

liberal

# bulletin

SECOND ISSUE 2023

- **Lead interview with Alexander De Croo**
- **On the road to European elections 2024**
- **Tackling the issues that matter most**

# CONTENTS

Editorial by <b>Didrik de Schaetzen</b>	<b>03</b>
Lead interview with <b>Alexander De Croo</b>	<b>04</b>
Gearing up for <b>EP2024</b>	<b>07</b>
Recap of ALDE Party Manifesto town hall series	<b>08</b>
Meet the Bureau: Our new Vice-Presidents	<b>10</b>
Tackling the issues that matter most: Policy Advisory Groups	<b>12</b>
European Liberal Forum turns 15	<b>14</b>
Our member parties have the floor: <b>NEOS, Austria</b>	<b>16</b>
Our member parties have the floor: <b>CUB, Moldova</b>	<b>17</b>
Renew Europe CoR: 10 Liberal Mayors Summits	<b>18</b>
Movers & Shakers	<b>19</b>

---

The Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE) Party is the party representing liberal democrat values across Europe. With our member parties throughout Europe, we are translating the principle of freedom into politics, economics and across all other areas of our societies. The ALDE Party provides an increasingly vital link between citizens and the EU institutions. The ALDE Party is made up of more than seventy member parties and many individual members from across Europe.

Liberal Bulletin is a publication of the ALDE Party. It is published twice a year.

Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe Party, EUPP

Editors: Tommaso Fiore, Anna Wangen

Editor-in-Chief: Iris André

Publisher: Didrik de Schaetzen

Layout: Nadège Van Hoorde

With the financial support of the European Parliament. The sole liability rests with the author. The European Parliament is not responsible for any use that may be made of the information contained therein.



# EDITORIAL

Dear liberal friends,

This issue of Liberal Bulletin is special in many ways. It has now been 10 years since we launched the publication in this format, and I am happy to say that every issue since has been, in their own way, better than the one before. I want to thank our dedicated editorial team, led by editor-in-chief **Iris André**, as well as the external contributors who have provided content and ideas over the years.

This editorial is also the first one I sign as the party's Secretary General. I am honoured for the trust and support our bureau and member parties have shown me. I look forward to meeting with you all at our events and on other occasions, and I know that we will work closely together in the months and years to come.

Indeed, there is a lot of work ahead of us. As you know, 2024 is a key year in European politics, with the mandate of the current European Parliament coming to its end. We know that the upcoming electoral campaign will not be an easy one – after all, the context we operate in now is very different from what it was in 2019. But, Europe's liberals are ready and united. In the pages of this Bulletin, you can find out a little bit more about our ongoing campaign preparations.

In this issue, we also give the floor to one of the great liberal prime ministers, **Alexander De Croo**, who has been leading Belgium through some trying times. He believes liberals can be the positive force for change across Europe, and I couldn't agree more. This same spirit of progress and change is featured in every page of this publication, through featured profiles and projects we have been leading on together with our member parties.

Ahead of what will be a very busy year, I wish you all a happy and restful holiday season.



**Didrik de Schaetzen**  
ALDE Party Secretary General

 @DdeSchaetzen



# “ EVERY CHANGE STARTS WITH SETTING AN EXAMPLE ”

For Prime Minister of Belgium [Alexander De Croo](#), now is the time to work together, have honest conversations and provide solutions. From the power of optimism to the need to break stereotypes, he believes that liberals can be the force for positive change across Europe. In this exclusive interview, Prime Minister De Croo shares his perspective ahead of a pivotal year for Belgian and European politics.



2024 is a big year for Belgium and for Europe, as the current political mandates are coming to their end. In your view, what will be the biggest challenges and opportunities for Belgian and European liberals in the coming year?

In Belgium, but also in other European countries, many young people will vote for the first time next year. They may have to do so while a war rages on our continent, just a few thousand kilometres away. They will do so after Europe's hottest summer on record. Many people, not just the young, are wondering if tomorrow will be better than today. We seem to live in an uncertain world, where only negative news sells.

Liberal politicians who ask for the voters to have confidence in them must also give that confidence. If we want to convince young people to vote for liberals, it can only be with results – not with false, flat, populist answers, neither with naivety nor with a discourse that is dividing our societies.

