

eu40[®]

we seek
to connect
the best

www.eu40.eu

the network

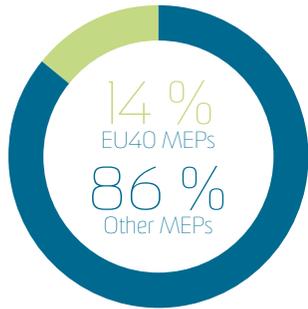


EU40 is the network of young Members of the European Parliament. The network extends to key people in the European Commission and the Council. Especially designed to include those in relevant positions sharing the same generation, EU40 is perceived as an influential network within the European Union's Institutions.

Our mission is to serve young Members under the age of 40 and strengthen their role inside the European Parliament. We do

this by connecting young politicians with each other and offering them opportunities for publicity and political interaction. We thereby serve as an interlocutor, creating synergies as we move forward.

EU40 celebrates modern, political communication in the 'Brussels Bubble' and beyond and has become renowned for its creative and inspirational style, when communicating political content and complex messages.



Percentage of EU40 MEPs in the current legislature

The network is being represented by the following seven Members of the European Parliament from the four largest political groups in the European Parliament. Meet our glorious seven.



Eva Paunova
EPP Group



Brando Benifei
S&D Group



Philippe De Backer
ALDE Group



Pablo Zalba Bidegain
EPP Group



Victor Negrescu
S&D Group



Antanas Guoga
ALDE Group



Daniel Dalton
ECR Group

history



EU40 was created in 2007 as a loose network bringing together young MEPs from different political backgrounds interested in developing ideas and visions together and collaborating with each other, in order to strengthen their own position within an institution, which is dominated by what has come to be known as an 'old boys club'.

Commission and Council officials, quickly showed the potential a network of young officials would have inside the Brussels bubble.

We therefore decided to institutionalise the EU40 network and place it in a broader and legally sound foundation. We created a non-for-profit organisation under



European Commission President José Manuel Barroso, MEP Alexander Alvaro (founder of EU40), MEP Sebastian Valentin Bodu and Marietje Schaake at EU40's exclusive meeting with President Barroso | from left to right



European Parliament | Brussels

It did not take long for a group of tightly knit friends to emerge from the EU40 initiative, which included names such as Christofer Fjellner, Alexander Alvaro (to become Vice-President of the European Parliament), Jeanine Hennis-Plasschaert (to become Minister of Defence in the Netherlands), Carl Haglund (to become Minister for Defence in Finland), Alexander Stubb (to become Prime Minister in Finland) and Cecilia Malmström (to become a Member of the European Commission). An annual summer party, to which these friends invited young

Belgian law (asbl) and established a board consisting of seven Members of the European Parliament from the four largest political groups, who are legally responsible for EU40 and have four board meetings a year, in which they define the strategy, programme planning and the vision of the network.

shape
the future
of europe

our approach



Around 14% of the Members of the European Parliament are under 40 and members of our network.



MEP Brando Benifei (EU40 Board Member), Adam Mouchtar (Managing Director EU40) and MEP Eva Paunova (EU40 Board Member) | from left to right

EU40 connects all those who are young and are already changing the face of Europe – in the European Parliament, the European Commission or the Council. We believe in an approach towards European politics that is not merely based on party politics or national issues. It is not purely our generation we are doing politics for, but it is our generation doing politics today and tomorrow. Our long-term aim is to build up trust among one generation to enable it to work together and shape the face of politics. In the meantime, our Alumni include national ministers, Prime Ministers and European Commissioners; all of them are EU40.

As members of a younger generation, we have a different way of communicating, interacting and connecting. Brussels and Strasbourg realities cannot comply

with the pace and level of interaction our generation is aiming to reach. Our approach towards communicating is not reflected in the usual Brussels and Strasbourg political environment and we therefore are changing this for the better.

EU40 serves as an interlocutor, ensuring an open dialogue between business and politics in formal and informal setups, creating and enhancing synergies as it goes along. The general approach of breakfast and dinner debates, keynote speeches and panel discussions is primarily designed to convey issues rather than to connect and interact. This is why EU40 seeks to bring together the relevant players of today and tomorrow in new and more fitting formats. In the past eight years since its foundation, EU40 has re-invented the EU debate scene, celebrating modern political communication throughout our projects and happenings. The EU Unplugged series, for instance, became an event concept that reshaped and increased the standard of how events are usually organised inside the EU bubble.

Our website performance is constantly improving. We now have more than 400 visitors a day, spending approximately 90 seconds on each visited page on average. Our mailing list includes over 8000 essential contacts from inside the Brussels Bubble. We want Europe to be at its best. Therefore we seek to connect the best.

eu unplugged series



EU40 has established itself as a fresh and modern communicator within the Brussels scene. The EU Unplugged concept throws overboard all the standard rules for organising politically-related events. EU Unplugged happenings are the outside-of-the-box type of events where thinking the unthinkable is put into practice and made cool, perfectly mixing political topics with young perspectives.

