



## TRANSITION TO POST-2020 EUROPE

27-28 November 2017

**Venue:**

Hungarian Academy of Science  
9 Széchenyi István square  
1051 Budapest, Hungary  
#Europe2020

**Background**

The objectives of the conference are:

- To contribute to a broad public debate on the transition towards a new European Strategy, post Europe 2020, at a time when Europe is undergoing profound transformations raising new questions about the future of Europe and the European project;
- To address developments starting from the Lisbon Strategy to the recent Juncker Plan and lessons learned from stabilisation efforts made after the crises;
- To identify different approaches and possible solutions to safeguard European values such as peace, cohesion and dynamism;
- To address the global transformation of the economy and society through digitalisation and accelerated technological changes (the Industrial and Information Revolution) in order to manage a transition towards a more sustainable European future;
- To formulate a position on a new sustainable boost for Jobs, Growth and Investment;
- To give orientation on the new responsibility of civil society for a sustainable European future;
- To contribute to the new relationship of macroeconomic stability and a dynamic welfare system.

With the support of:



Hungarian Economic Association

and



EMBERI ERŐFORRÁSOK  
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Nemzeti Gazdasági  
és Társadalmi Tanács



Nemzeti Fenntartható  
Fejlesztési Tanács





DRAFT PROGRAMME

MONDAY, 27 NOVEMBER

- 2 p.m. – 2.30 p.m. Registration, welcome and coffee**
- 2.30 p.m. – 2.35 p.m. Welcome message**  
**Etele Baráth**, President of the Europe 2020 Steering Committee (EU2020SC) of the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC)
- 2.35 p.m. – 2.45 p.m. Opening remarks**  
**Zoltán Balog**, Minister of Human Capacities  
**Luca Jahier**, President of the Various Interests Group of the EESC / incoming EESC President  
**Éva Hegedűs**, Secretary-General of the Hungarian Economic Association
- 2.45 p.m. – 4.00 p.m. Keynote speakers**  
**Luca Jahier**, President of the Various Interests Group of the EESC: *"The new responsibility of civil society for a sustainable European future"*  
**István Pál Székely**, Director in Directorate-General Economic and Financial Affairs at the European Commission  
**Philippe Lamberts**, Member of the European Parliament, Co-Chair of the Group of Greens/European Free Alliance in the European Parliament  
**Ferenc Takács Szabolcs**, Secretary of State responsible for European Affairs  
**Gábor Iván**, Director for General Policy, Council of the European Union
- 4.00 p.m. – 4.30 p.m. Questions & Answers moderated by Etele Baráth**, President of the EU2020SC of the EESC
- 4.30 p.m. – 4.45 p.m. Coffee break**
- 4.45 p.m. – 5.30 p.m. Debate** with the representatives of the national Economic and Social Councils on *Organised Civil Society and The Future of Europe*, moderated by **Attila Szücs**, President of the National Economic and Social Council of Hungary



Keynote speaker:

**Paul Fourier**, Member for the General Confederation of Labour in the Economic, Social and Environmental Council of France

National Economic and Social Councils representatives:

Hungary: **László Kuti, Robert Szendrey**

Greece: **Fotios Koleventis**

Luxembourg: **Danel Becker**

Spain: **Beatriz Martín Nieto**

## TUESDAY, 28 NOVEMBER

**8.30 a.m. – 9 a.m.**

**Welcome and coffee**

**9 a.m. – 10.45 a.m.**

**PANEL 1 – WHY DO WE NEED A SUCCESSOR TO THE EU2020 STRATEGY?**

**9 a.m. – 9.50 a.m.**

**Keynote speakers:**

**Brenda King**, President of the Sustainable Development Observatory at the EESC – introduction/chair

**Enrico Giovannini**, Director of the Italian Alliance for Sustainable Development (via Skype)

**Péter Balázs**, Professor at Central European University and former European Commissioner for Regional Policy, Vice President of the Hungarian Economic Association

**9.50 a.m. – 10.45 a.m.**

**Members of the panel:**

**Moderator, Tamás Halm**, member of the board of the Hungarian Economic Association

**Csaba Kőrösi**, Director of Environmental Sustainability at the Office of the President of Hungary

**Juraj Sipko**, Director of the Institute of Economic Research, Slovak Academy of Sciences

**Gábor Bartus**, The Hungarian National Council for Sustainable Development

**Open floor discussion and written live contributions by students from participating universities (...)**



This **first panel** will focus on the following:

- An analysis of what worked well and what worked less well in the EU2020 Strategy and why (going all the way back to the Lisbon Strategy from 2000, arguing the need for a broad, horizontal EU development strategy for the future);
- Establishing the *Sustainable Development Goals* (SDGs) as the future horizontal EU-strategy with special emphasis on the social aspects of growth and jobs;
- A new paradigm for the post-2020 transition.