What young Europeans expect from us is modern governance that makes their lives better, that helps them on their way to a job or to a house. What they expect from us is to be pragmatic and ambitious at the same time.

But not everyone is feeling negative, or predicting the end of the world. There is a large silent majority that collaborates with each other and does their part for society. This is why politicians too must work together, bridge divides and engage in honest, open conversations with the citizens.

**“It’s fundamental that citizens can vote in safe and democratic elections”**

Over the past few years, Europe has faced one crisis after another. Perhaps unsurprisingly, Europeans are feeling less hopeful about the future and have an increasing distrust in politics. Extremists have been very skilled at conveying a message of fear to voters. How can we do the same, but with a message of hope?

It is perfectly human that wars, pandemics and extreme weather conditions generate insecurity. So does inflation.

Tapping into peoples’ fears and insecurities in such times is easy – giving solutions isn’t. Where populists are in government, they also struggle to offer solutions. Think of Italy for example: Has Giorgia Meloni stopped the boats from coming? Of course not. Did Boris Johnson make the NHS “great again” after leaving the EU? Of course not.

As long as I live, I will remain an optimist. I believe that a message of hope can resonate with citizens, because every human being – wherever they come from, whatever they believe in and whatever language they speak – has the inherent desire to make their lives better.

The fake solutions of the extremists won’t do that. They offer quick fixes with negative long-term consequences and less freedom. Or, they offer solutions which might be good for some people, but are detrimental to others and therefore further increase inequality.

What we must never do is surrender our democracies to disinformation and fake news. Anti-democratic forces distort reality and spread lies, sometimes at the expense of our children’s safety. In Belgium for example, schools have been under attack following fake news about sex education classes and rumours about schools teaching children how to masturbate. That goes way too far.

**“The worst thing to do would be to close our eyes and ignore reality”**

It’s fundamental that citizens can vote in safe and democratic elections, that our freedoms and values remain ours and that we continue to provide equal opportunities for all.

**Belgium has also been through a series of national crises, from deadly floods to increased violence in the streets of Brussels. What are some of the liberal policy solutions to tackle these challenges, now and in the future?**

The worst thing to do would be to close our eyes and ignore reality. Too many politicians still do this. To tackle the problem, you need to first call it out. This is where liberals can make a difference.

I often hear voices saying it is too late, that we need to give up, blame the “boomers” or stop trying. I always say: *“Let’s not panic, let’s organise. Let’s not worry and contemplate, let’s act.”*

The green transition offers a huge opportunity for companies to make money. If we look at what Belgian companies are doing when it comes to things like offshore energy or hydrogen, we can be proud. International partnerships are being set up to create solutions and create jobs, at the same time. It’s a win-win. That’s what liberal solutions look like.

**You have been a champion of women’s rights and women’s participation in politics for a long time and have famously said that you don’t need to be a woman to be a feminist. How can we involve more men as allies to support women to take their seats around political tables?**

Every change starts with setting an example. I am very proud that my government is gender-balanced, and I have a transgender minister in my core team – the first in the world.

The fact that our media hasn't written a thousand articles on the subject shows that this is the new normal. And it really is. Female ministers on television responsible for the budget, for defence, for foreign affairs – children will grow up thinking that this is not an exception, but the norm.

Liberals like to talk about freedom. To me, the most liberating thing we can do is to break stereotypes, to break away from all mental limitations. That's why in my book, I write that gender equality will also liberate men, as they too will have the opportunity to break away from the stereotypes imposed on them.

 @alexanderdecroo





# GEARING UP FOR THE 2024 EUROPEAN ELECTIONS

## FOLLOW OUR CAMPAIGN

At ALDE Party, our EU election campaign officially kicks off on **20-21 March** with an extraordinary congress and campaign launch event in Brussels - mark your calendar! The months to follow will be jam-packed with campaign events and debates in the Netherlands, France, Italy, Belgium and beyond.

Our dedicated campaign digital hub is live now, where you can subscribe to our e-mail list to make sure you're the first to receive the latest news. Meanwhile, don't miss our campaign coverage on ALDE Party's social media channels, and be sure to stay tuned for more updates!

