Second Draft Blueprint for the Conference on the Future of Europe (CoFoE) | 2020-2022



Joint Declaration – Main Elements

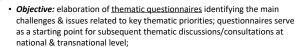
- Signatories: European Commission | European Parliament (EP) | Council on equal footing;
- Purpose/objective(s): (i) enable & promote EU-wide debates at national & transnational level about future of Europe (FoE); (ii) strengthen European democracy by increasing citizens' involvement & input in EU policymaking; (iii) enhance the Union's structural ability & capacity to act; (iv) create political momentum to ensure implementation of EU's strategic policy priorities in the coming years;
- Content: key thematic priorities reflecting the 2018 European Citizens' Consultations & Citizens' Dialogue as well as the EU Strategic Agenda 2019-2024 & the Commission's priorities -> (1) Green Transition: (2) Digital Innovation & Transformation: (3) Global EU: (4) Democracy & Governance (potential addition of 'Black Swans', i.e. issues that might unexpectedly emerge during CoFoE process)
- Citizens dimension of CoFoE (online & offline) includes (i) Transnational Citizens' Panels: (ii) National Citizens' Consultations, (iii) Transnational Thematic Citizens' agoras, and (iv) Conference Assembly (see hoxes).
- Representative dimension of CoFoE includes (i) Conference Plenary meetings (involving representatives of EP/Commission/Council, national parliamentarians, EESC & CoR, plus Observers; (ii) National Parliamentary Consultations; and (iii) Conference Assembly (see respective boxes)
- National Thematic Consultations include structured consultations in all EU27 with citizens & national parliamentarians as well as input from National Experts Groups (see respective boxes below); • Frequency of meetings: (i) Conference Plenary meetings (7-8 meetings in total): (ii) Transnational
- Thematic Citizens' agoras (2-3 meetings per thematic priority): (iii) Conference Assembly (1 meeting): Communication: agreement on main features & elements of shared CoFoE communication strategy,
- Resources: agreement on overall size & financing of CoFoE budget;
- Decision-making principles in both Citizens' agoras & Conference Plenary (see respective boxes);
- Final output: elaboration of Future of Europe Action Plan at the end of the CoFoE process, based on a general commitment of EU institutions to ensure a proper follow-up of the agreed outcome

Leadership & Governance

- Triumvirate Composition: includes Chair & 2 Vice Chairs selected by mutua agreement of EP/COM/Council; Responsibilities: leadership/oversight of all dimensions of CoFoE; chairing of Conference Plenary meetings;
- Steering Group Composition: includes Triumvirate | representatives of EP/COM/Council | rotating presidencies (HR/DE/PT/SI/FR); Main tasks: (i) preparing Conference Plenary meetings, Citizens' agoras & Conference Assembly; (ii) overseeing all activities & organisation of CoFoE process; (iii) drafting of meeting agendas, summary reports of Conference Plenary meetings & Conference Assembly as well as final conclusions (Action Plan);
- Secretariat assists & supports Steering Group in all its functions:
- High-level Advisory Group Composition: high-level experts selected by Triumvirate (potentially including heads of National Experts Groups); main role: providing advice & input to Triumvirate.

Conference Plenary Kick-off Meeting

- Timing: 9 May 2020 (Dubrovnik);
- Key objectives: (i) affirmation of core principles; (ii) adoption of Conference work plan; (iii) agreement on sequence of main thematic priorities to be dealt with in 2020 & 2021; (iv) initial exchange of views on key thematic priorities;
- Participants: MEPs | government representatives (ministerial level) | Commissioners | national parliamentarians | representatives of EESC & CoR
- Observers: representatives of Social Partners | CSOs | representatives of current EU candidate countries | experts/academics/ think tanks (including members of High-level Advisory Group)



- Participants: randomly selected citizens from EU27 (minimum 2 per MS 100 citizens in total):
- Timina & frequency of meetings: individual TCPs meet in 2020 & 2021 in Brussels as per agreed sequence of main thematic priorities; one meeting per thematic priority;
- Organisation: Steering Committee & Secretariat;
- Input: experts provide TCPs with input & content support on each thematic priority on the agenda

Thematic questionnaires = starting point of discussions/consultations

National Thematic Consultations

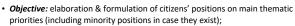
- Reach: all EU countries;
- Content: main thematic priorities & questionnaires elaborated by TCPs;
- Objective: prepare & provide national citizens' input on thematic priorities for transnational Citizens' agoras;
- Participants: randomly selected citizens from respective member state (minimum 25% young participants (16-30 years));
- Timing: consecutive meetings synched with sequence of thematic agenda schedule:
- Output: national thematic citizens' reports as input for transnational Citizens' agoras.

