

EU DEMOCRATISATION: A CITIZEN PROCESS

Kick-off event

« *French Elections 2017- European Elections 2019:
Two years to turn the EU towards its citizens* »

Louvain la Neuve (Belgium), July 1st & 2nd, 2017

Partners: FBN (Franck Biancheri Network) - iCAN (Change Agent Network) – Commune d'Ottignies

Greek crisis, geopolitical failures, migration wave, Brexit, Trump election, national democracies threatened... the Europeans citizens have been exposed to major and historical collective shocks for over 10 years now.

In this year of the 60th anniversary of the Rome Treaty, it is time to go outside the box and put the European construction back on the peace, prosperity and democracy tracks originally intended.

The Franck Biancheri Network and ICAN propose to European civil society agents a meeting in order to take stock on the evolution of the European project and to think about their contribution to resolving the crisis along two axes:

- . Joining European citizen forces around one common project of democratisation (Change Actors Assembly / iCAN)
- . Proposing a first trans-European citizen-based e-election concrete project, to show the path towards a democratically anchored EU (EUCitizenVote / FBN)

**The change agents of European civil society practically trigger the EU democratisation process
in Louvain la Neuve on July 1st & 2nd, 2017**

Join the pioneers of this great democratic adventure !

- Meet the project leaders for Europe
- Explore the potentialities of a common democracy
- Elaborate together some exciting visions of our future
- Join the organisation of the 1st trans-European electoral experience

**In Louvain-la-Neuve, during 2 days, let's join forces to bring together
and turn audible the ongoing debate on Europe's possible futures**

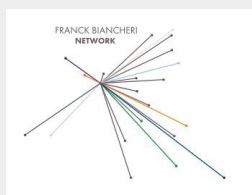
The energy, ideas and projects of each of us are crucial for the emergence of a new common political space, released from the constraints of national borders. Be among the 200 change actors invited in Louvain-la-Neuve

Together let's re-inspire Europe!

Subscribe now! Free and compulsory subscription!

→ **Register now, fill the online form**

Contact: Victoire Baeyaert, Project Coordinator: info@franck-biancheri.eu



Ville d'Ottignies-Louvain-la-Neuve

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

Saturday 1st, July 2017

- 13h30 – 14h00 Participants welcome
- 14h00 – 16h00 **Opening session (plenary):**
* Welcome speech (Cédric du Monceau, Alderman of the Commune of Ottignies, Vincent Blondel, rector UCL*, ...)
* Debate : « French Elections 2017- European Elections 2019: Two years to turn the EU towards its citizens» (Marie-Hélène Caillol, FBN, Adrian Taylor, iCAN, ...)
- 16h00 – 16h30 Break
- 16h30 – 19h30 **Workshops – Europe's « burning issues »** (Euro, Environment, Taxation, Social, Borders, Media, Foreign policy, ...): Where does Europe stand today? How can it turn again into a peace engine domestically and internationally? Participants will be invited to share their hopes, concerns and claims as regards to Europe. As an outcome of these workshops, a first document entitled « Citizen questions on Europe » will be agreed on in order to structure the debate on EU's « re-inspiration ».
- 19h30 – 20h30 **Dinner “food-trucks festival”**
- 20h30 – 00h00 **European night:** a festive moment, European after-dinner with specialities you bring with, speakers corner / Projects fair / Cultural Happenings (Comics)...

Sunday 2nd, July 2017

- 8h30-9h00 Welcome coffee
- 9h00 – 12h30 **Workshops – EU citizen emergency actions** (e-election, trans-European media, youtube channel, European festivals' Moving Tribune, holders of programme for Europe...): How can European citizens create the conditions for a common and open public debate on the future of Europe between now and the next EU election. As an outcome of these workshops, a concrete « Citizen Action Plan » will be approved by the change agents gathered in Louvain-la-Neuve.
- 12h30 – 14h00 **Lunch “food-trucks festival”**
- 14h00 – 16h00 **Closing session (plenary):**
* Deliberations, votes, decisions - * Team building - * Solemn signature of a “*Joint Commitment Declaration*”
- 16h00 – 17h00 Closing speech (plenary)