On the road to EP2024

**LEAD  
CANDIDATES**

**MANIFESTO  
LAUNCH**

**UPCOMING  
EVENTS**

**LATEST  
CAMPAIGN  
NEWS**

**EXCLUSIVE  
STORIES AND  
INTERVIEWS**

**GET  
INVOLVED**



SCAN FOR  
THE CAMPAIGN  
DIGITAL HUB

- /aldeparty
- @ALDEParty
- @aldeparty
- /company/aldeparty

# MANIFESTO TOWN HALLS ON THE ROAD TO 2024

Over the past months, we have organised town hall meetings across Europe with our member parties and partner organisations, bringing together citizens and liberal leaders for debates on key topics for our shared future. We wanted to hear from voters on what matters most to them.

From **security** and **defence**, to **European enlargement**, **artificial intelligence** and **transport**, we have touched on the most pressing issues that affect European society. Now, we will channel these thoughts and concerns in our Manifesto for the European elections in 2024.

**24 August** – Porto, Portugal **iniciativa**

**Topics:** Transport, mobility and freedom of movement



**30 September** – Rome, Italy

**EUROPA**

**Topics:** European Union democracy and enlargement



**22 June** – Sofia, Bulgaria

**MRF**

**Topics:** European enlargement and integration, security and defence and artificial intelligence

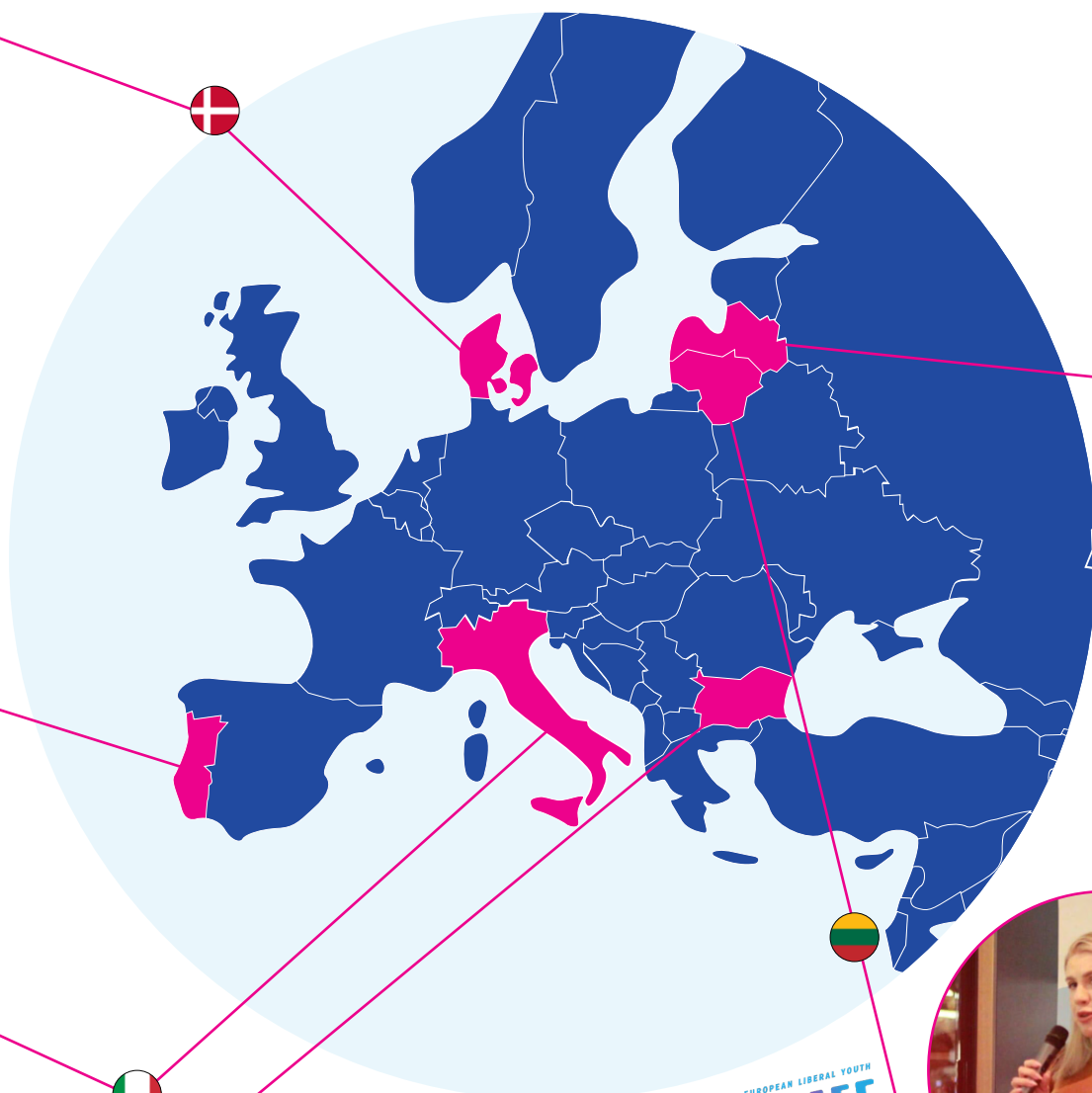




**16 June** – Bornholm, Denmark

**Topics:** Security and defence, the war in Ukraine and rule of law

**VENSTRE  
radikale B**



**10 November** – Riga, Latvia

**Topics:** Youth participation in European democracy

EUROPEAN LIBERAL YOUTH  
**LYMEE**



**2 September** – Kaunas, Lithuania

**Topics:** European Union security and defence policies

**LAISVĖS**  
PARTIJA



On the road to EP2024

# MEET THE BUREAU

## OUR NEW ALDE PARTY VICE-PRESIDENTS

In May 2023, three new Vice-Presidents were elected to the ALDE Party Bureau at our Congress in Stockholm, Sweden. Get to know our new Vice-Presidents and find out their vision for the coming term!

### MALIK AZMANI

VVD, The Netherlands



I believe liberalism is essential in promoting and protecting our individual freedoms and values. However, our freedom, values and democracies are under severe pressure, from within and outside Europe.