At the Hard Rock Café in October 2013 on Grand Place, EU40 re-enacted a town-hall style political debate. MEPs from different political groups discussed current



Yehudi Menuhin space fully packed with youngsters during the rap battle



Erika Mann (Managing Director Public Policy Facebook), Olaf Bruns (Deputy Bureau Chief Brussels Office, Euronews), MEP Alexander Alvaro (Vice-President of the European Parliament and founder of EU40) | from left to right

political issues on stage with young CEOs from blue chip companies and journalists. The crowded bar atmosphere gave the participants the opportunity to interact immediately and closely with MEPs, business leaders and journalists. Everyone in the room became part of the discussions. The event's relaxed environment offered burgers and fun entertainment spanning from hip-hop to Rock bands.

EU Unplugged 2.0 – Battle for your VOTE in partnership with MTV and Facebook was a hip-hop battle with MEPs with the aim to get young people engaged with the European elections. As tweeted by the EP, "EU40 just made the elections cool." Four teams – each comprised of two EU40 MEPs from the same political group and a professional freestyle hip-hop artist – duelled on topics relevant to the elections.

We welcomed close to 1000 participants on the 9th of April 2014, reaching an impressive number of 1.6 million Twitter accounts and 1.4 million Facebook accounts during the week of the event. As it happened, the first Spitzenkandidaten debate between Martin Schulz and Jean-Claude Juncker took place inside the EP simultaneously. It did not succeed to generate anything close to these numbers. "Hip-hop takes over the Government", wrote MTV Voices, while the European Parliament FB team asked "Can Members rap? Come to the Parliament this Wednesday and see for yourself!"

debates & happenings



Before the 8th Legislature even started in June 2014, we took the time to offer the newly elected MEPs a training in preparation of the hurdles they would need to overcome, thereby giving them a fresh start from the get-go vis-à-vis their older

colleagues. Our annual Summer BBQ is our hallmark event! In September 2014, we welcomed 20 young MEPs and more than 100 young staffers from the EU institutions at our annual BBQ for a relaxed get to know each other and exchange of ideas.

It is **our generation** doing politics today and **tomorrow**



Training newly elected young MEPs: MEP Victor Negrescu (EU40 Board Member), MEP Sorin Moisa, MEP Eva Paunova (EU40 Board Member) | from left to right



MEP Katarina Nevedalova and MEP Esther De Lange taking off in the hot-air balloon from Place de Luxembourg during the YOIFest



A top view of the venue's terrace, EU40 Summer BBQ 2014



China-EU – Investing in a common future: Viorel Isticioaia-Budura (Managing Director, Multilateral Department I: Asia and the Pacific, EEAS) and Her Excellency, Yang Yanji (Ambassador of China to the EU)



All the MEP Awards 2014 winners on stage for the group picture



Battle for your vote: Dekay (freestyle hip-hop artist), MEP Lara Comi and MEP Sebastian Bodu | from left to right



Battle for your vote: Yehudi Menuhin space fully packed with youngsters during Laiboung's performing act



People queuing for an EU40 event, in front of the European Parliament



First policy forum of young MEPs and MPs on youth unemployment: Giuseppe Porcaro (Secretary General, European Youth Forum), Martin Schulz (President of the European Parliament) and MEP Eider Gardiazabal | from left to right



Cultivating creativity: Young ballerinas during the fashion show performance in the European Parliament Library



How will the new European Parliament make a difference?: MEP Corina Crețu, MEP Ashley Fox, Jennifer Baker (viEUws), MEP Gesine Meißner and MEP Andrey Kovatchev | from left to right



Privacy in the digital age: MEP Victor Negrescu (EU40 Board Member), Brad Smith (General Counsel and Executive Vice President of Legal and Corporate Affairs of Microsoft), MEP Eva Paunova (EU40 Board Member) | from left to right



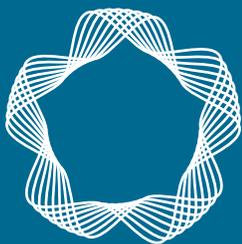
Trilogy on energy part II – Global and European energy balances, sustainability and security towards 2040: Kristine Berzina (German Marshall Fund of the US), Eirik Wærness (Chief Economist of Statoil), MEP Michael Theurer, Günther H. Oettinger (Commissioner for Energy) and MEP Eva Kaili | from left to right



Building dream Europe – What to keep and what to cut?: Richard Corbett, Tom Parker (Managing Director of Cambre Associates), Alan Posener (Political commentator at 'Die Welt') and MEP Silvana Koch-Mehrin | from left to right



The EU40 MEPs, winners of the MEP Awards 2015 on stage: MEP Martina Dlabajová, MEP Eva Paunova (EU40 Board Member) and MEP Victor Negrescu (EU40 Board member) | from left to right



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