**10.45 a.m. – 11 a.m. Coffee break**

**11 a.m. – 12.45 p.m. PANEL 2 – WHAT ARE THE NEW TRENDS IN SOCIETY OF TRANSITIONS?**

11 a.m. – 11.50 a.m.

**Keynote speakers:**

**Pavel Trantina**, President of the Section for Employment, Social Affairs and Citizenship (SOC) of the EESC – introduction/chair

**Seamus Boland**, EESC member

11.50 a.m. – 12.45 p.m.

**Members of the panel:**

**Moderator, Tamás Halm**, member of the board of the Hungarian Economic Association

**Bernadett Petri**, Policy Assistant in the Cabinet of Commissioner Navracsics

**Stefano Palmieri**, EESC Member

**Kinga Joó**, EESC Member

**Anne Demelenne**, EESC Member

**Oliver Röpke**, EESC Member

**Open floor discussion and written comments by students from participating universities (...)**

This **second panel** will focus on the following:

- Whatever policy initiative is going to replace the EU 2020 Strategy will be faced with the big challenges raised by on-going transitions (digitalisation, climate/environment issues, social disparities, democratic challenges) linked to the SDGs;
- What will the socio-economic effects be, for instance on jobs in the knowledge economy?



12.45 p.m. – 1 p.m. **Greeting:**  
**Miklós Soltész**, Secretary of State, Ministry of Human Capacities

1.00 p.m. -2.30 p.m. **Lunch break**

**2.00 p.m. – 3.45 p.m. PANEL 3 – WHAT TYPE OF NEW GOVERNANCE DO WE NEED?**

2.00 p.m. – 2.50 p.m. **Keynote speakers:**

**Péter Ákos Bod**, Professor at the Budapest University of Economics, member of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Vice President of the Hungarian Economic Association

**Carlos Trias Pintó**, EESC member

2.50 p.m. – 3.45 p.m. **Members of the panel:**

**Moderator, Tamás Halm**, member of the board of the Hungarian Economic Association

**Philippe de Buck**, EESC member

**Stéphane Buffetaut**, EESC Member

**Gusztáv Báger**, Hungarian Academy of Sciences

**Open floor discussion**

This **third panel** will focus on the following:

- In the context of the post-2020 transitions, governance should work towards building the kind of society that Europeans want and should make it clear how the EU can contribute to bringing about that change (e.g. defining policy and identifying factors that can drive or hinder change);
- An in-depth debate on the role of all the different participants in the EU decision-making process should examine the new roles for stakeholders in Europe in areas where networks of national ESCs, economic and social partners, and sustainable development organisations could reach a broader agreement on the action needed with a view to the post-2020 situation;
- The challenges linked to the future transitions involving new participatory governance.

3.45 p.m. - 4 p.m. **Coffee break**



4 p.m. – 5.30 p.m.

**CONCLUSIONS: DIFFERENT SCENARIOS FOR THE FUTURE OF EUROPE**

4 p.m. – 5.10 p.m.

**Keynote speakers:**

**Etele Baráth**, President of the EU2020SC of the EESC

**Gábor Zupkó**, EC Representation in Hungary

**Gyula Pleschinger**, President of the Hungarian Economic Association,  
Member of the Monetary Council of the National Bank of Hungary

**Remarks by:**

**Tibor Navracsics**, European Commissioner for Education, Culture,  
Youth and Sport (via Skype)

5.20 p.m. – 5.30 p.m.

**Closing remarks:**

**Etele Baráth**, President of the EU2020SC of the EESC

Inspired by, but not restrained by, the discussion of the five scenarios, three or four visions of Europe are presented, defended and discussed in Plenary.

**Three guiding principles for the conference**

1. The political tools and strategies with a view to proposing new and stronger pillars for the European venture must be rethought, taking into account elements such as: strengthening cohesion, developing the EMU, distancing of the citizens from the EU, compliance with the subsidiarity principle, direct democracy, and stakeholder participation.
2. The conference should help define a timeline for a future, overall strategy in which different scenarios are weighted and linked to elements of the operational implementation for responding to short-, mid- and long term needs.
3. The new perspectives for the European venture should be steered by means of a new participative, development-oriented model of European governance, with Organised Civil Society playing a central role.

**Interpreting requested from** DE-EN-FR-HU  
**into** DE-EN-FR-HU