Confirmed speakers : Marie-Hélène Caillol, President FBN (FR), Adrian Taylor, President iCAN (DE), Régis Jamin, Election Europe (FR), Marianne Ranke-Cormier, vice-president AAFB (AT), Cyril Castro, President Europe Populaire (FR), Cédric du Monceau, Alderman of the Commune of Ottignies (BE)

*** Invited speakers (to be confirmed):** Paul Magnette, Ministre-President Wallonie (BE), Vincent Blondel, rector UCL (BE), Alain Dangoisse, administrator UCL (BE), Pier Virgilio Dastoli, President European Movement (IT), Ulrike Guerot, Director European Democracy Lab (DE), Pierre Larrourou, President Nouvelle Donne (FR), Brando Benifei, MEP Partito Democratico (IT), Maria-Joao Rodriguez, MEP Partido Socialista (PT), Reka Salamon, President AEGEE-Europe (HU), Luis Alvarado Martinez, European Youth Forum, (ES), Yanis Varoufakis, President DIEM25 (GR), Martine Méheut, European Movement (FR), Pierre Calame, Fondation Charles Léopold Mayer pour le Progrès de l'Homme (FR), Félix de la Fuente, Cilus (ES), Nino Galloni, economist (IT)...

Sponsors : FB Network, Commune d'Ottignies, Institut de Locarn

Change Agent Assembly and workshops

In January 2017, a few Europeans committed to create the conditions for a change at the European level, launched the iCAN network - Change Agents Network. Within a few weeks, around 600 European civil society agents gathered around one common objective: EU democratisation.

In Louvain-la Neuve, on July 1st and 2nd, 2017, the members of the iCAN network are being given the opportunity to gather into an Assembly for the first time and give themselves the means to translate their common will into collective change actions.

In Louvain-la-Neuve on July 1st and 2nd, participants are invited to contribute concretely to the workshops by bringing and presenting their concrete ideas -the project promoters bring their projects. They can be debated, retained and why not adopted and promoted by new actors within the framework of common actions that will be defined together.

The "speakers corner" organized on Saturday evening and the projects fair allow you to intervene and present more individually the actions of your structure or those that you would like to see developed in the Sunday workshop.

You can already send us your proposals, we will post them in the "speakers corner" section of the site which will be online soon!

EU-CitizenVote / Elect George!

"There is nothing like one European. The European is a team of Europeans. This is valide for the leadership of Europe as it is valide for AEGEE. This is the only way we can imagine a European, it is a team of people from different countries, not a single man or woman. » (Franck Biancheri, Agora Aegee-Europe, Enschede, May 2012)

In Louvain-La-Neuve, the Franck Biancheri Network will put on the table of the debates a first trans-European e-election proposal, aimed at:

- showing what a real trans-European election could look like
- creating a first large European citizens meeting
- gathering around one common axis the ongoing debates on Europe's possible futures
- contributing to the emergence of a trans-European political life
- getting ready to offer the citizens their first debate on the future of Europe in the upcoming European election (June 2019)

For all these reasons, the Franck Biancheri Network wishes to propose the election in June 2018 of a team of Europeans embodying the needs and expectations of EU citizens and ready to assert them in the framework of the current institutional debates on Europe's possible futures (EU-27, Eurozone Parliament, Treaty reforms etc...). This team, let's call it Georg!

More precisely ? It is up to YOU to decide in Louvain la Neuve!... as well as the election modalities, organisation details, issues to address in the framework of the debate, etc... Define George, give him shape!

The European Night

In Louvain-la-Neuve, on the 1st and 2nd of July, many moments of relaxation and conviviality are on the program as well, including a great European Night on Saturday July 1st in the evening. It is up to you to animate this part of our program:

- ✓ Speak in the "speakers corner"
- ✓ Present your structure and its/your projects by hosting a stand in the projects fair
- ✓ Propose cultural "Happenings" (comics, music, dance ...)
- ✓ Animate the European after-dinner by sharing the gastronomic specialties of your country ...

