

Congress of Europe 1948 - 2008

60th ANNIVERSARY

Programme

Building the Europe of the Future Together

23 & 24 May 2008, The Hague



**European Movement
Mouvement Européen**

History

The Congress of Europe May 1948

The Congress of Europe in The Hague was held from the 7th to the 11th of May 1948 with 750 delegates from 26 European countries participating as well as observers from Canada and the United States.

Organised by the International Committee of the Movements for European Unity and presided by **Winston Churchill**, the Congress brought together representatives from a broad political spectrum, providing them with the opportunity to discuss ideas about the development of the European Union. Important political figures such as **Konrad Adenauer, Winston Churchill, Harold Macmillan, François Mitterrand, Paul-Henri Spaak, Albert Coppé and Altiero Spinelli** played an active role in the Congress and a call was launched for a political, economic and monetary Union of Europe. This landmark conference was to have a profound influence on the shape of the European Union, based on the principle of subsidiarity, shared sovereignty rights, democracy, the rule of law and solidarity.

Since 1948, the European Movement has played **an essential role in** the process of European integration, working with European and national institutions, setting up think-tanks and a network of mobilisation in the democratic countries of Europe.

It played **a key role** in the campaign in favour of the direct election of the European Parliament, in favour of the Treaty on the European Union and also for a European Constitution. The European Movement also played a leading role in the creation of the Council of Europe, the “College of Europe” (Bruges) and the European Centre for Culture in Geneva.

Who we are

The European Movement is an international organisation **open to all political, economic, social and cultural trends in civil society**.

Its objective is to contribute to the establishment of a united Europe founded on the respect for basic human rights, principles of peace and democracy, liberty and solidarity, as well as the active participation of citizens.

Its **43 national councils and 21 international member organisations** work towards bringing together representatives from national and European associations, political parties, the industry and trade unions.

The European Movement has been chaired by many **illustrious European political figures** throughout its history including Winston Churchill, Paul-Henri Spaak, Walter Hallstein, Jean Rey, Gaston Thorn, Mario Soares, Valéry Giscard d’Estaing and José-Maria Gil Robles.

I. EUROPEAN CIVIL SOCIETY FORUM

FRIDAY 23 MAY 2008

08h30 – 10h00 Registration

Venue: Nieuwe Kerk, Spui 175

A. PLENARY SESSION (10h00-12h45)

In the presence of **Prince Constantijn of The Netherlands**

10h00-10h15 Welcome speech, **Pat Cox**, President of the European Movement International

10h15-11h00 Voting

11h00-11h10 **Robert Manchin**, Chairman and Managing Director, Gallup Europe
Europe in the eyes of the European Citizens: Images of Europe as reflected in public opinion polls

11h10-12h30 Europe's challenges, an open debate with **Michael Zeeman**, Essayist and broadcaster, **Jean-Pierre Gouzy**, former participant of the Congress of Europe in 1948, and **4 Young Europeans of the Year** awarded by the Schwartzkopf Foundation.

12h30-12h45 Results of the votes

12h45 – 14h00 Lunch

B. WORKING GROUPS (14h00 – 18h30)

Debating 60 ideas for Europe

1. Workshop “Political Europe”

Venue: Nieuwspoort Press Centre, Lange Poten 10

Keynote speaker: **Elmar Brok**, MEP (EPP-ED Group/CDU)

Moderator: **Riivo Sinijarv**, President of the European Movement Estonia

Rapporteur: **Michael Stabenow**, Correspondent for the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

2. Workshop “Economic and Social Europe”

Venue: Diligentia Theater, Lange Voorhout 5

Keynote speaker: **Maria Joao Rodrigues**, Professor of European Economic Policies, Institute for European Studies, Free University of Brussels

Moderator: **Ann Mettler**, Executive Director and co-founder, Lisbon Council

Rapporteur: **Krzysztof Bobinski**, President Fundacja Unia & Polska

3. Workshop “Education and Cultural Europe”

Venue: Town Hall Library, Spui 70

Keynote Speaker: **Nana Mouskouri**, former Member of the European Parliament

Moderator: **Gijs de Vries**, Senior research fellow, CSCP, Clingendael Institute

Rapporteur: **Christophe Midol-Monnet**, Deputy News Editor, European Magazines, France, EuroNews

C. RECEPTION (19h00 – 21h00)

Offered by the City of The Hague

Venue: Town Hall Atrium, Spui 70



SATURDAY 24 MAY 2008

D. PLENARY SESSION (09h00 – 12h30)

In the presence of **HRH Prince of The Netherlands, Prince Willem-Alexander**

Venue: Nieuwe Kerk, Spui 175

1. Report from the workshops and debate (09h00 – 12h15)

09h00-10h00 Registrations and coffee.

