

EU40 initiatives 2016



1. Delegation of EU40 MEPs to Washington DC and Florida, 8th – 14th of February 2016, in collaboration with US Mission in Brussels

In collaboration with the US Mission to the EU in Brussels, we put together a delegation of EU40 MEPs to travel to Washington DC and Florida in the run-up to the US Presidential elections between 8th and 14th of February 2016, as part of the prestigious International Visitors Leadership Programme (IVLP) .

The programme offered the participants the opportunity to compare the methods used in the campaigns, grassroots activities and thus increase their understanding of the US political system from direct experience. We had the chance to see with our own eyes how the elections work in two different states. Video and blog available here: <http://bit.ly/2adTgbJ>



2. Digital skills for Europe: MEPs meet local start-ups from across Europe to discuss their digital challenges, organised in collaboration with Google, 24th of February 2016, EP

EU40 partnered with Google to bring SMEs from across Europe to Brussels, in order to discuss the challenges they still face in doing business online, and what digital skills are needed for European businesses to thrive.



The breakfast roundtable debate was co-hosted by MEPs **Pablo Zalba Bidegain, Brando Benifei, Eva Kaili and Antanas Guoga**. 25 entrepreneurs from all over Europe shared their experience with 11 MEPs from across the political spectrum. On this occasion **Matt Brittin**, VP Google Europe, announced that they have been “blown away by the demand of digital skills trainings and they are going to **double their pledge and thus train 2 million Europeans by 2016** so that they are equipped with the digital skills they need in order to succeed.”

Pictures of the debate are available here <http://bit.ly/2adTxC3>, as well as the **video**: <http://bit.ly/2gWWRPt>

3. European Health Parliament (EHP) 2016 - 2nd Plenary Session, 17th of February 2016, in collaboration with Johnson & Johnson, POLITICO, Google and College of Europe, EP



MEP Giovanni La Via and MEP Philippe de Backer co-hosted the session. MEPs Eva Kaili and Karin Kadenbach participated in the discussions with the other speakers, amongst which **Adrian Thomas** (Head of Global Public Health, Johnson&Johnson) **Vivek Muthu** (Chief Health Adviser, The Economist), **Tapani Piha** (Head of Unit eHealth & HTA, European Commission). **Dr. Roberto Bertollini** (Chief Scientist and WHO Representative to the EU)

The EHP is an initiative that aims at **making Europe the healthiest continent in the world** in terms of healthcare.

80 young people from across Europe meet with high-level policy makers and provide them with young and fresh insights in order to make changes into the healthcare system at EU level with an impact on the national level, as well.

The highlights **video** is available here <http://www.eu40.eu/tv-video/zq6DQwv-AJM>, as well as the **pictures** taken during the event: <http://bit.ly/1Smh8N6>

4. Petrochemistry 's relevance in the 21st Century, in collaboration with Petrochemicals Europe, 2nd of March 2016, EP



2016 was an important year for designing the EU's 2030 roadmap for fighting against climate change, boosting growth and innovation, and solving some of the long standing problems such as youth unemployment, resource self-sufficiency and energy independence.

ENVI and ITRE MEPs' assistants, as well as policy advisors of the ITRE and ENVI committees and political groups attended the interactive debate about the role of petrochemistry and petrochemical products in today's society and societal needs.

Pictures of the workshop are available here: <http://bit.ly/1QprbMj>

5. European Health Parliament (EHP) members meet Kurt Wüthrich, Nobel Chemistry laureate in 2002, 14th of March 2016, EP

The members of the European Health Parliament (EHP) 2016 had the honour to meet with **Kurt Wüthrich, Nobel Chemistry laureate in 2002**, for an informal discussion about science, research and life in general.

Pictures are available here: <http://bit.ly/1TFY2Cp>



6. EU40 is an ambassador of the MEP Awards 2016, 16th of March 2016

We were honoured to support the members of our network nominated to the **MEP Awards 2016**. This is the 5th consecutive year of collaboration with the MEP Awards.

We are proud to have our members' merits recognised through the nominations to the MEP awards 2016. This year, a record of 19 EU40 MEPs were on the shortlist, covering 13 categories out of the total of 19. **8 MEPs from our network** won the award this year. Check out the pictures here: <http://bit.ly/2aunAU8>



7. Healthier Portions For a Healthier Diet, in collaboration with Nestle', on the 16th of March 2016, EP



We organised a stakeholders debate with world class experts in the nutrition sector together with Nestle'. **MEP Anna Maria Corazza Bildt, VP Mairead McGuinness, MEP Karin Kadenbach, MEP Julie Girling and MEP Renate Sommer** participated in the discussions on public health implications and stakeholder actions.

8. Lunch discussion with the Chief Scientist of the Israeli Ministry of Economy and Industry on April 5th 2016 , EP

EU4o supported the lunch discussion with **Avi Hasson**, Chief Scientist of the Israeli Ministry of Economy and Industry.

This initiative was co-hosted by Vice - President of the European Parliament, **Adina-Ioana Valean**, **MEP Sorin Moisa** and **MEP Zdzisław Krasnodębski**.

