in ensuring legitimacy and support for the process of transition from a wider societal standpoint.

Within the European Union, even before the

pandemic, 23 million children were at risk of

poverty and social exclusion. The financial difficulties endured by European families due to Covid-19, as

well as the disruption in early childhood education

and care (ECEC) services, have further strained an

already perilous situation. The Policy Study led by

FEPS, Fundación Pablo Iglesias, Progresiva and the

Institute for Social Democracy, found that European

children from 0 to 3 years, from the bottom 40 per

cent socio-economic status, are about 15 per cent

more likely to attain average scores once teenagers

if they have access to childcare at the age of 1 or 2.

The Study indicates that unless we provide quality

and inclusive services, care and education in the early

years in Europe remains a means for children from

better-off households to achieve their best potential

rather than a means to reduce inequalities and

eradicate social exclusion. Based on the Study, FEPS has developed a fully-fledged campaign on the Child

Union, which consisted of several online and off-line

meetings, plus a Call to Action signed by over 400

European and national politicians, civil society and

academics, demanding:

 Guaranteed equal access to quality and inclusive early childhood education and care for all.

• A rapid entry into force of the European Child

Guarantee and to expand its political and fiscal space;

FEPS pursued its work by calling to support a progressive Child guarantee, together with the European Parliament, led by MEP Brando Benifiei, who also shared his thoughts in a Progressive Post article.



## **FEPS AT WORK: RESEARCH AND STUDIES**

## MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS/ SOCIAL EUROPE

### **Ambition**

Social Europe is among the top priorities of the new European Commission, pointing to the need for "creating a fairer and more equal Union", "leaving no-one behind" and "bringing our Pillar of Social Rights to life". This ambition ties into Progressives' fight for a more assertive EU social investment agenda. Lately, the EU was encouraged to start supporting the transformation of the European Welfare States to make it address social risks more effectively.

Inequalities were exacerbated by the pandemic, particularly exposing the most essential economic sectors which are highly feminised, undervalued and underpaid. Closing these deeply rooted social gaps called for a redirection of the priorities towards more adequate public infrastructures and better protection of workers' rights.

Against the backdrop of the recovery plans, FEPS decided to focus the 'Next Social Europe'-work on the following building blocks:

- the fight against inequalities, specifically those affecting children;
- the reform of key EU actions (like European Semester and EU Budget) to include stronger social dimensions;
- education policy from early childhood to lifelong learning;
- gender equality through the lens of care work and gender-based violence with a specific mandate to instruct the EU Gender Equality Strategy;
- the modernisation of welfare policies in the digital age.

### Results

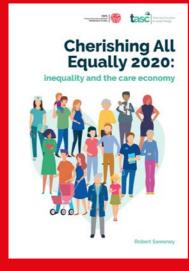
The pandemic highlighted existing inequalities. In different meetings and publications, FEPS analysed the issue of care in its multiple dimensions: the protection of the rights of care workers, its gender equality implication, the inequalities in the sector.

Moreover, the collaboration with the EP's rapporteur on the Child Guarantee strengthened policy ideas in the fields of child education and poverty. The Policy Study 'Towards a Child Union' identified the limitations of the distribution mechanism of the Child Guarantee and argued for a more ambitious integration of child care and education with other welfare policies. FEPS also tackled workers' rights to skills, in two research projects 'Citizenship and Lifelong Learning Monitor', in collaboration with Solidar, and 'An individual right to adult learning for Europeans', with the Jacques Delors Institute. In the latter, S. Fernandes and K. Kerneis call for a European initiative to foster the creation of an individual right to adult learning through the establishment of individual learning accounts, ahead of the EU Skills agenda's launch.

Social justice and gender equality are closely linked. As a feminist think tank. FEPS has maintained a strong emphasis on the achievement of gender equality and women's rights. Implementing gender-sensitive policies became even more pressing with the Covid-19 crisis, affecting women most dramatically, and causing a severe 'shecession'. Care work and jobs were further tackled, namely through our Care4Care projects (with FES) instigating a paradigm shift towards a fairer, care-focused Europe. In a most timely manner, FEPS, (with TASC) launched the report illustrating the precarious and undervalued nature of the care sector as a highly feminised profession (See case 2). Against this backdrop, FEPS focused on the severe consequences of the shadow pandemic that saw violence against women and girls spike. The publication series with Fondation Jean-Jaurès 'Stop Gender-based violence' highlighted the EU's crucial role in addressing gender-based violence from a truly intersectional perspective. Finally, whilst the pandemic has had devastating effects on the – equally gender-segregated – creative sectors, FEPS launched its very first 'Feminist Culture Café' which examined how culture can act as a vehicle for gender equality crafting a more inclusive and diverse Europe. Building on the momentum of the EU Gender Equality Strategy and the Beijing Declaration 25th anniversary, the 6th Barbara Prammer Symposium took a critical look at the achievements over the past quarter-century. Moreover, FEPS involved EU Commissioner for Equality H. Dalli both through our Gender Equality Review Meeting and in the Call to Europe IX.

## CASE 2 // INEQUALITY AND THE CARE ECONOMY

As Europe emerges from the Covid-19 crisis, a long-overdue conversation needs to take place about the value we place on care work, which is disproportionately shouldered by women. Launched on 14th October 2020, the FEPS-TASC report 'Cherishing All Equally - Inequality and the Care Economy' analyses how care workers are faced with multiple inequalities. It offered an EU-wide comparison whilst taking a closer look at the Irish case. As the pandemic made evident to society at large, care work is essential to our individual and collective wellbeing - society simply cannot function without it. At the same time, the distribution of care plays a central role in maintaining inequality between women and men. The report demonstrated how the structure of care provision or the distribution of caring responsibilities is perhaps the largest single factor in the continuation of gender inequalities.





