

Capitalizing Youth Empowerment : Action seminar!

**Four « Europe2040 » sessions
on Youth Participation and Democracy
by AEGEE & AAFB/LEAP**

17 & 18 September 2019

In the framework of the Mollina 2019 event on Youth and Justice, three Franck Biancheri related organisations (the European anticipation think-tank LEAP, the memorial association AAFB and AEGEE) combine strengths to set up 4 workshops focussing on « Youth participation and democracy » with a 2040 horizon in mind.

These sessions will build on the method of political anticipation formalised by LEAP, the project of European democratisation conducted by Franck Biancheri and the youth perspective proposed by AEGEE.

They will consist of flat brainstorming sessions along 4 incremental topics : Anticipating democratic risks → Theorizing XXIst century democracy → Specifying youth duty → Strategizing AEGEE's position.

The expected outcome is a short visionary presentation of the democratic challenges combined with a set of recommendations to position AEGEE as a hub of European youth's project for the future of democracy.

Detailed programme

17 september

Europe2040 - Anticipating democratic disruptions in Europe (90 mn)

The weakening of our national democracies, the non-achieved democratisation of the European level, and the resulting emergence of populism throughout Europe echoing a similar trend worldwide, are reasons for us Europeans to worry about the future of this fundamental principle of the European construction : democracy.

- . What is the state of democracy in Europe today ?
- . What are the reasons of the democratic crisis?
- . Can the situation get worse?

With inputs by Marie-Hélène Caillol, LEAP, Marianne Ranke-Cormier, AAFB.

Brainstorming session where each participant will be invited to present his/her ideas.

17 September

Europe2040 - Theorizing XXIst century supranational and multicultural democracy at the age of new techs (90 mn)

Looking at the democratic challenge from a higher perspective, it appears that democracy is facing a systemic crisis of transition consistent with the major global systemic process of transformation : from national to supranational, from simple to organic, from physical to electronic,... challenges and solutions emerge in the same move.

- . What is democracy about?
- . What does the architecture of governance look like in the XXIst century?
- . What place do citizens have today in this architecture?
- . What solutions begin to emerge based on the previous clarifications?

*With inputs by Julia Krebs, AEGEE, Marie-Hélène Caillol, LEAP, Marianne Ranke-Cormier, AAFB.
Brainstorming session where each participant will be invited to present his/her ideas.*

18 September

Europe 2040 - Asserting the role of European youth in the invention, promotion and implementation of new democratic models (90 mn)

For many reasons, the youth have a duty – even more than a right - to contribute to the democratisation of supra-national governance in the XXIst-century : because it's their future before anyone else's, because they are closer to tomorrow's tools and solutions than anyone else,... the youth must somehow take the lead.

- . What's the legitimacy of the youth?
- . What's the added-value of the youth ?
- . What about youth and leadership ?

*With inputs by Julia Krebs, Elitsa Hadzhieva and Evita, AEGEE-Europe (on Europe On Tracks, YVote, AEGEE election observation about youth empowerment and participation)
« World café » session where each participant will be invited to present his/her ideas.*

18 September

Europe2040 - Positioning AEGEE-Europe at the center of European processes of democratisation (90 mn)

AEGEE-Europe's special characteristics (history, mandate, size, longevity...) makes it relevant to position it at the hub of the required process of invention of XXIst century democracy. It is a matter of raising awareness among the network and its (future) leaders about the organisation's legitimacy and potential, of creating the conditions for the production of a « Vision 2040 » on democracy, of strengthening the visibility and efficiency of the organisation's actions...

- . Why is AEGEE-Europe's position in European civil society so special? (history, structure, size...)
- . How does AEGEE-Europe influence European evolutions today?
- . How to upgrade AEGEE-Europe's capacity to match European democracy's high stakes ?

With inputs by Daniel Amesz and Alvaro Gonzalez-Perez, AEGEE-Europe

Two simultaneous 45 min-workshops (AEGEE at its outset + AEGEE today) followed by a 30 mn common discussion - where each participant will be invited to present his/her ideas.