National Parliamentary Consultations

- Reach: all EU countries:
- Content: main thematic priorities & questionnaires elaborated by TCPs;
- Objective: coordination of national parliamentary input on thematic priorities in preparation of Thematic Meetings of Conference Plenary;
- Participants: national parliamentarians;
- Timina: consecutive meetings synched with sequence of thematic agenda schedule.

National Expert Groups

- Reach: all EU countries;
 - Content: main thematic priorities & questionnaires elaborated by TCPs:
 - Objective: provide expert input on thematic
 - Participants: national experts; heads of National Expert Groups could join High-level Advisory Group;
 - Organisation: national think tanks;
 - Timing: consecutive meetings synched with sequence of thematic agenda schedule:
 - Output: national thematic expert reports.



- Participants: around 300 randomly selected citizens from all EU27; national citizens are chosen from participants of thematic National Citizens Consultations; minimum 3 citizens per member state (application of principle of degressive proportionality); 25% young participants (16-30 years);
- Content/scope: main thematic priorities & issues raised in thematic questionnaires elaborated in TCPs serving as a starting point for debates;
- Youth agoras: separate thematic meeting of young participants before Citizens' agora (involving all participants) gets together:
- Number of meetings: 2-3 meetings of Citizens' agoras within a period of 6-8 weeks per thematic priority (identical composition of individual thematic Citizens' agoras);
- Timing: consecutive meetings synched with sequence of thematic agenda
- Output: thematic reports from Citizens' agoras as input to thematic

Conference Plenary Thematic Meetings & Midterm Conference

Thematic Conference

- Objective & scope: elaboration of position of Conference
- Plenary on respective thematic priority (issue TBD); Output: report including proposals & recommendations as input for final meetings of Conference Plenary.

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- Objective & scope: elaboration of position of Conference Plenary on respective thematic priority (issue TBD);
- **Output:** report including proposals & recommendations as input for final meetings of Conference Plenary.

Midterm Conference

- Objective & scope: elaboration & adoption of final position of Conference Plenary on issues related to Democracy &
- Output: report includes proposals & recommendations on lead candidates/transnational lists/electoral reform to be implemented in time for 2024 European elections.

Thematic Conference

- Objective & scope: elaboration of position of Conference Plenary on respective thematic priority (issue TBD);

- Output: report including proposals & recommendations as
- input for final meetings of Conference Plenary.

Conference Assembly

- Timina: early 2022:
- Objective: establish direct link between citizens' dimension & representative dimension of CoFoE to enable a joint exchange about thematic priorities & overall FoE;
- Participants: (1) all members of Conference Plenary; (2) randomly selected citizens from all member states who participated in thematic Citizens' agoras (same total number as (1)) (3) Observers (CSOs | representatives of EU candidate countries | experts/academics/think tanks);
- Content: exchange of views in plenary & working groups about both (i) main thematic priorities & (ii) overall perspectives for Future of Europe;
- Output: summary report as input for final meetings of Conference Plenary.

Conference Plenary Final Meetings

- Timing/location: two final meetings during French Presidency in Spring 2022 (Paris & Brussels);
- Objective: discuss, finalise & adopt Future of European Action Plan reflecting input provided by Citizens' agoras, Thematic Meetings of Conference Plenary & meeting of Conference Assembly.
- Decision-making principle: Conference Plenary should decide by consensus between its constituent parts (EP, Commission, Council & national parliaments). Positions of individual constituent parts shall represent a majority of opinions among its respective representatives.



Future of Europe Action Plan

- Content: concrete/tangible results & institutional, policy, and/or treaty reforms (if
- Institutional addressees: European Council, Commission & Parliamen
- Handover & timing: Action Plan handed over to three main EU institutions in June 2022.



Implementation of **Future of Europe Action Plan**