## **FEPS AT WORK: RESEARCH AND STUDIES**

## MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS/ MIGRATION, ASYLUM AND INTEGRATION

### **Ambition**

Migration remains an important human phenomenon that the European Union and its member states still need to learn how to manage and govern (rather than control), even – indeed above all – in a moment in which the number of migrants arrivals have significantly declined compared to the picks of the previous migration crisis. If the dominant attitude of the EU is to persist in favouring a securitarian approach based on externalisation of border control and the curtailing of the number of arrivals, FEPS' ambition in 2020 was to look at (and for) other approaches, more in tune with the European values of solidarity and respect of human rights, based on evidence, and inscribed in more equal and fair relationships with the countries of origin and of transit. An evidence-based approach to migration, however, has also to cope internally with a plethora of false and misleading information about migration and migrants, that trigger fear among European citizens and negatively affect the formulation of European and national migration and integration policies. Exposing disinformation, formulating a different narrative and reframing the debate about migration continued therefore to be among the main goals of FEPS work in the field. Last but not least, a better understanding of newcomers' needs was considered a most valid tool to better shape integration policies at the EU, as well as the national level.

### Results

In 2020, the FEPS Global Migration Group finalised the work initiated the previous year with the publication and public launch of its second collective paper, 'Time to govern migration: an opportunity for Europe and Africa', whose goal was to devise concrete policy proposal to overcome a short-sighed migration policy that is mainly focused on curtailing arrivals and increasing returns, by increasing and strengthening orderly regular migration routes and better framing relations with both African countries and African regional organisations in the field of migration management as well as of development. The attention towards Africa and towards an evidence-based approach to migration was confirmed in a second publication, 'Migration: African perspectives', that concluded a two-year research project – carried out in cooperation with the

Foundation Max van der Stoel – which investigated the drivers that induce potential African migrants to leave their countries and families to come to Europe and search for work there. Both publications were presented in an international public event held in russels. (See case 1).

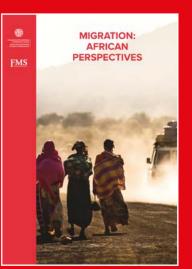
The ambition of addressing disinformation was met by a large research project realised in cooperation with the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung's EU Office, the Fundación Pablo Iglesias and the European Policy Centre. Over the course of the year and by analysing online articles from four member states (Germany, Italy, Spain and the Czech Republic), the research – which included the analysis of disinformation over migration related to the Covid-19 pandemic – drew important conclusions and policy proposals on how policymakers and communication practitioners should tackle and face disinformation and propose effective counternarratives, that were summed up in the final publication: 'Fear and lying in the EU: Fighting disinformation on migration with alternative narratives'. (See case 2).

Integration, as migration, is a very sensitive topic. Far-right parties in Europe have seized upon issues of migration and cultural diversity, playing upon some of European's anxiety about rapid demographic change. Against this background, FEPS, the Center for American Progress, the Foundation Max van der Stoel, and the Fondation Jean-Jaurès decided to carry out a public opinion survey of the Turkish diaspora in four European countries: Germany, France, The Netherlands and Austria, with the aim of casting light on diaspora views on European host countries, on their perception and identification of their country of origin and of the hosting one and how they feel about the European Union, as well as European and national politics. The question of integration and inclusion continued to be at the centre of the research conducted in cooperation with TASC that looks at existing practices in four member states (Germany, Ireland, Spain and Greece), to ensure social inclusion of low-skilled migrant workers, with the goal of developing concrete policy proposals. The research will be finalised in 2021.

## CASE 1 // MIGRATION AND AFRICA

On 18 February, FEPS, in cooperation with the Foundation Max van der Stoel organised an international conference on 'Governing migration and reframing Europe-Africa relations' to present two publications on the topic of migration and relations with Africa: a) 'Time to govern migration together. An opportunity for Europe and Africa', which was a collective effort of the FEPS Global Migration Group and was published together with the Foundation Max van der Stoel and the Fondation Jean Jaurès, and in cooperation with the Fundación Pablo Iglesias, and b) 'Migration - African perspectives', which was the result of a two-year research project carried out with the Foundation Max van der Stoel. The public event featured the participation of FEPS Global Migration Group Chairman Giuliano Amato and experts from Europe and Africa.





## **CASE 2** // DISINFORMATION AND MIGRATION

The research project on disinformation about migration aimed to identify and analyse misleading and hostile narratives on migration in Europe and formulate concrete recommendations on how to tackle them. The authors examined nearly 1,500 news articles from four EU member states (Germany, Italy, Spain and the Czech Republic), published between May 2019 and July 2020, and concluded that disinformation narratives about migration seek to exploit readers' fears to polarise public opinion, manufacture discontent, sow divisions and set the political agenda. The Covid-19 pandemic, for example, has led to a growing stream of articles linking migrants to infection risks and accusing them of receiving preferential treatment. Disinformation narratives are so successful because disinformation actors link migration to existing insecurities, depicting it as a threat to three partly overlapping areas: health, wealth and identity. On the basis of these findings, the final paper 'Fear and lying in the EU: Fighting disinformation on migration with alternative narratives' proposes to

European policymakers policy recommendations to shape communication strategies that are seeking to effectively undermine disinformation on migration.



## FEPS AT WORK: RESEARCH AND STUDIES

## MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS/ **GLOBAL SOLIDARITIES**

## **Ambition**

During a year of global tumult, but also of great hope, FEPS deepened and widened its international work aimed at fostering global solidarities. From discussions about the future of European foreign policy in the Middle East, to conducting analysis on wider aspects of global governance, and from a sustained focus on the Union's neighbourhood to crafting concrete policy pathways through which to address the crisis of the multilateral system, the clear objectives of our multifaceted work in this domain were to design and discuss progressive recommendations for the EU's external action, as well as continue promoting dialogue and cooperation at the international level.