As Vice-President of ALDE Party, I believe that a strong position for liberals across Europe is the best and only way to promote and defend our way of life. That is why I want to reinforce links between ALDE Party and its members, so we can share successes and strengthen liberalism across Europe. This also means strengthening links between ALDE Party and the Renew Europe Group, to better translate our key priorities into political action.

I am convinced that together, we can raise our voices, stand up for liberal ideals and pave the way for a stronger, more united Europe.

@MalikAzmani



### Full composition of the ALDE Party Bureau

#### Timmy Dooley

Co-President – Fianna Fáil, Ireland

#### Ilhan Kyuchyuk

Co-President – MRF, Bulgaria

#### Malik Azmani

Vice-President – VVD, The Netherlands

#### Dan Barna

Vice-President – USR, Romania

#### Dániel Berg

Vice-President – Momentum, Hungary

#### Baroness Sal Brinton

Vice-President – Liberal Democrats, United Kingdom

#### Svenja Hahn

Vice-President – FDP, Germany

#### Eva Kjer Hansen

Vice-President – Venstre, Denmark

#### Kira Rudik

Vice-President – Golos, Ukraine

#### Annelou van Egmond

Vice-President – D66, Netherlands

#### David Burke

Treasurer – Fianna Fáil, Ireland





## DAN BARNA

USR, Romania 🇷🇴

USR.

//

I am a liberal but an Eastern European too. I can still remember our continent being separated, and I know what life without freedom looks like. I was 14 years old in 1989 during the Romanian Revolution. 99 people died for freedom in my city.

Therefore, defending liberal values has always had a sense of urgency for me, especially in these times when we see a resurgence of the hard right and threats to peace coming from outside our borders.

The only way to win the coming battles is to listen carefully to people. Strong leadership comes from a good understanding of the problems. We can't use ready-made recipes; we must be smart and creative. It also takes a lot of hard work, and I'm prepared for that.

