



Citizens can defeat disinformation

Civil society for an open democratic debate

Os cidadãos podem derrotar a desinformação

A sociedade civil em prol de um diálogo democrático aberto

22.05.2025 | 9:00 - 12:40

Teatro Thalia, Estrada das Laranjeiras 205, Lisbon, Portugal



CITIZENS CAN DEFEAT DISINFORMATION

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OS CIDADÃOS PODEM DERROTAR A DESINFORMAÇÃO

A sociedade civil em prol de um diálogo democrático aberto

Lisbon, 22 May 2025

Teatro Thalia, Estrada das Laranjeiras 205, Lisboa 1600-134

09.00 a.m. - 12.45 p.m. local time (one hour less than Brussels)

08.30-09.00 a.m. - Welcome coffee

09.00-09.45 a.m. - Conference opening

Welcome speech: Mr. **Luís PAIS ANTUNES**, President of the Portuguese Economic and Social Council and Mr. **Oliver RÖPKE**, President of the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC)

- Mr. **Pedro DUARTE**, Minister of Parliamentary Affairs of Portugal
- Ms. **Sofia MOREIRA DE SOUSA**, Head of European Commission Representation in Portugal
- Mr. **Alfredo SOUSA DE JESUS**, Head of European Parliament Office in Lisbon
- Mr. **Filip GRZEGORZEWSKI**, Head of Division "Information Integrity and Countering Foreign Information Manipulation and Interference" at the European External Action Service (EEAS)

09:45-10:30 a.m. - Panel 1: Civil society and the Polish proposal for an EU Resilience Council

Moderator: Mr. Dimitris DIMITRIADIS, President of the EESC's External Relations Section

- Ms. **Katarzyna SZARAN**, Director of the Strategic Communication Department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Polish Presidency of the Council of the European Union
- Ms. **Zornitsa ROUSSINOVA**, President of the Bulgarian Economic and Social Council
- Mr. **Sterică FUDULEA**, President of the Romanian Economic and Social Council
- Ms. **Marie-Claire MARTEL**, Vice-President of the French Economic and Social Council responsible for citizens' participation
- Mr. **Gil Ramos MASJUAN**, Director of International and Institutional Relations at the Spanish Economic and Social Council

10:30-11:00 a.m. - Debate

Main discussants: Mr. Oliver RÖPKE, President of the EESC, and Mr. Luís PAIS ANTUNES, President of the Portuguese ESC

11:00-12:00 a.m. - Panel 2: Factual information and AI against disinformation

Moderator: Mr. Carlos COELHO, former Member of the European Parliament, Commissioner for the commemoration of the 40th anniversary of Portugal's accession to the EU

- Ms. **Joana GONÇALVES DE SÁ**, Researcher at Social Physics & Complexity Lab (SPAC)
- Ms. **Luísa MEIRELES**, Chief Information Officer at Lusa, Portuguese News Agency
- Mr. **Bernardo FERRÃO**, News Director, SIC
- Ms. **Cátia LOPES**, FACT project, Instituto Marquês de Valle Flôr
- Mr. **Alexey SIDORENKO**, Director at Teplitsa, Greenhouse of Social Technologies
- Mr. **Niko EFSTATHIOU**, Editor at @lifomag, @kathimerini

12:00-12:30 p.m. - Debate

Main discussants: Mr. Louis Cheick SISSOKO, Presiding Officer of the African Union Economic, Social and Cultural Council and Mr. Fernando GUIMARÃES, Member of the Sustainable Economic and Social Development Council of Brazil (CDESS)

12:30-12:40 p.m. – Endnote statement

- Ms. **Gleisi HOFFMANN**, Minister of the Secretariat of Institutional Relations of Brazil and Co-chair of the EU-Brazil Civil Society Round Table

12:40-12:45 p.m. - Concluding remarks

- Mr. **Markus PENTTINEN**, Chair of the EESC's EU-Russia Follow-up Committee

12:45-13:45 p.m. Buffet lunch and informal discussions

*Languages of the conference: Portuguese, English and French (with interpretation).
The event will be web-streamed.*

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