### Results

2020 marked the 75th anniversary of the United Nations and saw the launch of a reform process of the multilateral system, to adapt it to a very different world from the one it was originally designed for. FEPS decided to take part in the global debate that revolved around this crucial topic by launching ambitious flagship project comprising of several international meetings and resulting in an important range of outputs, including a report and a book.

The role of the European Union, its relations with other major actors and the main features of a progressive approach to EU foreign policy were also at the core of two projects: the annual 'State of the Unions' conference (See case 1), organised in cooperation with the German Marshall Fund of the United States, which looked at the change of administration in the United States, and 'A progressive EU policy towards Russia', that focused on the state of the EU-Russia relationship and on the tools to define a progressive EU foreign policy towards this country.

Looking at the European Union's closer neighbourhood, FEPS' work concentrated on the Middle East with the project 'Fostering a New Security Architecture in the Middle East: Challenges and Prospects', which aimed to analyse the question of security in this troubled region and to help the Middle Eastern countries and partners develop new mechanisms for dialogue (See case 2). Our continuing

interest in the region was also demonstrated by the organisation of the 6th annual EU-Israel international expert seminar that focused on the bilateral relationship between the two sides in light of the transatlantic dimension after a vear of change.

The European neighbourhood was also at the centre of a multi-stage training project on 'Reclaiming Democracy', run in cooperation with the Foundation Max van der Stoel, which will be concluded in 2021 and whose main goal is to encourage the democratic empowerment and civic engagement of youth in ten neighbouring countries from Morocco to Belarus. Finally, a closer look was given to the Western Balkans, with an expert meeting entitled 'What is Progressive? The EU and the challenge of enlargement to the Western Balkans', organised in cooperation with the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung's Italian Office, the Fondation Jean Jaurès and Villa Vigoni.

### **CASE 1 // TRANSATLANTIC COOPERATION**

of the transatlantic partnership, FEPS and the German Marshall Fund of the US continued their long-standing annual joint work, with the view to providing valuable insights into the realities of the relationship and to identifying opportunities for improving it. A highlight of this work was the organisation of our 3rd 'State of the Unions' conference in November 2020, just after the US elections. Leveraging the extensive global networks of both organisations, this flagship event

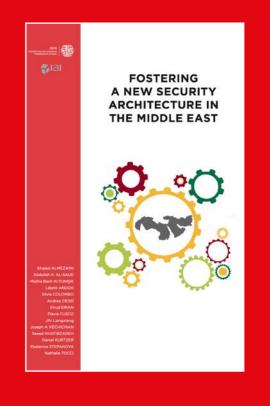
With 2020 serving as a critical juncture for the future brought together leading European and US experts and policy-makers for a timely discussion and analysis of US domestic political realities and what the election results would mean for the country, Europe and the world. These included Stavros Lambrinidis, the EU Ambassador to the US, Victoria Nuland, former Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs at the US State department, Mitch Landrieu, former Mayor of New Orleans, and Neera Tanden, President of the Center for American Progress.





## **CASE 2 // MIDDLE EAST**

The Middle East is experiencing growing tensions as a result of competing geopolitical agendas and reciprocal meddling in the internal affairs of states. The volume 'Fostering a new security architecture in the Middle East' – the outcome of a joint FEPS-IAI project - examines various means to foster de-escalation, dialogue, and confidence-building in the Middle East. It does so by mapping the viewpoints, interests and threat perceptions of key regional and international actors in the region. Individual country case studies, written by leading scholars from the US, Russia, China, Turkey, Israel, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Iran and Europe, are coupled with a final chapter analysing the results of an expert survey addressing modalities through which regional and international actors may support efforts to de-escalate tensions and assist the region in developing new, home-grown mechanisms for dialogue and regional cooperation.



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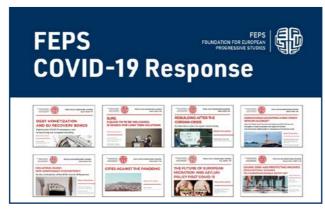
## NEW SPECIAL SERIES FEPS COVID-19 RESPONSE INSIGHTS

Providing a progressive and timely answer to the crisis at the beginning of the pandemic was paramount in spring 2020. In order to tackle some of the concerns regarding the solutions proposed by the EU institutions, FEPS and its partners shared insights from economic experts to discuss the various initiatives and tools. FEPS decided to support this process with close-door digital meetings, online conferences and ad-hoc research condensed in a new dedicated paper series.

We kick-started with the webinar 'Is Europe Sure?' to explore the SURE instrument to mitigate unemployment risks in an emergency and its limitations. Frank Vandenbroucke, Joan Burton, László Andor, Roel Beestma and Theresa Kuhn brought forward accompanying measures that could enhance the stabilisation power of EU intervention.

The second exchange was an exceptional occasion to discuss how government spending targeted to social outcomes can play a role in the recovery strategy from the pandemic. Among the participants were European commissioner Nicolas Schmit, MEP Irene Tinagli and Lieve Fransen to reflect on how a social investment approach could play a role in the reconstruction of European welfare systems and how it can find its place in the next budget of the European Union. Building on the FEPS Policy Study 'Social Investment Now! Advancing Social Europe through the EU Budget' by Anton Hemerijck, Robin Huguenot-Noël, Francesco Corti and David Rinaldi, the webinar revised how important changes in the EU's economic, social and political environment increasingly make the case for the EU to embrace social investment beyond the lip-service of the past two-decades.