📍 @DanBarnaUSR

//



## EVA KJER HANSEN

Venstre, Denmark 🇩🇰

VENSTRE

//

The most important priority is to continue advocating for ALDE Party collaboration with member parties leading up to the European elections. A joint effort to ensure a strong liberal result across the EU, stemming from successful national elections. We also need to support liberals after the election, which requires cooperation between Renew Europe and ALDE Party.

The crises of recent years, notably Russia's unwarranted attacks on Ukraine, have shown we must stand together with our neighbouring countries against challenges too significant for any single country to handle alone. Many countries are currently investing in security through national defence budgets, but it's also important that we invest in the EU budget, especially with expansion towards the East and the Balkans, which will impact the budget. We need to set requirements, but also realise the benefits for our security.

📍 @EvaKjerHansen

//

# ALDE COUNCIL BUCHAREST



# TACKLING THE ISSUES THAT MATTER MOST

## ALDE PARTY POLICY ADVISORY GROUPS

Our Policy Advisory Groups are a platform to facilitate learning and sharing of best practices between member parties. They also support shared policy development, boosting the liberal public policy profile on the issues that matter the most for Europeans.

Established in 2021, the Groups are composed of representatives from ALDE Party members, including Ministers, MEPs and members of national parliaments, as well as technical policy experts. Following workshops held earlier this year, members are hard at work on several new projects – discover more about their work below!

### CLIMATE & SUSTAINABILITY

**Chair: Phil Bennion**, former MEP, on behalf of ALDE Party Co-President Timmy Dooley

**Goals:** Develop liberal policy solutions to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050. Foster the transition to a circular, sustainable economy, address the energy crisis and increase EU industrial competitiveness

#### On the agenda:

- » Addressing short and long-term measures for post-pandemic recovery and the cost-of-living crisis, while progressing on climate goals
- » Investigating the role and feasibility of digital technologies in the green transition
- » Sharing best practices to accelerate deployment of renewables and clean energy sources
- » Discussing policies to boost energy savings and efficiency

#### Watch out for:

- » Ideas paper on renewable energy deployment in Europe
- » Conference on clean and renewable energy in early 2024





Workshop on inflation and the cost-of-living crisis

## JOBS, GROWTH & INNOVATION

**Chair: Dan Barna**, ALDE Party Vice-President

**Goals:** Foster learning and best practice sharing between ALDE Party members on the current economic, social and digital challenges that Europe faces

### On the agenda:

- » Debating liberal solutions and reforms for a changing labour market
- » Sharing lessons learned about measures taken by governments to tackle inflation
- » Discussing how to maintain an open trade model in our shifting geopolitical reality

### Watch out for:

- » Ideas paper on Inflation Measures and the Cost-of-Living Crisis in Europe
- » Upcoming handbook of successful liberal solutions for labour market reform

## DEMOCRACY & SECURITY

**Chair: Dániel Berg**, ALDE Party Vice-President

**Goals:** Facilitate dialogue on the intertwined subjects of rule of law, migration and European security to collectively address Europe's multifaceted challenges

### On the agenda:

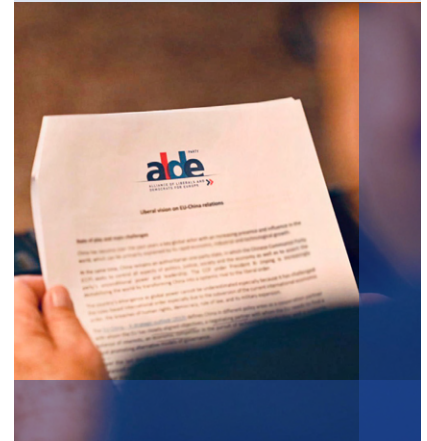
- » Discussing how EU Member States can collaboratively address the ongoing conflict in Ukraine and wider security implications for the EU and NATO
- » Sharing best practices to counter extremist tendencies on both the left and right
- » Identifying sustainable solutions to address Europe's migration challenges

### Watch out for:

- » Ideas paper on European Defence capabilities and developing the European pillar of NATO
- » Future study trip on defence to Estonia