9. European Health Parliament 2016 - 3rd Plenary Session, 20th of April 2016, in collaboration with Johnson & Johnson, POLITICO, Google and College of Europe, EP



The young “health MEPs” worked and brainstormed in five committees around specific topics in the healthcare sector, together with **MEP Philippe De Backer**, **MEP Karin Kadenbach**, **MEP Eva Kaili**, **Mary Harney**, Former Minister of Health, Ireland.



Video and pictures of the third session are available at this link: <http://bit.ly/2aejqv1>

10. U.S. elections at a crossroads. A closer look at U.S. voters and the 2016 Presidential election, in collaboration with the U.S. Mission to the European Union, 25th of April 2016, EP

The primaries for both the Republican and Democratic Party were nearing the moment of nominating their respective candidates for the presidential election, in an election cycle that has seen a historic turnout of voters throughout the country. The evolving voting patterns, priorities and participation to the electoral process have been of particular interest this year to pundits from both sides of the Atlantic.

Find the pictures here: <http://bit.ly/29X6GNp>



The conversation represented an **in-depth analysis of U.S. voters and electoral culture in a key year for the transatlantic relationship**. MEP Victor Negrescu, who had an interesting exchange of views with two American journalists **Colin Woodard** (George Polk Award) and **Sewell Chan** (New York Times). The debate was moderated by **Michael DeTar**, Political Counsellor, U.S. Mission to the EU.

11. Environmental Sustainability of Livestock Production, in collaboration with Elanco, 27th of April 2016, EP

The debate was co-hosted by MEP Michela Giuffrida (S&D), MEP Jasenko Selimovic (ALDE), MEP Franc Bogovic (EPP) and MEP Daniel Dalton (ECR) and featured speakers from the sector. This was the first debate of the trilogy on sustainable livestock production, addressing the environmental pillar. The purpose of the trilogy of events is to culminate with a resolution on sustainable livestock production as a result of the discussions in the last six months.

Video of the debate is available here:

http://www.eu40.eu/tv-video/IIY7oBin6_o,

while **pictures** and **interviews** with the speakers are available here: <http://bit.ly/2acf5uE>



12. Artificial Intelligence: Shaping and Shaking Digital Single Market on 25th of May 2016, EP

The debate was hosted by **MEP Antanas Guoga** (IMCO Member). **Bruno Schroder, Microsoft Belux Technology Officer** participated as a speaker, as well as well as **Juha Heikkila, PhD, Head of Robotics Unit, DG CNECT**, European Commission. We gathered 40 policy advisors from the European Parliament and European Commission on this occasion and had a relaxed discussion in a friendly and informal atmosphere. **Pictures** are available at this link: <http://bit.ly/2a4ONZr>



13. Energy Perspectives in collaboration with Statoil, on June 21st, EP



Statoil's Chief Economist Eirik Wærness introduced the results of the energy perspectives report 2016, and also assessed the situation post COP 21 .

The event was organised in connection with the launch of the **energy perspectives 2016** report describing the macroeconomic and energy market outlook to 2040, including supply and demand of key energy carriers and their impact on CO₂ emissions.

The aim of the debate hosted by **MEP Sorin Moisa** was to have an insightful discussion with Members of the European Parliament and policy advisors from ITRE and ENVI secretariat, as well as of the political groups and assess also the scene of the post COP 21 agreement. Pictures are available here:

<http://bit.ly/2gocKg6>

14. First political workshop of the Digital4Smarties series, in collaboration with ETNO, June 21st, EP

As the European Commission prepares to update the rules for the European telecoms sector, EU40 brought together all potential players working on these vital reforms for a series of round table workshops powered by ETNO.

From **broadband investment and spectrum policy** to **consumer services and innovation** – these policies and reforms have the potential to transform Europe into a **leading digital player globally**. **We are giving involved MEPs the opportunity to recommend themselves as potential rapporteurs and shadows**, in order to gain knowledge of the upcoming package and propose themselves as Rapporteurs and Shadows before the actual talks in the Committees even start. **The workshop series emulates the works of a Trilogue**, bringing together the relevant players from the European Parliament, European Commission, European Council and perm reps.



MEPs **Pilar del Castillo (EPP)**, **Lambert van Nistelrooij (EPP)**, and **Miapetra Kumpula-Natri (S&D)** co-hosted the first Digital4Smarties workshop. Pictures are available here: <http://bit.ly/1S8OoC4>

15. Visit to Antwerp's petrochemicals plant, one of the world's largest worldwide, on June 28th in collaboration with Petrochemicals Europe

EU40 and Petrochemicals Europe organised a visit for **20 relevant policy advisors** from the secretariat and political groups, academia and perm reps to one of Europe's largest petrochemicals plant at the Antwerp harbour.

The CEO of BASF's Petrochemicals Division, **Prof. Dr. Rainer DIERCKS**, one of the leading petrochemicals managers worldwide, received the EU40 delegation and discussed various issues concerning the industry with the participants. **Antwerp Port Ambassador** Frank GEERKENS highlighted the link between the petrochemical industry, the port and the region around Antwerp.