To complement the online debates, FEPS gathered policy inputs by academics and policy experts in the Covid Response Paper Series, a compilation of 10 articles, tackling questions from rebuilding scenarios with Lodewijk Ascher, over the study of the SURE instrument by László Andor, Francesco Corti and Amandine Crespy, to the U-shaped recovery analysis of the global economy by Prof Joseph E. Stiglitz.





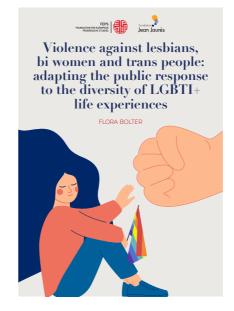


## STOP GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE PUBLICATION SERIES

In order to showcase the breadth of gender-based violence (GBV) and its link to gendered inequalities, FEPS and the Fondation Jean Jaurès have joined forces for this series of publications on the fight to eliminate sexist and sexual violence. Each publication looks into a different angle regarding GBV, recognising the intersection of gender with other discriminations such as sexuality, disability or economic status.









nual Activity (Comp. REPORT 2020

## POLICY CONTRIBUTIONS

## A Progressive Approach to Digital Tech – Taking Charge of Europe's Digital Future



How should progressives look at digital technology, at a time when it permeates every aspect of our lives, societies and democracies? That is the topic of the new report 'A Progressive Approach to Digital Tech - Taking Charge of Europe's Digital Future', from FEPS and SAMAK.

The main message: Europe can achieve a digital transition that is

both just and sustainable, but this requires a positive vision and collective action. The report details how in the 1990s, a choice was made not to create democratic rules for the internet, and to leave it up to market forces to decide our digital future instead. It surveys the consequences, which range from stark divisions of power and wealth, to reduced worker autonomy and a distorted public sphere. More fundamentally, we now live in a digital environment we neither understand nor control, both individually and collectively. Europe can decide to do things differently. The report offers broad outlines of a European Digital Model for a fair and sustainable digital transition.

## Public Service Futures: Welfare States in the Digital Age



Welfare states across Europe are under strain. The lack of adequate funding and public direction have been observed for years, but the resulting lack of coverage, capacity and coordination is becoming painfully apparent during the pandemic. Beyond that, public services will to face new demands and constraints, linked to ageing populations, rising inequalities, and the need for sustainability.

This volume of essays, edited by FEPS and the Fabian Society, sets out how we might best harness new technologies, innovative thinking and the perspectives of citizens to offer high-quality services for all. The essays look at innovation not only in the narrow technical sense, but especially considers the need for increased democratic accountability, citizen voice and participation. Both are required to transform public services from industrial era institutions into a welfare state that is fit for the digital age.

## **Green Deal for All**



In this report developed in partnership with the Institute for European Environmental Policy (IEEP), FEPS explore how to achieve sustainability and equity between the people, regions, countries, and generations of Europe in a post-Covid-19 era.

The European Green Deal can help create new quality jobs in sustainable sectors to counter

rising unemployment. However, for social benefits to materialise, the Green Deal must be designed and implemented by putting fairness and equity at its very core. This is the main added value of this report.

In order to avoid unnecessary trade-offs between the recovery of economies, societies and ecosystems, operationalising the principle of 'leaving no one behind' is paramount. This requires addressing the intra-EU, intra-country and intergenerational equity challenges that lie at the heart of the multiple crises.

## How to Boost the EU Green Deal



In order to limit the catastrophic consequences of climate change, the global community signed the 2015 Paris Agreement to limit global warming to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels. The European Union and other countries have started to shape a concrete policy response. In particular, the EU announced the European Green Deal (EGD) in December 2019 as the roadmap

towards a carbon-neutral Europe by 2050.

The EGD represents a necessary and welcome shift of Europe's overall policy agenda. The key question is whether the EGD is capable of delivering the system change which is required to limit global warming to 1.5°C. Is the European Green Deal ambitious enough?

This policy paper, as part of a multiannual project bringing together FEPS with the Renner Institut and the Austrian Chamber of Labour, responds to this question in two steps. The first is to provide a concise summary of the main conclusions climate science. And the second is to compare these with Europe's policy response in general, and with the EGD in particular.

## A Common Withholding Tax on dividend, interest and royalties in the European Union



Corporate tax avoidance has been a hot topic in 2020, due to several leaks. Both the multinationals firms and the countries facilitating aggressive tax planning strategies have been brought into the spotlight. Also, various EU member states have been labelled as tax havens.

The authors of this FEPS Policy Brief argue that the EU can create an effective tool against corporate tax avoidance with a common withholding taxes at

the external borders of the EU. The revenues of common withholding taxes could be used by the European Union, as it is also the case for the tax receipts on import tariffs. In 2020, there has been an intense discussion on the financing of the new EU budget between 2021 to 2027 and the emergency fund to deal with the impact of the Covid-19 crisis. Own taxes by the European Union have also very recently been proposed in this context. Common withholding taxes on outgoing income flows could be a good candidate from this perspective.

## PROGRESSIVE POST FAMILY

The process of transition of the Progressive Post Family (PPF), started the previous year, continued in 2020, when the editorial coordination of the magazine and of the other products was transferred to a new editor-in-chief. The mission of the Progressive Post, however, was confirmed. Targeting the European progressive movement and involving a wide network of progressive policymakers, academics, experts and activists, the Progressive Post offers a platform for reflection and debate on the main European challenges, observed and analysed through the lenses of Social-Democratic and European values. Economy, global affairs, social issues, the state of democracy and of Social Democracy continued to be the focus of the Progressive Post publications. But, inevitably, in 2020, the Covid-19 pandemic forcefully drew the attention also to health-related topics and to the social and economic crises that stemmed from the health crisis. The FEPS Progressive Post Family is composed of five tools: the Progressive Post (the magazine), the Progressive Page, FEPS Talks, the European Progressive Observatory and the Progressive Yearbook.

