

PROGRAMME BERLIN CONFERENCE 2015

EUROPE. ITS VALUES. ITS CITIZENS

PRE-CONFERENCE 8 November 2015, 1.00 – 6.00 pm
CITIES FOR EUROPE. CITIES TAKE A STAND

1.00 pm	Opening
	<p>Brigitte Russ-Scherer, former Lord Mayor and Spokesperson of the “Cities for Europe” initiative</p> <p>State Secretary Hella Dunger-Löper, Commissioner for European Affairs and for Active Citizenship at the Berlin Senate Chancellery</p>
Keynote	<p><i>Borderland Europe – Cities are our hope:</i></p> <p>Karl Schlögel, Historian, Professor emeritus at European University Viadrina, Frankfurt / Oder</p>
2.00 pm	Examples of good Practice
Project presentations	<p>Diablog.eu, presented by Michaela Prinziger, Founder</p> <p>European Capital of Culture Wrocław 2016, presented by Katarzyna Młyńczak-Sachs, International Relations Manager of Wrocław 2016</p> <p>Give something back to Berlin, presented by Lucy Thomas, Project Manager</p> <p>Hotel Utopia, presented by Catherine Daraspe, Initiator of Prinzip Heimat e.V</p> <p>Moabit hilft, presented by NN (tbc)</p> <p>Off-Biennale, Budapest, presented by Hajnalka Somogyi, Project Lead and Board member</p>
2.45 to 3.00 pm	Coffee break with tour over the Marketplace Europe
3.00 pm	World-Café
Workshop sessions	<p>3 parallel moderated discussions with presentation of results to the auditorium</p> <p>Moderation:</p> <p>Justus Boehnke, Journalist</p> <p>Rupert Graf Strachwitz, Director of Maecenata Foundation</p> <p>Birgit Wolske, Journalist</p>

5.00 pm

Conclusions

Moderated debate

Serhan Ada, Associate Professor at Istanbul Bilgi University

Emil Boc, Mayor of Cluj

Nele Hertling, member of the “A Soul for Europe” Strategy Group

Brigitte Russ-Scherer, former Lord Mayor and Spokesperson of the “Cities for Europe” initiative

Joachim Zeller, MEP

Moderation: **Volker Hassemer**, President of the Board of Stiftung Zukunft Berlin and President of the Board of Management of the “A Soul for Europe” E.E.I.G.

6.00 pm

End of conference

7.00 pm

Welcome drinks

Embassy of Luxembourg,
Klingelhöferstraße 7, 10785 Berlin

(for registered guests only, public transportation, bus station: Nordische Botschaften / Adenauer-Stiftung)

CONFERENCE 9 November 2015, 9.00 am – 5.00 pm

9.00 am

Welcome

Birgit Grundmann, former State Secretary, Head of Regulatory and Political Affairs, Allianz Deutschland AG

Martin Schulz, President of the European Parliament and Chair of the “A Soul for Europe” Advisory Board

State Secretary **Hella Dunger-Löper**, Commissioner for European Affairs and for Active Citizenship at the Berlin Senate Chancellery

Doris Pack, MEP 1989-2014 and Co-Chair of the „A Soul for Europe“ Advisory Board

Literary Intervention by **Gianni Skaragas**, Writer

9.45 am

The Periphery as an Inspiration for Europe

Introductions

Hannes Swoboda, President of the International Institute for Peace and member of the “A Soul for Europe” Advisory Board

Georgi Gospodinov, Writer

Panel A *The periphery of Europe is not only a geographic category with strong sociocultural characteristics. It serves as a laboratory for all kinds of creative civil society movements: Despite all prejudices, countries like Albania or Bosnia today show how religious and ethnic coexistence can work. Citizens in the Baltic countries strongly confess to their integration into European alliances by initiating creative projects. And while southeastern and southwestern countries face severe economic and structural problems, civil society organisations, artists and intellectuals tackle the crisis by implementing experimental ideas and initiatives.*

Moderated debate with
Q&A session

Antje Contius, Managing Director of S. Fischer Stiftung

Alen Kristic, Co-Founder and Co-Editor of Concilium – International Journal of Theology for Croatia and Bosnia-Herzegovina