Roundtable discussion on Migration



## CHINA

**Chairs: Henrik Bach Mortensen**, Liberal International Vice-President

**George Cunningham**, Liberal Democrats Abroad Chair

**Goals:** Discuss balanced, liberal solutions for the future of EU-China relations

**Read now:** Our 2023 resolution on a liberal strategy for Europe's relationship with China



SCAN TO READ THE RESOLUTION







# 15 YEARS OF BRINGING NEW IDEAS INTO THE POLITICAL DEBATE

## EUROPEAN LIBERAL FORUM CELEBRATES ITS 15TH ANNIVERSARY AND AWARDS LIBERAL CHAMPIONS

In September, ALDE Party's political foundation and think tank European Liberal Forum (ELF) marked its 15th anniversary by bringing together our political family to commemorate its accomplishments. It was a great occasion to reflect on our shared goals for a liberal future, hearing from Belgian Prime Minister **Alexander De Croo**, Estonian Prime Minister **Kaja Kallas**, Renew Europe Group President **Stéphane Séjourné MEP** and other representatives from the liberal family.

This year's edition of the Liberal Awards recognised the achievements of liberal change-makers in three categories. The awards honoured Prime Minister Kallas as the Liberal of the Year and Rainbow Platform founder **Luis Cano** as the Rising Star. In tribute to his lifelong dedication to the liberal cause, **Guy Verhofstadt MEP**, former Prime Minister of Belgium and ex-ALDE Group leader, received the Lifetime Achievement Award from ALDE Party Co-Presidents **Ilhan Kyuchyuk MEP** and **Timmy Dooley**, as well as Renew Europe Vice-President **Katalin Cseh MEP**.

The past 15 years have been turbulent, but we rolled up our sleeves and worked tirelessly to provide solutions. Today, we need the same dedication: liberalism is under attack on all fronts, but we must continue championing the causes of freedom, equality, and justice. These days, when the political divide is growing, it is more crucial than ever for liberals to unite and create a moderate middle ground in politics.

For that, we will need a lot of ideas, a common vision and unity. And the European Liberal Forum will be there for the liberal family to help in these challenging times in Brussels, and across Europe through our member organisations.

**Hilde Vautmans MEP**  
President, European Liberal Forum



[liberalforum.eu](http://liberalforum.eu)







# UNITED FOR DEMOCRACY AND PROGRESS

*In Austria, populism is nothing new. But how can liberals fight back, without imitating the populists' game? Our strength as liberals lies in the ability to look beyond short-term thinking and find real solutions that unite Europe, writes NEOS leader **Beate Meinl-Reisinger**.*

With the European elections coming closer, the populist threat has become the talk of the town, or better, the Union. This is a development that doesn't come as a surprise, one must admit. It is during times of uncertainty, conflict, economic hardship and environmental catastrophe that people have been drawn towards the political extremes, time and time again. The multimillion-euro question is how we can counter this rising populism and extremism. A question that engages scholars and politicians alike, and fills entire libraries.

The decades-long Austrian experience with populism shows

**“ A strong European Union is the biggest guarantee for peace and prosperity on our continent, ”**

one thing clearly: populists are not defeated, but instead strengthened by those who attempt to imitate their game. Spurred by the fear of losing voters, conservative parties easily fall into the populist trap. Desperate to remain in power, they present policies labelled as centrist that have no place in the political centre.

While imitating the populists' game is not an option, withdrawing from the public debate isn't either. Democracy dies in darkness. As liberals, we must not shy away from seeking confrontation.

Unsurprisingly, a look at populist party programmes across the continent shows that populists

are excellent fire alarms but terrible fire fighters. They exceed at showcasing all the challenges our societies are grappling with, but fail to find real solutions.

Our strength as liberals lies in the ability to look beyond. While the Kickls, the Le Pens and the Orbáns of Europe aim to fortify national borders, liberals unite in Europe's best interest. In doing so, we must not get tired of showing Europe's citizens that a strong European Union is the biggest guarantee for peace and prosperity on our continent.