## **Progressive Post: The Magazine**

The Progressive Post's main goal is to reach out to European progressives, offering them tools to better understand the debates that revolve around key European issues, while at the same being a showcase for the wide analytical work done by and within FEPS. Since 2020, the magazine is published only in English and it features on a regular basis a special coverage and a focus, as well as dossiers, debates and reviews of books.

- Issue #13 Summer edition
   Defeating Covid-19/Investing in the Green Deal
- Issue #14 Autumn edition Embracing a new multilateralism





## **Progressive Page**

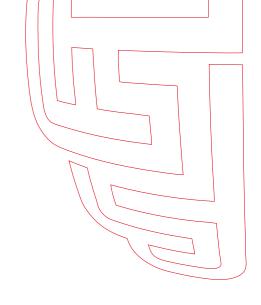
The Progressive Page is a short weekly opinion page (800-900 words) written alternatively by FEPS authors (President, Secretary General and Directors) and outstanding guest authors (renowned policymakers, academics and experts), including Nobel Laureate Joseph Stiglitz, Belgian Minister of Social Affair and Public Health Frank Vandenbroucke, as well as several Member of the European Parliament, like Kati Piri and Brando Benifei. About 40 Progressive Pages tackling issues from the Covid-19 pandemic and the health crisis to questions related to the digital revolution, were sent to subscribers in the course of 2020.



Launched in Autumn 2019, FEPS Talks are podcasts of 20-25 minutes, each featuring a dialogue between FEPS (Senior) Policy Advisors and prominent progressive policymakers, members of the academia or of the civil society. In 2020, FEPS recorded over 50 podcasts, with outstanding European and international personalities such as Stephen Walt (Harvard University), Enrico Giovannini (former Italian Minister of labour and social policies, and current Minister of transport), Vivien Schmidt (Boston University), Simon Hix (LSE), Salma Bava (Nehru University), Gesine Schwan (Humboldt-Viadrina Governance Platform).

## **European Progressive Observatory**

The European Progressive Observatory (EPO) aims to cover elections in Europe and key elections elsewhere. In the course of 2020 – a year in which the pandemic has hindered or postponed the unfolding of regular elections in many countries, EPO has offered to its readers sharp and timely analysis on elections in New Zealand, Lithuania, the US and Romania. EPO articles are published on the Progressive Post website and disseminated by means of its newsletter.









## CALL TO EUROPE IX ACTION FOR CLIMATE JUSTICE AND GENDER EQUALITY

10-11 JUNE 2021

## **Brief Description**

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, Call to Europe saw its first digital edition, held fully online, and in the wake of the 2019 "Tour de Call to Europe" that connected multiple debates across several European cities. As prior Call to Europe editions, the conference format abided by its guiding principle – bridging the gap –, and its 3P motto, where FEPS brought about a Progressive, Positive and Participatory platform of discussion around the most topical issues for progressives, notably Climate Justice and Gender Equality with the most committed and brilliant minds of FEPS network.

### **DAY ONE - CLIMATE JUSTICE**

At the heart of the discussion was the question how to kickstart systemic change and ensure a socially just transition. The European Green Deal was a crucial component of the exchanges, as also the EU's recovery plan and the ways in which Progressives can be at the forefront of the 'build back better'-concept and frame the vision of a more sustainable society.

## **DAY TWO - GENDER EQUALITY**

The discussions offered the incredible opportunity to reason about the different building blocks of the EU Gender Equality Strategy in the context of Covid-19. The exchange with female change-makers was focused on how to shape gender-sensitive policies and it highlighted that the time for the EU to become a real game-changer in building a strong feminist Europe has come. The main conclusion was to see women as the secret weapon to more progressive politics.

## **Partners**

YES, Progresiva, PES Group at the European Committee of the Regions, FES, Renner Institut, Brivibas Foundation

## Milestones

- First Call to Europe held online;
- First conceptualisation of fully virtual online high-level conference;
- New engagement actions with participants.

## **Key figures**

- 27 speakers
- Over 150 participants in the course of two days







## **FEPS AT WORK: HIGHLIGHTS**

## THE EUROPEAN DREAM

9 MAY 2021

## **Brief Description**

The founders of the European project were dreamers. They dreamed of a united Europe, a continent of peace, solidarity, and shared prosperity. A Europe without borders and divisions that celebrates its diversity. A Europe evolving towards an ever-closer union, inspired by the notion that it will always be stronger together.

But do Europeans today share the founders' dream? This was the guiding question that prompted this initiative by FEPS and Policy Solutions. With a landmark survey covering the 14 most populous member states, the research defined the European dream by providing insights on the hopes and expectations citizens have for Europe as a shared project. As policymakers began to debate the Future of Europe, hoping to make the EU more responsive to the views and needs of citizens, the research took an especially strong importance and was launched in the politically most relevant time. The report was launched on the occasion of 9 May, Europe Day, with leading politicians guiding the discussions around the Future of Europe, in a webinar attended by 80 participants.

### **Partners**

Policy Solutions, Territoires de la Mémoire, Mnema Cité Miroir, La Cité Miroir

### Milestones

- EU dream report
- EU dream survey (EU14)
- EU dream database

## **Key figures**

- 80 participants
- 10 speakers







## UNITED FOR A NEW, FAIR, AND INCLUSIVE **MULTILATERALISM**

**18 SEPTEMBER 2020** 

## **Brief Description**

On the eve of the UN General Assembly 2020 – which defined the mandate to renew the multilateral system – and of the Progressive Alliance Board which delineated the progressive position about this, FEPS hosted its annual UNited for Conference on 'A New, Fair and Inclusive Multilateralism'. This event was ranked as one of the most prominent side events of the UN General Assembly.