The food-trucks festival

To allow you to eat at a lower price, the commune of Ottignies and the UCL bring food-trucks during the event. You will have enough to refuel you on site and in a very friendly way!

PRACTICALITIES

Venue / Contact

Université catholique de Louvain

1, Place de l'Université
B-1348 Louvain-la-Neuve (Belgium)

<https://uclouvain.be/fr/index.html>

Contact : Victoire Baeyaert, project coordinator

info@franck-biancheri.eu

skype : Victoire Baeyaert



Registration & Fees

Registration is free, but participants are responsible for their travel, accommodation and meal expenses, with the exception of breaks and Sunday morning coffee and croissants.

- ✓ Meals will be offered as part of a food-trucks festival;
- ✓ To animate the festive part of the European Night on Saturday evening (European after-dinner) we invite the participants to bring specialties from their country;
- ✓ The university provides a number of student rooms, if you are interested please answer on the registration form (the answer to this question being mandatory in section 6 of the form, you will not miss it).

Social fund

Registration is free, but to help some participants to cover their transportation/lodging/meal costs (either because their fees are higher due to distance, or because they can not afford it) and to help finance other organizational costs (such as simultaneous translations into several languages (FR/EN/DE/ES...), we have opened a social fund to which you are invited to contribute from 10 €. (Participants who need a little help are invited to specify it on the registration form).

Thank you for your support and solidarity by visiting this web page:

Registration for the Louvain-la-Neuve event is free, but is compulsory.

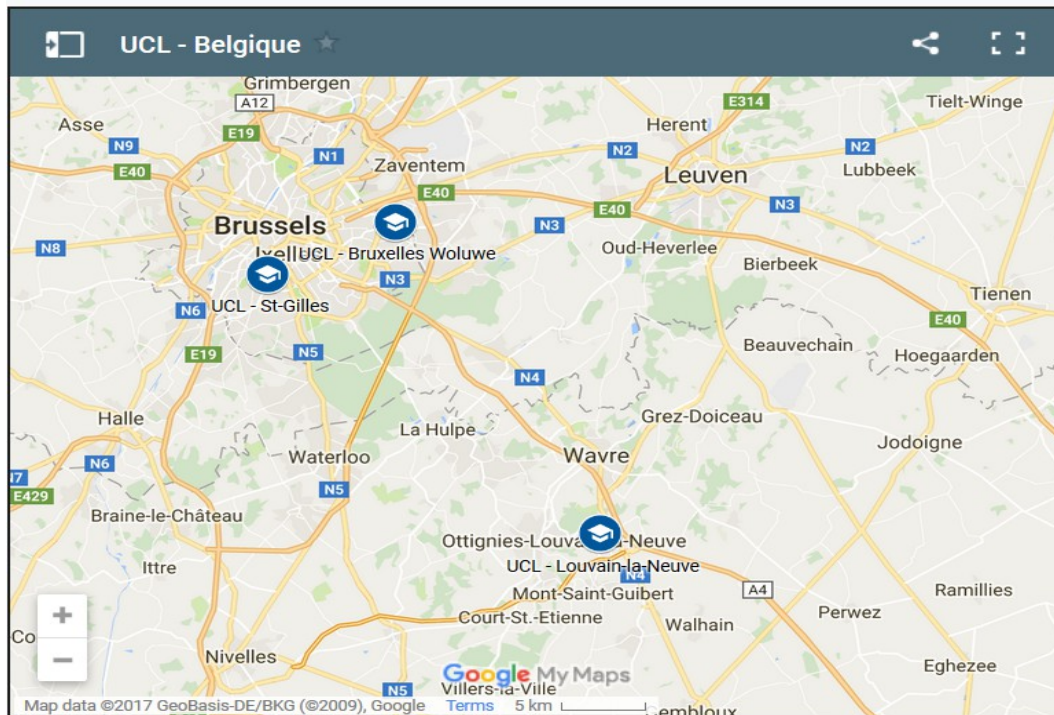
You will find the online registration form here:

English : [Kick off event "EU-democratisation: a citizens' process"](#)

Français: [Èvènement de lancement "Processus Citoyen de Démocratisation de l'UE"](#)

How to reach LLN ?

