

International Roundtable

Civil Society as a Countercheck to Populism?

Monday, 22 May, 2016, 4-8pm

Das Progressive Zentrum (Werftstr. 3, 10557 Berlin)

In the project Counteracting Populism and Political Disaffection, we want to assemble and discuss mid- to long-term strategies against right-wing populism which take into account the underlying phenomenon of political disaffection in different European contexts. The overarching aim is to provide fresh ideas and stimuli for political decision-makers.

The third roundtable on Monday, 22 May 2017 is being organised jointly by **Das Progressive Zentrum** and the **Schwarzkopf Foundation Young Europe**, and aims to bring participants together in a targeted dialogue to discuss concrete measures to strengthen democracy, civil society, and participation. With Emmanuel Macron's victory in the French Presidential election, liberal democratic Europe has escaped its potential demise. But in order to fight back right-wing populism in the longer term, we urgently need to address both its underlying issues and develop more sustainable counter strategies. One key question that needs to be addressed in this regard is *what can civil society do and how can it be supported to counter right-wing populist parties and movements* which reject liberal democratic values at their core? How can we build European networks against right-wing populism and racism? Can the societal divide we are witnessing be bridged effectively? And do we need more participatory forms of politics and enhanced efforts in civic education?

The roundtable will bring together distinguished speakers from five countries in addition to around 40 senior German and European stakeholders to engage in exclusive, fruitful, and non-public discussions. Key findings will be published online on the dialogue-platform www.counteracting-populism.eu and in print.

Contact:

Sven Altenburger (sven.altenburger@progressives-zentrum.org)

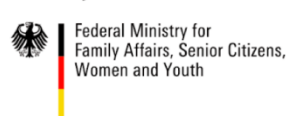
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Programme

- 4.00pm **Welcome and Introduction**
Tobias Dürr, Chairman and Co-Founder, Das Progressive Zentrum
Anne Rolvering, Director, Schwarzkopf Foundation Young Europe
- 4.10pm **Building European networks against right-wing populism, hate, and racism**
Juliana Wahlgren, Senior Advocacy and Network Development Officer, European Network Against Racism (ENAR)
Carlo Ruzza, Professor of Political Sociology, University of Trento
- 5.20pm **Bridging Divides in Society?**
Silvia Nicola, Civic Educator and Trainer, Europa 360 Degrees
René Cuperus, Director of International Relations, Wiardi Beckman Foundation
- 6.20pm **Break – a light snack will be served**
- 6.40pm **Enabling a participatory democracy**
Manuel Gonçalves Gil, Policy Officer, European Youth Forum
Gary Schaal, Professor of Politics, Helmut Schmidt University Hamburg
- 7.40pm **Closing remarks**
Lena Prötzel, Program Manager, Schwarzkopf Foundation Young Europe
- 8.00pm End

Chair: Maria Skóra, Senior Project Manager, Das Progressive Zentrum

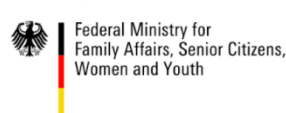
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