10h15-10h35 Reports from the rapporteurs of the working groups

10h35- 11h15 Opening statements

Hans-Gert Pöttering, President of the European Parliament

Janez Janša, Prime Minister of Slovenia EU Slovenian Presidency

José Manuel Durão Barroso, President of the European Commission

Javier Solana, Secretary-General of the Council of the European Union

Lluís Maria de Puig, President of the Council of Europe Parliamentary Assembly

Dimitris Dimitriadis, President of the EESC

Luc van den Brande, President of the Committee of the Regions

11h15-12h15 Debate moderated by **Pat Cox**

2. Press conference (12h15-12h40)

Venue: Nieuwe Kerk, Spui 175

II. ANNIVERSARY LUNCH (13h00-15h00)

Upon special invitation only

Offered by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Venue: Ridderzaal, Binnenhof 8



III. TV DEBATES (16h00-17h30)

Live broadcast via internet and satellite

Venue: Nieuwe Kerk, Spui 175

Opening and closing statements by **Frans Timmermans**, Minister of European Affairs, The Netherlands

Moderator: **Quentin Peel**, International Affairs Editor, Financial Times

A. First Round of debate (16h00 – 16h40)

Answering questions from the European Civil Society Forum and from the Public

Hans-Gert Pöttering, President of the European Parliament

Janez Janša, Prime Minister of Slovenia EU Slovenian Presidency

José Manuel Durão Barroso, President of the European Commission

Javier Solana, Secretary-General of the Council of the European Union

Lluís Maria de Puig, President of the Council of Europe Parliamentary Assembly

Dimitris Dimitriadis, President of the EESC

- 16h40 – 16h50: Break

B.: Second Round of debate: European political leaders (16h50 – 17h30)

Answering questions from the European Civil Society Forum and from the Public

European People's Party

Wilfried Martens, President

Othmar Karas, Vice-Chairman EPP-ED Group

Party of European Socialists

Poul Nyrup Rasmussen, President

Martin Schulz, President Socialist Group

European Liberal Democrat and Reform Party

Annemie Neyts-Uyttebroek, President

Graham Watson, President ALDE Group

European Green Party

Philippe Lamberts, co-President

IV. BOUWPLAATS EUROPA - *Europe under construction* (09h00 – 18h00)

The European Citizens' Market 'Europe under construction' will celebrate some of the numerous citizens' initiatives in Europe.

Citizens representing different strands of society will be interviewed on the podiums by singer **Leoni Jansen**. Local bands with a European and international touch will be performing.

Agaath Witteman & Company will illustrate how Europe grows, links and eventually 'takes off'. EU embassies will also participate.

In parallel to these activities, debates and workshops will be taking place in the Nieuwspoor Press Centre.

Podium 1: Europa podium (11h30-17h00)

Venue: Podium Plein, De Witte Sociëteit

Podium 2 : Contacts between continents (11h30-17h00)

In the presence of **José Manuel Barroso**, President of the European Commission
Frans Timmermans, Dutch Minister of European Affairs

Venue : Podium Plein Defense

Podium 3 : Dance4Europe (12h30-16h30)

Venue : Hofplaats

Europe for the World (12h00-14h45)

Debates with European Parliamentarians

Venue: Nieuwspoor Press Centre, Wandelgangen I, Lange Poten 10

Europa Ateliers (13h30-16h30)

With European Women's Lobby and E-Quality

Venue: Nieuwspoor Press Centre, Wandelgangen I, Lange Poten 10

V. SAIL FOR EUROPE

Venue: Scheveningen harbour

The **sailing vessel “Traité de Rome”** is travelling to different destinations in Europe. It is sailing mid-April from Dunquerque, Kiel and Gdansk and will be in **Scheveningen on 24 & 25 May 2008 from 10h00 to 18h00**. It will then head South stopping at different harbours along the coast in the Atlantic and Mediterranean. A special Shuttle will be organised from the citizens’ market at The Hague to the Harbour of Sheveningen.

More information can be found on www.sailforeurope.eu

VI. NATIONAL DEBATES (18h00 – 20h00)

Debates in various Member States with national political leaders

Partners & Sponsors

Institutional Support

European Parliament



EU Slovenian Presidency



European Commission



EESC



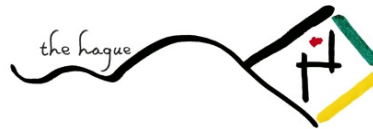
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