

**Future of Europe:
Which common home, borders and bridges, after the crisis?**

La Pairelle, Namur, September 24-26, 2021

Organizers: "PASSION FOR EUROPE", JESC

In preparation of the Conference on the Future of Europe, the group Passion for Europe together with the Jesuit European Social Centre (JESC) invites you to a session on the "Future of Europe: Which common home, borders and bridges, after the crisis?".

Natural habitats, society, politics are structured by borders, boundaries and barriers. It is in our human nature to struggle for solidarity and integration as well. The recent crises (terrorism, financial and migratory flows, pandemic) led to borders closure, between nations, generations, cultures and peoples. EU resilience will not only be economic, integrative mechanisms have to be further developed, so that fragmentation and distrust in the EU does not prevail. And to ensure that the «common home» founder's spirit remains at the center of Europe's future, as well as the care for the common good.

The two-day session will serve as a space to discuss these major challenges, with major decision makers from the political, institutional, NGOs and churches representatives, and discuss openly and friendly with people from more than 15 EU countries



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PROGRAMME

FRIDAY, 24th September 2021

1:30 pm: Welcome-coffee, booklets, room check-in

2:15 pm: Introductory session

Past and future of European borders: will time prevail on space?

Keynote Speech by:

Alain Lamassoure, Chair of the Governing Board, Observatory on History Teaching in Europe (OHTE) of the Council of Europe, former French Minister and Member of the European Parliament

3:30 pm – 4:15 pm: Open debate in plenary with A. Lamassoure

4:15 pm: Break

5:00 pm - 6:30 pm: Group Session 1

Exchange in multinational groups on the challenges of European history for the future of Europe

6:45 pm - 7:30 pm: Dinner (*+ hand washing dishes by participants*)

8:00 pm: Social networking at the library's bar (with a taste of various Belgium beers...)

SATURDAY, 25th September 2021

7:30 am: Lauds in the Crypt (optional)

7:30 am – 8:45 am: Breakfast

9:00 am – 10:30 am: Session 1

Beyond borders: how to avoid fragmentation, build solidarity and keep brotherhood, despite crisis

Moderator:

Jean Peyrony General Director, Transfrontier Operational Mission

Speakers:

Gyula Ocskay General Secretary, CESCI (Central European Service for Cross-Border Initiatives)

Victoria Martin de la Torre, Press officer of the S&D Group in the European Parliament and author of the book “Europe, a Leap into the Unknown”

10:30 am: Break

10:45 am – 12:15 am: Group Session 2

12:20 am – 1:30 pm: Lunch (+ hand washing dishes by participants)

2:00 pm – 3:30 pm: Session 2

Future of Europe: The spiritual dimension of resilience, condition for our common home future

Moderator:

Henning vom Stein Director of the Otone European Affairs Bruxelles

Speakers:

Anguel Beremliysky, Member of the Common Secretariat of the Conference on the Future of Europe (*not in presence/virtually*)

Philippe Lamberts, Belgium Member of the European Parliament, Green Group

Edmond Grace SJ, Secretary for Justice and Ecology, Jesuit European Social Center

Keynote:

Mgr. Aldo Giordano Apostolic Nuncio to European Union (*not in presence/virtually*)

3:30 pm: Break

4:00 pm - 6:00 pm: Group Session 3

6:45 pm - 7:30 pm: Dinner (+ hand washing dishes by participants)

8:00 pm: Evening piano concert in the Chapel with some musical tastes of the European cultural heritage

Maxence Pilchen, pianist

9:30 pm: Social networking at the Library's bar

SUNDAY, 26th September 2021

7:30 am: Lauds in the Crypt (optional)

7:30 am – 8:45 am: Breakfast

9:00 am – 11:00 am: **Feedback / wrap-up Session**

Report from the groups and analysis

Exchange on main conclusions, and draft contribution to the conference on the future of Europe

Moderator:

Botond Feledy, Director, European Leadership Program of JESC (Jesuit European Social Centre)

10:30 am: Break

11:00 am: Mass in the Chapel

12:20 am: Lunch (+ hand washing dishes by participants)

2:00 pm: Departure



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Rediscovering the European common good



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