The FEPS-IAI Report 'Renewing Multilateralism for the 21st Century – The Role of the United Nations and of the European Union' was launched on this occasion, as the culmination of the FEPS project, led by its president, in collaboration with Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (New York Office), Istituto Affari Internazionali, Fondation Jean Jaurès, and Centro Studi di Politica Internazionale.

This project could also count on the support of two High-Level Experts Groups, composed by Álvaro de Vasconcelos, Andrew Gamble, Paolo Guerrieri, Jo Leinen, Pierre Moscovici, Pier Carlo Padoan, Daniela Schwarzer, Jochen Steinhilber, Mario Telò, Nathalie Tocci, Raymond Torres, Luk Van Langenhove, Nico Schrijver, Amitav Acharya, Ibrahim Awad, Salma Bava, Ian Lesser, Qin Yaqing, Diego Trindade d'Ávila Magalhães, Zhou Hong and Vladimir Zuev.

In addition, this project led to the publication of the collective book edited by Prof. Mario Telò, 'Reforming Multilateralism in Post-Covid Times – For a More Regionalised, Binding and Legitimate United Nations' and it could influence the UN Secretary General's agenda as well as the Communication by the EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy on multilateralism. Finally, the project also included an advocacy campaign on the need for a new, fair and inclusive multilateralism.

More information at www.fepsunitedfor.eu

## Speakers

Maria João Rodrigues, Joseph Stiglitz, Josep Borrell, Fabrizio Hochschild-Drummond, Heiko Maas, Lim Guan Eng, Sergei Stanishev, Johanna Ortega, Amitav Acharya, Martin Ziguélé, Fundación Pablo Iglesias, Olof Palme International Centre, Ferdinando Nelli Feroci, Neera Tanden, Monica Hirst, Mario Telò, Michael Bröning, Conny Reuter.

### **Partners**

Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (New York Office), Istituto Affari Internazionali, Fondation Jean Jaurès, Fundación Pablo Iglesias, Olof Palme International Centre, and Centro Studi di Politica Internazionale.







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## **FEPS ANNUAL AUTUMN ACADEMY**

held under the theme 'Progressives for the Future of Europe' on 28-30 September, traditionally anticipating on the State of the Union speech. It was a pioneering event, considering that the organisers used (to the full extend) a new digital platform that served as a venue, as well as a great number of digital tools that allowed it to transform this flagship event into an e-incredible training experience. **Key figures** In the following months, many partners referred to the format and methods, drawing inspiration and ensuring • even greater than usual multiplication effect.

## **Milestones**

The programme of the second edition included a number of building blocks. It started with a speech of László Andor, FEPS Secretary General, followed by a keynote lecture by Professor Simon Hix, who presented outcomes of research focused on electoral performance of Social Democratic parties over last century in 31 countries. Next, the agenda included: a Ministerial Panel (with S. Stanishev, T. Petricek, A. Westlund, E. Amendola); a Night Owl Session (organised as a set of five lounges, where partcipants could engage with pairs of MEPs: J. Lopez, D. Burkhardt, B. Benifei, E. Incir, L. Wolters, C. Zorrinho, T. Wölken, T. Penkova, T. Griffin, S. Dance); a plenary on the Conference on the Future of Europe (with Commissioner Maroš Šefčovič, President I. Garcia Perez, alongside with M.J. Rodrigues, A. Linberg, A. Dziemianowicz-Bak, E. Ferner, L. Jahier), three workshops (on migration, rule of law, and healthcare – including among others A. Vittorino, K. Barley, I. Ujhelyi); breakout sessions zooming onto three country case studies (Denmark, Germany and Slovenia – with N. Fugslang, U. Bullman, M. Brglez among the others); plenary session organised as a 'The Voice' competition for the future of Europe (with G. Bischoff, Z. Gurmai, A. Homs, F. Clarke); a plenary on multilateralism (with N. Tocci and A. Schieder), a set of virtual tours inside of the institutions (European Parliament, European Commission and European Committee of Regions); a Dragons Den debate (with D. Houba, A. Colombo, A. Pirtskhalava, P. Hilmersson and M. Leyi); three skills training (on how to interpret polls and electoral data with A. Krouwel, impacts of political advocacy with I. McNicol; and on art of political speeches with E. Sundstrom).

FEPS' Annual Autumn Academy 2020 – edition 2.0 – was The programme was very interactive, focused on the participants and full of ground-breaking. All this is documented in the audio-visual material and the booklet which followed the debate.

- Community: 250 users of the platform
- Total watch time: 238 days, 4 hours and 27 minutes
- Total amount of time in webinar: equivalent of 99 days 17 hours
- Total amount of one-to-one conversations: 20 hours 37 minutes
- Number of one-to-one conversations: 545
- Number of speed dates: 222











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## **ONES TO WATCH**

In December 2020, following a thorough review, FEPS re-launched its initiative 'Ones to Watch'. It continues to be a flagship programme, unique in addressing specifically promising Progressive politicians and academics in their 30s and 40s from Central and Eastern Europe. It aims at building a strong network by forging European connections, engaging new interlocutors in a European debate and in capacity building by offering the programme members the opportunity to learn new skills.

### **Partners**

'Ones to Watch' is a FEPS core initiative, realised in cooperation with all member foundations in the region, who also play a key role in the recruitment process and who are also invited to help shaping the programme. Additionally, FEPS sister organisations have been fully involved, including PES Women, PES, YES, PES in CoR, and the S&D Group in the EP, as also FEPS' own networks (such as FEPS Young Academics Network).