**NEOS**

neos.eu

 @BMeinl

*'Our member parties have the floor' is a regular series in which we give the opportunity to ALDE members across Europe to share their perspectives. If you have suggestions on which member parties you would like to see featured next, please contact us at [communication@aldeparty.eu](mailto:communication@aldeparty.eu)*

# FIGHTING FOR A EUROPEAN FUTURE

23 June 2022 was a historic day for Moldova, when the country was granted EU candidate status. For Moldovan liberals, EU accession is not only a catalyst for much-needed reforms, but hope for a better future, writes **Igor Munteanu**, leader of *Coaliția pentru Unitate și Bunăstare (CUB)*.

Just one and a half years after gaining EU candidate status alongside Ukraine, the impact on Moldova has been profound. Not only in terms of access to pre-accession funds and incentivising reforms, candidate status brings us together around a unified national project: EU accession. The required reforms will make our government more accountable and professional, and transform our administration for the better. These are just a few of the reasons why our party CUB is a dedicated supporter of Europe in Moldova, though accession talks may take many years.

Nevertheless, there is an alternative project, bitterly advocated by Russia as an opposing force to our shared

**“Freedom is our main guide for politics”**

European future – a Euro-Asian Union. The Russian aggression against Ukraine, starting in 2014, has only intensified efforts to destabilise our country.

As a liberal, pro-EU party, CUB is fighting back against this malign influence by strengthening rule of law, good governance and a free market economy. We aim to cure Moldova of inefficiency, kleptocratic influence and lingering Soviet legacies, and are asking citizens for a chance to tackle these issues together.

CUB is made up of entrepreneurs, managers, lawyers, doctors and civil servants that view liberal reforms as the most important way to advance Moldova’s European path and protect individual freedoms and liberties. By supporting a competitive economy, reforming the tax system and decreasing

bureaucracy, we will foster digitalisation and invest in public education.

Judiciary reforms are urgently needed in Moldova, and CUB is determined to ensure fair evaluation of judges and prosecutors, as well as pursuing police reform. Guided by the principles of social justice and solidarity, we will pave the road towards responsible economic freedom, a fair justice system, a professionalised civil service and an end to corruption and bribery.

Our motto is: *“Freedom is our main guide for politics”*. CUB is a unique political force in Moldova, and we believe that freedom and democratic values will move Moldova forward, towards EU accession and transforming our country from within.



coalitiacub.md

 @Munteanu20



# TEN LIBERAL MAYORS SUMMITS: A FORCE FOR CHANGE

As a response to a growing demand to hear the voices of Liberal Mayors on matters of European relevance, the **Renew Europe Group in the European Committee of the Regions** created the **Liberal Mayors Summit** and the subsequent **Liberal Mayors Network**. After ten Summits, it's time to celebrate and to reflect what set everything in motion.

The Liberal Mayors Summit aims at boosting liberal mayors and their messages and policies, for instance by calling on all mayors to reinforce the pillars of urban democracy with our declaration to stop authoritarian populists, by promoting European values through our call on Europe Day or by laying down the foundations for the Liberal Mayors Network that meets annually on different topics, such as the rule of law, with European Commission Vice-President **Věra Jourová**, and the future of mobility, with Executive Vice-President **Margrethe Vestager**. The Network has also set out a document that features principles for making cities liberal and actions that a liberal mayor could take.



The Liberal Mayors Summit take place at least once a year during the ALDE Party Congress. The very first of these meetings convened in Budapest in 2015. It covered topics such as migration, refugees, and integration – topics that still define our continent today. The Summit was positively welcomed by the attendees, and it was evident that this new initiative was important for the mayors themselves. This kind of platform to discuss issues taking place at local and regional levels, yet having relevance at European level, is needed to exchange best practices or to find cross-border, European solutions.

The next Liberal Mayors Summit will take place at the ALDE Party Congress. The Liberal Mayors Network is open to all European Liberal Mayors representing at least 5,000 citizens in their municipalities, or Deputy Mayors of capital cities.

