



A Liberal European Leadership after 2019

Högberga gård, Lidingö, Stockholm 18-19 April 2018

ABOUT THE EVENT

Liberalism is challenged by populists and nationalists from both left and right, we will have to prepare ourselves thoroughly in order to safeguard liberal values across Europe. We believe that the European Parliament elections in 2019 will be an election about values.

The aim of this event is to equip politicians and staff members from liberal parties across Europe with concrete arguments and strategies on how to counter populist and nationalistic tendencies. Moreover, we want to build a strong network of liberals who can get advice from and encourage one another in preparation of the election campaign, as well as foster closer ties between liberal parties.

PRELIMINARY EVENT SCHEDULE (will be updated continuously)

Wednesday 18 April 2018

- 09:00-09:40** Speech: 'The need for a liberal leadership in Europe'
Leading politician, the Centre Party (TBD)
- 09:40-09:50** Introduction of the program and practical information
Member of the board, European Liberal Forum (TBD)
Karin Carlesten, international officer, the Centre Party and board member of CIS
Martine van Schoor, international officer, D66 and director of Stichting IDI
- 09:50-10:20** Icebreaker: test your own values
- 10:20-10:30** Coffee break
- 10:30-12:00** Populism versus liberalism: Briefing and discussion on the history of populism and the challenges and opportunities of liberalism in a European context
Anna-Lena Lodenius, journalist and author of the book 'We say what you think – right-wing populism in Europe'
- 12:00-13:00** Lunch
- 13:00-14:30** Workshop I – Formulating a pro-European message in your campaign: positive framing
Mark Thiessen, owner campaign agency Meute, former head of digital campaign VVD



- 14:30-15:30** Workshop 2 – Liberal rhetoric and argumentation and how to communicate against populists
Claes de Vreese, Professor and Chair of Political Communication at the Amsterdam School of Communication Research, University of Amsterdam, and co-author of the book 'Populist political communication in Europe'
- 15:30-16:00** Coffee break including networking activity
- 16:00-17:00** Continuation, workshop 2
- 17:00-18:00** How do we best reach the goal of a Liberal European Leadership after 2019?
Fredrick Federley, Member of European Parliament, the Centre Party
Sophie In 't Veld, Member of European Parliament, D66 (TBC)
Angelika Mlinar, Member of European Parliament, NEOS (TBC)
On link from Strasbourg
- 18:00-19:00** Free time
- 19:00-21:00** Dinner
- 21:00-** Optional: Networking in the bar

Thursday 19 April 2018

- 09:00-10:30** Workshop 3 – How to write a liberal European election manifesto.
Group 1: for a political party, Group 2: for a personal campaign.
Mark Thiessen, owner campaign agency Meute, former head of digital campaign VVD
- 10:30-11:30** Workshop 4 – Best practices. Part 1: the fight against populism in Bosnia and Poland.
Part 2: experience-sharing amongst participants.
Nasiha Pozder, Vice President, Naša Stranka, Bosnia
Milosz Hodun, International Officer, Nowoczesna, Poland
- 11:30-12:00** What next? Evaluation and next steps.
- 12.00-13.00** Lunch

END OF THE EVENT

With the support of:



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