

Provisional Programme

EUROPE AT THE CROSSROADS

Beyond Brexit and the EU election, what is next for Europe?

CIFE Executive trainings – thinking the long term

CIFE's Executive Trainings are collaborative and interactive courses which combine scientific expertise with hands-on learning. The trainings are aimed at high-level professionals and civil servants, executives and post-graduate students, NGOs, international institutions working on policymaking and governance targeting sustainable development.

Learning Objectives and takeaways

CIFE's Executive Training "Europe at the crossroads in 2019 - Beyond Brexit and the EU election, what is next for Europe?" proposes an in-depth analysis of the EU policy agenda at a critical time of Brexit and newly elected institutions, while offering a practical understanding of the range of policy options for official and private agencies and business dealing with European Affairs. It invites participants to observe critically current policy responses to socio-political upheaval in the European Union. The seminar will lead students to assess the range of policy options to strengthen European legitimacy, boost governance quality, protect population's well-being, and enhance security in European states. The seminar will rely on interactive teaching methods to stimulate critical thinking and fruitful exchanges.

The main takeaways from the training sessions and debates will include:

- identifying the priorities in European strategic agenda
- assessing the causes and consequences of the European (dis)integration,
- measuring and comparing innovative governance options,
- analyzing the range of suitable policy responses to long term issues such as climate and demographic changes affecting Europe; and
- identifying sources of reliable data and participating in challenging European debates.

Training sessions

Session 1: EU Strategic Agenda 2019–2024

The objective of this section is to explore the central future challenges of the European Union from the latest events (Brexit, EU Parliament election, new EU Commission and mandate). The key phases in the future mandate of the European policymakers will be discussed to better understand how to face future long term challenges such as climate change and migration.

Draft outline

Review of the EU's first Strategic Agenda 2014–19

- Why and how it was prepared
- Assessment of the results and unfinished business

How the EU approached its Strategic Agenda 2019–2024

- Leaders' Agenda
- #FutureofEurope debate
- Citizens' Dialogues
- Declarations of Rome, Bratislava and Sibiu

Strategic Agenda 2019–2024

- Analysis of priorities
- Impact of the outcome of the European Parliament (EP) elections
- Election of the President of the European Commission
- Programme of the Commission 2020–24

How the new Strategic Agenda will be implemented and monitored

- Council (Trio programmes, Six-month Presidency programmes)
- EP priorities and checks on the Commission
- the challenge of the medium-term budget 2021–27
- Challenges to the implementation of the programme

Session 2: What is next for the Political System and the Democratic Model of the European Union?

This section is designed to give participants the means to understand how the EU may adapt its democratic participation, strategies and courses of action in the future EU mandate.

Draft outline

What next after the European Citizen Consultations, Sibiu and various plans to integrate citizens in EU policy-making? Is citizen participation the future of EU policy-making?

- Review of recent and less recent efforts to involve citizens: is it enough?
- What are the prospects for citizen involvement in the next legislature?

From consulting to co-legislating: how the EU could inject more collective intelligence into EU policy-making

- The counterfactual: threats to the EU democratic “model” from within and outside
- Why the EU could not invent Erasmus today and how to turn the EU into a catalyst of societal innovation

Session 3: Focus on EU Green Policy as a key element of the EU Strategic Agenda

This session is designed to give participants a focus on EU Green Policy as a critical element of the EU Strategic Agenda. Learning will be accelerated thanks to interactive session. Participants will prepare data and information on one of a number of case studies before the training and will hold a short presentation for group discussion.

Profile of participants

High-level professionals and civil servants of EU whose responsibilities are affected by the quality of the European political agenda; high-level civil servants in the EU Commission, national and European Parliaments; NGOs and involved in European affairs; EU analysts, foreign agencies, post-graduate students researching on European Affairs etc.