



UNITE EUROPE, SAVE THE EARTH:
our common challenge!

European Civil Society Meet-Up

4-5 October 2019
Vilnius (Lithuania)

Logos at the bottom of the banner include: Union of European Federalists (in three languages), EUROPOS FEDERALISTU SAJUNGA LIETUVOJE, We are EUROPE, Co-funded by the Europe for Citizens Programme of the European Union, renew europe., and KONRAD ADENAUER STIFTUNG.

EUROPEAN CIVIL SOCIETY MEET-UP

4 – 5 October 2019, Vilnius, Lithuania

Fighting global warming and climate change is a key challenge for the European Union. As recent citizens' initiatives all over Europe revealed, an increasing number of Europeans are deeply concerned about the impacts of climate change and the lack of political consensus to take action. These initiatives can be perceived as a wake-up call to traditional perception of climate challenges. The expectations on the European Union to act are very high and climate change features at the top of the program of the new European Commission. Nevertheless, the competences, powers and resources of the European Union to act and make a radical change in Europe and in the world in this field are limited. Building a united, democratic and sovereign Europe and saving the planet are more and more two faces of the same coin, a common challenge and a common mission.

A given context, the conference, organized by the Union of European Federalists Lithuania and its European organisation, in cooperation with other organisations aims to deal with following questions:

- What is the status quo of climate change and main actions to contrast it at European and global level?
- What is the European Union doing and what can it do more?
- How to find a compromise between different political visions and European states towards a joint climate action plan?
- What policies and resources would the European Union need to make a radical change in this field
- How to address the costs of changing our economies and our societies and make our environmental ambitions affordable?
- Saving Earth not only in parliaments: What can each of us do for a more eco-friendly society?



PROGRAMME

Friday 4 October

Venue: Martynas Mazvydas National Library of Lithuania, Gedimino str. 51, LT-01109, Vilnius

15:30 – 16:00

REGISTRATION

16:00 – 17:30

OPENING REMARKS

*Klaudijus MANIOKAS, President of the Union of European Federalists Lithuania, Chairman of the Board of the consultancy European Social, Legal, and Economic Projects (ESTEP),
Elisabeth BAUER, Head of the KAS office for the Baltic States and Nordic countries*

PANEL DEBATE**BUILD A UNITED EUROPE, SAVE THE EARTH – A COMMON CHALLENGE?****Speakers:**

*Petras AUŠTREVČIUS, Member of the European Parliament
Sandro GOZI, President of the Union of European Federalists, Advisor on European Affairs to French Prime Minister, Former Secretary of State for EU Affairs in Italy
Domènec RUIZ DEVESA, Member of the European Parliament
Andrius KUBILIUS, Member of the European Parliament, Former Prime Minister of Lithuania
Christian KREMER, Deputy Secretary General of the European People's Party*

Moderator: *Klaudijus MANIOKAS***Followed by discussion with the audience**

17:30 – 18:00

Coffee Break

18:00 – 19:30

PANEL DEBATE**MELTING AUTOBAHNS AND JAGUARS IN SWIMMING POOLS: HOW SERIOUS IS CLIMATE CHANGE?****What is the status quo situation? What is the EU plan of action? What can and should be achieved?****Speakers:**

*Egidijus RIMKUS, Department of Hydrology and Climatology of Vilnius University
Gintarė KRUŠNIENĖ, Advisor to the Minister at Ministry of Energy, Lithuania
Jarl KRAUSING, International Director of think tank CONCITO (Denmark)*

Moderator: *Milda NOREIKAITĖ, Journalist***Followed by a discussion with the audience**

19:30 – 20:30

RECEPTION & INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS

**Saturday 5 October****Venue: Vilnius University Institute of International Relations and Political Science, Vokiečių g. 10, LT-01130, Vilnius**

09:00 – 09:30	REGISTRATIONS & WELCOME COFFEE
09:30 – 10:00	INTRODUCTION TO THE TOPICS OF THE DAY & PARTICIPANTS
10:00 – 11:30	<u>SESSION 1</u> THE COST OF CLIMATE POLICIES IN EUROPE AND BEYOND: HOW TO MAKE AMBITIONS AFFORDABLE? Discussion on economic aspects of climate policies Speakers: <i>Martynas NAGEVIČIUS, President of Lithuanian Renewable Energy Confederation</i> <i>Karima OUSTADI, Economist at DG for Sustainable Development, Ministry of Environment, Land and Sea, Sogesid s.p.a (Italy)</i> <i>Presentation of proposals of the the Finance-Climate Pact</i> Discussion with participants
11:30 – 11:45	<i>Coffee break</i>
11:45 – 13:15	<u>SESSION 2</u> WHAT IS THE EUROPEAN UNION DOING ON CLIMATE CHANGE, WHAT CAN IT DO MORE? Speakers: <i>Marius VAŠČEGA, Deputy Head of the European Commission Representation in Lithuania</i> <i>Eva LICHTENBERGER, Austrian Green Party, former Member of the European Parliament</i> <i>Domènec RUIZ DEVESA, Member of the European Parliament</i>
13:15 – 14:00	<i>Lunch</i>
14:00 – 15:30	<u>SESSION 3</u> HOW CAN EUROPE LEAD THE WORLD AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGE? Speakers: <i>Wolfgang G. WETTACH, Board of the Union of European Federalists</i> <i>Jarl KRAUSING, International Director of CONCITO – Denmark Green Think Tank</i>
15:30 – 16:00	<i>Coffee break</i>
16:00 – 17:00	<u>SESSION 4</u> THE ROLE OF EUROPEAN CIVIL SOCIETY IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGE Speakers: <i>Representative of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation</i> <i>Pauline GESSANT, Vice President of Union of European Federalists</i> <i>Lina PAŠKEVIČIŪTĖ, Environnemental Coalition</i> <i>Oliver GOTTSCHLING, KAS scholarship holder (Germany)</i> <i>Edmunds CEPURĪTIS, project manager at Foundation for Environmental Education Latvia</i> Discussion with participants Sum-up of the discussions and ideas
19:00 – 21:00	<i>Dinner discussion (by invitation) at the restaurant “BeerHouse & Craft Kitchen”, Vokiečių str. 24, Vilnius</i> Keynote: Petras AUŠTREVĪČIUS, Member of the European Parliament