## **Milestones**

In 2020 the concept of 'Ones to Watch' was evaluated and re-shaped with an accelerated ambition, anticipating also at the process of consolidation of the new FEPS Training Strategy. The first meeting (which un normal circumstances would take place in one of the regions' capitals) was held as a two-day online conference, (10-11 December 2020) gathering over 60 participants (as nominated by the Member Foundations) and over 60 speakers, resulting in a community of over 120 progressives from the CEE region. The programme included a key note lecture by L. Andor on the Conference on the Future of Europe, two high-level panels (including T. Fajon, M. Belka, S. Stanishev, R. Siikut, K. Nevedalova, K. Vigenin, B. Moskal-Slaniewska, T. Petricek); a night (with three workshops on: how to read results of the survey and how attitudes changed in the times of pandemic; what distinguishes progressive municipal policies in the times of pandemics; and how to create space for political activism in the times of Covid); an exchange on the three national case studies (Poland, Slovenia and Romania); three workshops aiming at deepening knowledge (on New EU Budget and Next generation EU; on Green Transition and new Green Deal, and on Gender Equality and the EU).

## **Key figures**

2 days, over 60 participants (Members of the new, 2nd Cycle of the Programme) and over 60 speakers, event with 16 thematic building blocks.







## FEPS YOUNG ACADEMICS NETWORK

FEPS Young Academics Network (FEPS YAN) is a flagship FEPS initiative, founded in 2009 in cooperation with the Renner Institut, and has been a hub for progressive PhD candidates and post-doc scholars, who are keen on contributing to the deliberations on the future of Europe. FEPS YAN is organised in cycles, each of which starts with a new recruitment (based on applications involving individual research proposals), then it sees peer reviews and WGs formation; subsequently to which collective, interdisciplinary research papers are being developed. During a cycle, FEPS YAN members participate in thematic seminars and also get involved in diverse FEPS initiatives. The community of alumni of the first six cycles, which rounded up in 2019, today includes renowned professors of leading universities, ministers, MEPs and MPs, and many others.

### **Partners**

Renner Institut

## **Milestones**

In 2020, FEPS organised a process of recruitment for the new, seventh cycle, which saw individual interviews and acceptance of 35 new Members. Following the consolidation process, seven thematic working groups were formed on: Universal Basic Income, Trade Unions, Fair and Sustainable Work, Future of Europe, European Monetary Union, Green Progressive Transition and Social Europe. Due to pandemic it was impossible to hold physical meetings, but an alternative method was developed for the following twelve months - which would envisage number of interactions, focused seminars and skills trainings. To begin with, FEPS YAN members took part in the keynote lectures by L. Andor, FEPS Secretary General on the 'Future of Europe' and M. Maltschnig, Director of the Renner Institut on 'How to connect research and politics'. Subsequent thematic seminars included a focus on the 'EU in the world' (June 2020) with Tomáš Petříček, at that time still Czech Minister of Foreign Affairs, on the 'Future of Europe' with MEP Gaby Bischoff. The skills trainings were organised in four rounds (also allowing different WGs to mix-and-mingle) and were a space to discuss: criteria of high quality think tank papers (with D. Tsarouhas); usa of the polling data in research and

public debates (with A. Krouwel); speaking in public and getting an academic recommendations across (with E. Sundström), as also art of advocacy from within the think tank world (with M. Laza). There was a session dedicated to community building and working collectively online (with H. Wouters). Finally, informal discussions with former FEPS YAN participants were organised to exchange on how to make the most of the FEPS YAN experience for their own academic career. And last but not least, much attention was given to peer reviews and reviews by experts; therefore, each of the WGs have been assigned two mentors (from the world of politics and academia respectively), to help the FEPS YAN participants developing consolidated drafts. The Political mentors are: A. Homs, P. Silva Pereira, D. Ruiz Devesa, E. Regner, A. Jongerius, D. Burkhardt and B. Benifei, while the academic mentors include: L. Lombardozzi, M. Holmes, M. Nathtigal, C. D'Ippoliti, S. Wood, D. Bailey, R. Ladrech.

## **Key figures**

- Number of days FEPS YAN met: 15
- Number of Working Groups: 7
- Number of external actors involved: 25

The process is steered by a FEPS YAN Steering Committee involving: A. Skrzypek, E. Gil and A. Stredinger.













## **FEPS IN TRANSITION**

## **FEPS ON THE MOVE**

The year 2020 brought one more major change to the life and work of FEPS: the move to a new headquarter. Though we have had limited opportunities to use the new office space under the rules of generalised home office that were introduced during the pandemic, this move results in clear benefits:

- our team enjoys a better quality workplace;
- our visitors can attend public events and institutional meetings in better conditions;
- through cutting edge audiovisual technology, we can connect our headquarters with partners around the world for all different types of meetings and conferences.

The new office space enhances the potential of FEPS to host high quality activities, including training programmes, with simultaneous break-out sessions if necessary.

The new FEPS headquarter is located just a few blocks away from the old one, so our stakeholders and our regular audiences will not need to look for us in a completely different neighbourhood.

While moving to a new office, the organisational model of FEPS was evolving too. Organisational change reflects several key principles, in line with the finding of the Human Resources review:

- better defined job profiles (also discussed in a GRIP workshop with our external consultant);
- job titles to reflect actual job content (and place in the organisation);
- available skills and competences taken as pre-condition for filling a specific job profile.

The new principles of organisation and work arrangements are contributing to the creation of a stronger FEPS, delivering the necessary coherence, competence, and efficiency.

The new FEPS model is in full swing is the area of publications (online and printed, with a new method to connect the two). In 2021, the Progressive Post was printed again following a new structure and format, feeding on the weekly Progressive Page and various online dossiers and debates, as well as book reviews (Library). The Progressive Yearbook became a success to be repeated, together with the impressive series of podcasts (FEPS Talks). Awaiting us in 2021: the new (integrated) FEPS website.