<https://uclouvain.be/fr/decouvrir/acces-contact.html>



By Train

"**Louvain-la-Neuve - Université**" train station is directly connected to Ottignies rail traffic. It is located on the Brussels-Namur line, in each way you have two trains/hour, week-end included.

Do not confuse Louvain-La-neuve with Leuven, which is another city on another line of the train.

- Brussels-Louvain-la-Neuve : 30min, you will have to change the train in Ottignies and take a direct train towards Louvain-la-Neuve-Université.
- If you come from Namur or Charleroi, change the train in Ottignies and take another one towards "**Louvain-la-Neuve - Université**".
- If you come from **Luxembourg**, get down at Ottignies (if you are in the EC96 or EC90 Vauban who comes from Switzerland, you will have to change at Namur and take a train towards Ottignies)
- **From a foreign country** : get down at Brussels-North if your train goes this way. If not, get down at Brussels-Midi, where all the trains leave for Ottignies, via Brussels-Central, Brussels-Nord, Brussels-Schuman et Brussels-Luxembourg

Train schedules are available on the [SNCB](https://www.sncb.be) website or by phone : 02 528 28 28.

By car –40 minutes from Brussels

The E411 highway Brussels-Namur passes near Louvain-la-Neuve (do not confuse with Leuven). Take the exit 8 if you come from Brussels, or 9 if you come from Namur. When you get to the roundabout on National 4, follow the area name you want to get to on the traffic signs.

By plane

When you arrive to Brussels airport (Zaventem), you can reach Louvain -la-Neuve by train (first train at 5.30am).Everyday between 9am and 12am, 4 trains/hour brings you to the Brussels-North station where you can change and take a train for Louvain-la-Neuve. (Do not get confused with Leuven who is another city).

Brussels South Charleroi airport : lowcost companies. It is 40 km from our venue. Some buses go from the airport to Charleroi South train station. The easiest way to get to Louvain-la-Neuve is to take a train from Charleroi-South to Ottignies, where another train brings you in 8min to the university. (Till 10pm)

By bus

Several TEC lines go to Louvain-la-Neuve from :

- Brussels (line Cbis or Conforto Bis) from metro station Roodebeek via metro station Crainhem
- Etterbeek (line C or Conforto) via la Plaine des manoeuvres, SNCB d'Etterbeek station, metro station Delta or Wavre train station ,
- Jodoigne (Rapido Bus 1) via Thorembais-Saint-Trond,
- Waterloo (Rapido Bus 3) via Braine-l'Alleud, Ohain, Lasne et Céroux,
- Nivelles, SNCB train station(Rapido Bus 4) via Genappe et Beaurieux ,
- Tourinnes-la-Grosse (Rapido Bus 6) via Hamme-Mille, Grez-Doiceau et Wavre (4 Sapins) ,
- Wavre et Ottignies (line 20),
- Dion-Valmont (line 21),
- Perwez (line 33) via Chaumont-Gistoux,
- Chastre (line 34) via Walhain, Nil, Corbais et Mont-saint-Guibert.

This lines are only available from Monday till Friday, excepting lines 33, 34 (Saturdays included), and line 20 (Saturday and Sunday included). Bus schedules are available here : www.infotec.be or by phone : 010 23 53 53.

Accomodation :

The University should allow us to rent students rooms, if you are interested please write it down on the subscription form.

Other options :

- IBIS Hotel Louvain la Neuve : <http://www.accorhotels.com/fr/hotel-2200-ibis-styles-meeting-center-louvain-la-neuve/index.shtml>
- Chateau de Limelette – Ottignies-Louvain-la-Neuve : <http://www.chateau-de-limelette.be/fr/>
- Gîtes de Wallonie : <https://www.gitesdewallonie.be/hebergement/gastezimmer/ottignies-louvain-la-neuve>
- AirBN'B: <https://www.airbnb.fr/s/Ottignies~Louvain~la~Neuve--Belgique>
- And Brussels hotels, 40min away by car

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