*“Mayors really appreciate these summits because while every town is different, these summits reveal that there are some big topics which are common to all and this leads to two conclusions: that no mayor is alone and together we can help each other, and that it's the European Union that is often the best placed to provide a solution.”*

**François Decoster**  
Renew Europe CoR President and  
Mayor of Saint-Omer, France



**renew<sup>CoR</sup>  
europe.**  
reneweurope-cor.eu



READ  
THE  
DOCUMENT  
HERE

# MOVERS & SHAKERS



© European Union 2023

 @AMALRICCatheri1

## Catherine Amalric

**Dr. Catherine Amalric** became a Member of the European Parliament in September, filling the seat of the late Véronique Trillet-Lenoir. A general practitioner and hospital pharmacist, she champions equal access to healthcare, medical innovation, patients' rights and the development of an ambitious European preventative health policy. Previously, she was Parti Radical's national secretary for European affairs from 2019 to 2022.



© DEMOCRATIESCHAPTE

 @luc.emering

## Luc Emering

At just 27 years of age, **Luc Emering** became the youngest politician to be elected to the Luxembourg Chamber of Deputies in October's parliamentary elections. Representing the South constituency, Emering brings an agricultural background to Luxembourgish politics, having been the president of the country's farming trade union for three years. In his spare time, he helps his family run the "Dudel-Magie" organic farm in Sprinkange, Luxembourg.



© Martin Beekman / D66

 @RobJetten

## Rob Jetten

D66 members elected **Rob Jetten** as party leader in August. The 36-year-old, who already became D66's youngest-ever parliamentary leader in 2018, steered the party through a challenging election campaign this autumn. He was influential during his time as Minister of Climate and Energy since January 2022, crucially engineering plans for a climate accord designed to cut CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in half by 2030.



© NOWOCZESNA

 @jolanta\_niezgodzka

## Jolanta Niezgodzka

Previously a city councillor for the Polish city of Wrocław, **Jolanta Niezgodzka** stood in her first parliamentary election in October and was elected to the Sejm representing the Wrocław constituency. The 32-year-old board member of Nowoczesna advocates for a more representative and inclusive society and focuses on working with various non-governmental organisations on abortion, women's rights, animal shelters and foster care.

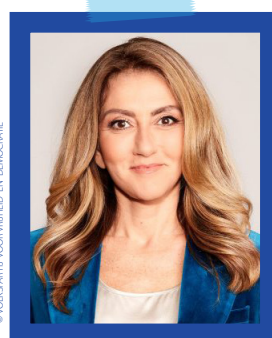


© PROGRESÍVNE SLOVENSKO

 @tamarastohlova

## Tamara Stohlová

34-year-old environmentalist **Tamara Stohlová** broke onto the political scene in October when she was selected as the fourth lead candidate on Progresívne Slovensko's electoral list and subsequently elected as a Member of Parliament in Slovakia for the first time. She considers herself a "green politician" and is engaged in issues ranging from environmental protection and animal welfare, to problems facing young people today.



© VOLKSPARTIJ VOORVRIJHEID EN DEMOCRATIE

 @DilanYesilgoz

## Dilan Yeşilgöz-Zegerius

In August **Dilan Yeşilgöz-Zegerius** replaced outgoing Prime Minister Mark Rutte as the new VVD party leader, the first woman in history to do so. The daughter of two asylum seekers, she arrived into the Netherlands at the age of seven and already served as the country's Minister of Justice and Security since January 2022, advocating for criminal justice reform and tougher measures to combat terrorism.



*These profiles are an editor's pick of some of our liberal movers and shakers. Have a great profile in mind? Share your proposal with us at [communication@aldeparty.eu](mailto:communication@aldeparty.eu) ahead of the next issue to be published by spring 2024.*

*To view all our liberal profiles, visit [www.aldeparty.eu/leadership](http://www.aldeparty.eu/leadership)*



## Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe Party

Rue d'Idalie 11 - Box 2 | 1050 Brussels, Belgium  
Tel: +32 2 237 01 40 | Fax: +32 2 231 19 07  
info@aldeparty.eu | www.aldeparty.eu

ALDE Party - Produced: December 2023 - With the support of the European Parliament.  
The sole liability rests with the author; the European Parliament is not responsible  
for any use that may be made of the information contained therein.

 /aldeparty

 @ALDEParty

 @aldeparty

 /company/aldeparty

 /aldeparty

 /aldeparty