State of the Union Conference 2019

Re-uniting Europe?
Between geopolitical tensions and domestic constraints

Programme

The Netherlands Institute of International Relations 'Clingendael', in cooperation with the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the European Parliament, is organising a *"State of the Union Conference"* for reflection on the future of the European Union (EU). External and internal pressures continue to destabilize the European project. Changes in the geopolitical environment, ranging from an uncertain transatlantic relationship, great power rivalries, climate change and continuous migration pressure necessitate strategic European action. Simultaneously, the European capacity to act is seriously weakened by disagreement and diverging capacities among Member States, loss of faith in the European Union project, and fragmented EU policies. The European elections are likely to exacerbate the tensions between these geopolitical challenges and domestic constraints. What are common challenges where European citizens count on EU action, and what are the strategic priorities for the next political cycle of the EU? And how to reform EU governance and better deal with diversity, in order to deliver on the big challenges that Europe faces? This high-level conference brings together Member States and EU officials, civil society representatives, business and opinion leaders as well as academics to critically reflect upon the following topics:

- EU migration policies
- The future of the EMU
- The geopolitics of EU-Asia connectivity
- Hungary: Behind the façade of Orbán
- Climate: the next divisive issue?

- Social Europe
- Listening to the European citizen
- European Strategic Autonomy
- The 2019 European Elections
- The EU's Rationale in the 21st century

All sessions are held on the record, unless otherwise indicated at the start of the session.

The State of the Union Conference 2019 takes place in **The Hague** (The Netherlands) on Friday **25 January 2019**, at Sociëteit de Witte (Plein 24, 2511 CS, The Hague).

Programme

08.45 – 09.15   Registration and coffee/tea

09.15 – 09.25   Welcome and opening remarks - *Room: 'Pleinzaal'*
Monika Sie Dhian Ho - General Director, Clingendael Institute

09.30 – 10.00   **Keynote: Dominique Moïsi -** Visiting Research Professor at King's College London, and Special Advisor to Institut Montaigne

10.00 – 10.15   **Keynote: 'Climate, the next divisive issue?'**
Bas Eickhout - Member of European Parliament and 'Spitzenkandidat' for the European Greens

10.30 – 12.00   **Morning breakout sessions**

Session 1A – *Room: 'Pleinzaal'*
EU Migration – 'How to overcome divisions?'
Moderator: Willemijn Tiekstra – ICCT

Panel:
- Marit Maij - Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Camille Le Coz – Migration Policy Institute Europe (MPI)
- Simon Mordue – European Commission DG HOME
- Philippe de Bruycker – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

Session 1B – *room: 'Leeszaal'*
A crisis-proof EMU?
Moderator: Adriaan Schout – Clingendael Institute

Panel:
- Simona Piattoni – University of Trento
- Charles Wyplosz – Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva

Session 1C – *room: 'Koepelzaal'*
The Geopolitics of EU-Asia Connectivity
Moderator: Giovanni Grevi – European Policy Centre

Panel:
- Maaike Okano-Heijmans - Clingendael Institute
- Peter Potman – Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Steven Everts – Asia Pacific Department EEAS
- Constance Kann – European Investment Bank

Twitter hashtag: #SotEU19

Session 1D – *Room: 'Literaire Zaal'*
Documentary Screening & Panel Discussion- Behind the facade of Orbán (In Dutch)
Moderator: Jan Marinus Wiersma – Clingendael Institute

Panel:
- Kati Piri – European Parliament
- Dzsingisz Gabor – Former State Secretary CDA
- Mitra Nazar – NOS Correspondent Western Balkans & Hungary

12.00 – 12.45   **Lunch -** *Room: 'Pleinzaal'*

12.45 – 13.30   **Keynote: 'Navigating global complexity: the EU 's rationale in the 21 century'**
Nathalie Tocci – Director of the Istituto Affari Internazionali (IAI) and Special Adviser to EU HRVP Federica Mogherini

13.45 – 15.15   **Afternoon breakout sessions**

Session 2A – *Room: 'Literaire Zaal'*
Listening to the European Citizens
Moderator: Monika Sie Dhian Ho – General Director, Clingendael Institute

Panel:
- André Krouwel – Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam
- Femke Roosma – University of Tilburg
- Frank Vandenbroucke – University of Amsterdam

Session 2B – *Room: 'Leeszaal'*
Social Europe: A political minefield?
Moderator: René Cuperus - Clingendael Institute

Panel:
- Agnes Jongerius – European Parliament
- László Andor – Former Commissioner Social Affairs and Employment
- Paul de Beer – University of Amsterdam

Session 2C – *Room: 'Pleinzaal'*
European Strategic Autonomy: Going it Alone?
Moderator: Dick Zandee – Clingendael Institute

Panel:
- Margriet Drent - Clingendael Institute
- Alice Billon-Galland – European leadership Network (ELN)
- Barbara Kunz – Institut Français des Relations Internationales (IFRI)
- Christoffer Jonker – Netherlands Ministry of Defence

Session 2D – *Room: 'Koepelzaal'*
The 2019 European Elections: Electoral Shifts and Institutional Dynamics
Moderator: Louise van Schaik – Clingendael Institute

Panel:
- Stephen Clark – Director for the European Parliament Liaison Offices in the Member States
- Hanno Wurzner – Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Nicolai van Ondarza – Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik (SWP)

15.15 – 15.45   Afternoon break – *Room: 'Pleinzaal'*

15.45 – 17.00   **Plenary panel: Re-uniting Europe**
Room: 'Pleinzaal'
Moderator: Monika Sie Dhian Ho - General Director, Clingendael Institute

Panel:
- Piotr Buras - European Council on Foreign Relations (ECFR)
- Antonio Villafranca – Institute for International Political Studies (ISPI)
- Eleni Panagiotarea– Hellenic Foundation for European and Foreign Policy (ELIAMEP)
- Dominique Moïsi - King's College London and Institut Montaigne
- Maria Demertzis – Bruegel

17.00 – 17.15   **Closing remarks** - *Room: 'Pleinzaal'*
Thijs van der Plas – Director-General European Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

17.15 – 18.15   **Informal reception -** *Room: 'Pleinzaal'*

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