Mirela Kumbaro Furxhi, Minister of Culture of Albania

Hannes Swoboda, President of the International Institute for Peace and member of the “A Soul for Europe” Advisory Board

Rarita Zbranca, Director of AltArt Foundation and member of the “A Soul for Europe” Strategy Group

Moderation: **Kaspars Ruklis**, Executive Director of Riga Summer School and member of the “A Soul for Europe” Strategy Group

11.15 to 11.45 am

Coffee break

Panel B *Despite economic and structural difficulties the periphery is one of Europe's richest assets, a source for creativity for the integration process. However cultural activities in the peripheral countries often do not meet with appreciation and respect. They are rarely perceived in the public spheres of the "centre" and are lacking partners for dialogue and exchange. We have to open up and create new opportunities, work against disappointment and revive decreased EU enthusiasm, so that the periphery can serve as a laboratory for a creative civil society in Europe. The panel outlines challenges and develops ideas as well as proposals for this necessary process that should be increasingly in the responsibility of the citizens.*

Moderated debate with Q&A session **Lirak Çelaj**, member of the "A Soul for Europe" Strategy Group
Thierry Fabre, Writer and Curator
Georgi Gospodinov, Writer
Doris Pack, MEP 1989-2014 and Co-Chair of the "A Soul for Europe" Advisory Board
Gianni Skaragas, Writer
Moderation: **Kaspars Ruklis**, Executive Director of Riga Summer School and member of the "A Soul for Europe" Strategy Group

1.00 to 2.00 pm Lunch break

2.00 pm **The City as a Spot of Innovation, Inclusion, and of new Models for Citizens' Involvement**

Welcoming address **Michael Roth**, Minister of State at the Federal Foreign Office
Introduction **Peter Vermeersch**, Professor of Politics at the University of Leuven

Panel A *Sharing a direct responsibility for Europe: cultural performance, social creativity and innovation in cities and urban areas. By established cultural institutions and grass roots initiatives: Based on their European heritage, their social entrepreneurship, pragmatic approach and their creative power, urban areas have an outstanding role for the European process beyond the local and regional competences.*

Moderated debate with Q&A session **Daphne Büllsbach**, Citizenship and Democracy Director at European Alternatives
Mahir Namur, member of the "A Soul for Europe" Strategy Group
Charlot Schans, Project Leader of New Europe – Cities in Transition
Paul Spies, Director of the Amsterdam Museum, future Director of Stiftung Stadt Museum, Berlin, and Chief Curator of Welt.Stadt.Berlin at the Humboldt Forum
Peter Vermeersch, Professor of Politics at the University of Leuven
Amalia Zepou, Vice-Mayor for Civil Society Initiatives of Athens
Moderation: **Farid Tabarki**, Founding Director of Studio Zeitgeist and member of the "A Soul for Europe" Strategy Group

3.20 to 3.40 pm Coffee break

Panel B *How to strengthen cultural and civil society networks of European cities and regions to take over responsibilities locally and from the bottom-up? How to validate the expanding practise of cultural routes and the validation of cultural tourism to the cities? In other words: How to include all these phenomena into a coherent democratic policy, effective and attractive for the citizens of Europe?*

Moderated debate with
Q&A session

Volker Hassemer, President of the Board of Stiftung Zukunft Berlin and
President of the Board of Management of the “A Soul for Europe” E.E.I.G.

Arne Lietz, MEP, member of the “A Soul for Europe” Advisory Board

Miguel Angel Martin Ramos, Secretary of the European Routes of
Emperor Charles V and member of the “A Soul for Europe” Strategy
Group

Jens Nymand Christensen, Deputy Director General for Education and
Culture at the European Commission

Moderation: **Farid Tabarki**, Founding Director of Studio Zeitgeist and
member of the “A Soul for Europe” Strategy Group

Conclusions and Outlook

Moderated debate

Johannes Ebert, General Secretary of Goethe-Institut

Volker Hassemer, President of the Board of Stiftung Zukunft Berlin and
President of the Board of Management of the “A Soul for Europe” E.E.I.G.

Arne Lietz, MEP, member of the “A Soul for Europe” Advisory Board (tbc)

Michael M. Thoss, Managing Director of Allianz Kulturstiftung

Moderation: **Nele Hertling**, member of the “A Soul for Europe” Strategy
Group

5.00 pm

End of Conference