## FEPS AT WORK: WHO WE ARE

## NATIONAL POLITICAL FOUNDATIONS AND THINK TANKS (43)

Austria Karl Renner Institut - http://www.renner-institut.at/
Belgium Institut Emile Vandervelde - https://www.iev.be/#/
Bulgaria Institute for Social Integration - http://www.isi-bg.org/

Bulgaria Institute for New Economic Progress (INEP)

Czech Republic Masarykova Demokraticka Akademie - http://www.masarykovaakademie.cz/
Denmark Arbejderbevaegelsens Erhvervsrad (ECLM) - http://www.ae.dk/english

Denmark Cevea - http://cevea.dk/

Estonia Johannes Mihkelson Centre - http://www.jmk.ee/

EU Solidar - http://www.solidar.org/

Finland Kalevi Sorsa Säätiö - http://www.sorsafoundation.fi/
France Fondation Jean-Jaurès - http://www.jean-jaures.org/
Germany Friedrich Ebert Stiftung - http://www.fes.de/

**Germany** Das Progressive Zentrum - http://www.progressives-zentrum.org

Germany Humboldt Viadrina Governance Platform - http://www.governance-platform.org/

Greece TO DIKTIO - http://todiktio.eu/

Greece Institute for Strategic and Development Studies ISTAME - http://www.istame.gr/

Hungary Policy Solutions - http://www.policysolutions.hu/en

Hungary Tancsics Mihaly Alapitvany - http://www.tancsicsalapitvany.hu/

**Hungary** ISD Institute for Social Democracy

Ireland TASC - http://www.tasc.ie/

ItalyCesPI - Centro Studi di Politica Internazionale - http://www.cespi.itItalyFondazione Socialismo - http://www.fondazionesocialismo.itItalyFondazione Gramsci- http://www.fondazionegramsci.org/ItalyFondazione Italiani Europei - https://www.italianieuropei.it/ItalyPietro Nenni Foundation - http://www.fondazionenenni.it/LatviaFreedom and Solidarity Foundation - http://www.bsf-latvija.lvLuxembourgFondation Robert Krieps - http://www.fondationrobertkrieps.lu/

Malta Fondazzjoni Ideat - http://www.ideat.org.mt/

Netherlands Foundation Max Van Der Stoel - http://www.foundationmaxvanderstoel.nl/

Netherlands Wiardi Beckman Stichting - http://www.wbs.nl/

Nordic Council SAMAK - http://www.smak.info/

Poland Centrum im. Ignacego Daszyńskiego - http://cid.org.pl/
Portugal ResPublica - http://www.fundacaorespublica.pt/

Romania Foundation for a Democratic Left - http://stangademocratica.ro/

Slovenia Progresiva - http://www.progresiva.si/

Spain Fundación Felipe González - http://www.fundacionfelipegonzalez.org/

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Spain Fundació Rafael Campalans - http://www.fcampalans.cat/
 Spain Fundación Pablo Iglesias - http://www.fpabloiglesias.es/
 Sweden Tankesmedja Tiden- http://www.arbetarrorelsenstankesmedja.se/

Sweden Olof Palme International Centre - http://www.palmecenter.se/

UK Mutuo - http://www.mutuo.co.uk/

UK Policy Network - http://www.policy-network.net/UK The Fabian Society - http://www.fabians.org.uk/

## OBSERVER NATIONAL FOUNDATIONS (22)

Albania Foundation Qemal Stafa

Australia Chifley Research Centre - http://www.chifley.org.au/
Canada Broadbent Institute - http://www.broadbentinstitute.ca/
Chile Salvador Allende - http://www.fundacionsalvadorallende.cl/

Croatia Novo Drustvo - http://www.novodrustvo.net/

Croatia CEE Network for Gender Issues - https://ceegendernetwork.wordpress.com/
Israel The Macro Center for Political Economics - http://www.macro.org.il/english.html

Italy Instituto Affari Internazionali - http://www.iai.it/en

**Italy** Fondazione Di Vittorio

Mexico Foundation of Progressive Political, Economic and Social Studies - http://www.fepesp.org/

Netherlands European Forum - http://www.europeanforum.net/
North Macedonia Progress Institute - http://www.progres.org.mk/

Serbia Center for Democracy Foundation - http://www.centaronline.org

**Switzerland** Anny Klawa Morf Stiftung

Switzerland Social Democratic Party (SP) (Observer member of PES)

Turkey SODEV Sosyal Demokrasi Vakfi\*\* - http://www.sodev.org.tr/

Turkey Progressive Thought Institute - http://www.toplumcudusunceenstitusu.org / English version

UK SPERI, University of Sheffield - http://speri.dept.shef.ac.uk/
UK Greenwich Political Economy Research Centre (GPERC)

http://www.gre.ac.uk/business/research/centres/gperc

UK Institute for Public Policy Research (IPPR) - https://www.ippr.org/
US Centre for American Progress - https://www.americanprogress.org/

US New Republic

## **EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS**

**EU** Party of European Socialists - https://www.pes.eu/en/

EU S&D Group in the European Parliament - http://www.socialistsanddemocrats.eu/
EU PES Group in the Committee of the Regions - http://www.pes.cor.europa.eu/

EU PES Women - https://www.pes.eu/en/pes-women/

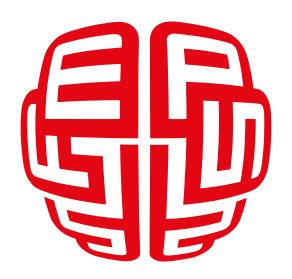
EU YES - Young European Socialists - http://www.youngsocialists.eu/



## **FEPS AT WORK: FINANCIAL OVERVIEW**

The full audit report of FEPS will be made available before 30th June 2021 on the FEPS website www.feps-europe.eu/legal.html





## FOUNDATION FOR EUROPEAN PROGRESSIVE STUDIES

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