The program included a guided tour within the BASF site and a harbour tour by bus around the chemical cluster with the Port Authority.

16. Closing and fourth session of the European Health Parliament (EHP), a project initiated by Johnson & Johnson with Google, POLITICO and the College of Europe, on the 29th of June 2016, EP



EU40 co-organised the **launch of the high-level policy paper written by more than 50 young people from across Europe**, proposing recommendations on how to improve Europe's healthcare system

<http://www.healthparliament.eu/recommendations-2016>

We were delighted to welcome **Health Commissioner Andriukaitis**, as well as **Maggie De Block**, Minister of Social Affairs and Health, **MEP Giovanni la Via**, **ENVI Chair** and former MEP **Philippe de Backer**, currently **Belgian Secretary of State**. **Vice-President Mairead McGuinness** participated as well.

MEPs who have attended the five sessions and addressed the delegates included **MEP Michal Boni**, **MEP Brando Benifei**, **MEP Karin Kadenbach**, **MEP Miroslav Mikolasik**, **MEP Tibor Szanyi**, **MEP Alojz Peterle**, **MEP Nicola Caputo**, **MEP José Inácio Faria**, **MEP Jean Lambert**, **MEP Mihai Turcanu**, **MEP Anna Záborská**, **MEP Lucy Anderson**, and **MEP Elena Gentile**. Pictures and videos from the last plenary are available here:

<http://bit.ly/2auA5w5>

#HealthParl was trending topic on Twitter featuring before the **#Istanbul** attacks.

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17. Exclusive meeting for EU40 MEPs with Canadian Ambassador to the EU, Daniel J. Costello, European Parliament Strasbourg on the 5th of July 2016, in collaboration with the Canadian Mission to the EU

EU40 and our Board Member, **Victor Negrescu**, organised an exclusive meeting (EU40 MEPs and assistants only) with the **Canadian Ambassador to the EU, Daniel J. Costello**, at the European Parliament in Strasbourg.

Ambassador Costello is known for his expertise on the Middle East and Trade and is a political companion and friend of Canadian PM Justin Trudeau. We are proud to have registered the attendance of **11 MEPs** at the debate.



18. ICT Innovation & Entrepreneurship MEP' delegation to Silicon Valley, between 18th and 22nd of July 2016, in collaboration with the EIF



EU40 and the EIF joined forces this summer, in order to bring a large delegation of **14 MEPs to Silicon Valley** .

Under the main theme of 'ICT Innovation & Entrepreneurship: the Road to the Valley', this programme was aimed at offering an extraordinary hands-on experience of today's state-of-the-art technologies, of top-level research & development sites and of the famous Silicon Valley's entrepreneurial ecosystem, with a reflection on Europe's potential and on the role of policy-makers.

Videos and media coverage are available here: <http://bit.ly/2abGUA2>

Pictures are available here: <http://bit.ly/2goiq32>

19. EU40 Summer BBO

EU40 Summer BBO has become a must-attend networking event for EU40 MEPs and their staff, as well as for all the young EU officials from the European Commission and Council.

This year's ingredients for one of the best networking parties within the "Brussels Bubble" were: freshly grilled food, open bar, photo opp and great musical ambience provided by our DJ on a late summer evening. We were happy to welcome 8 MEPs during the evening. Check out the pictures here <http://bit.ly/2hQCVBo> . The video is available at: <http://bit.ly/2h85BWu>



20. Economic and social pillars of sustainable livestock production, September 28th, room PHS P5Boo1, EP

The second debate, part of a trilogy, was co-hosted by **MEP Franc Bogovic** (EPP), **MEP Michela Giuffrida** (S&D) and **MEP Daniel Dalton** (ECR) and gathered different experts in the sector.

The event included speakers from DG Agri, the Ministry of Agriculture of the Slovak Republic, IFAH-Europe (International Federation for Animal Health Europe), CEJA (the European Council of Young Farmers), World Animal Protection, the French Livestock Institute (Institut de L'Elevage), as well as the food consultancy and market research firm Gira. **Event report, pictures and video interviews** are available at: <http://bit.ly/2ccAeaW>



21. Counter terrorism debate on September 28th from 10.00 to 12.00, room PHS P5Boo1, EP



We learnt from the **Belgian Interior Minister, Jan Jambon**, of the changes the country's security forces and intelligence units have undergone since the black day of the March 2016 attacks in Brussels, and from Israeli counter-terrorism experts, who stem from the most advanced security environment known in the Western world.



Vice-President of the European Parliament, **Antonio Tajani**, participated in an insightful debate together with experts on the topic.

The debate was supported by the AJC Transatlantic Institute. Check out the pictures here: <http://bit.ly/2gPUyO5>

22. Young Members of Parliament Forum 2016, October 11th – 13th, European Parliament

Last year EU40 launched a three-day 'Young Members of Parliament Forum' in the European Parliament, under the high patronage of the European Parliament and with the direct support of European Parliament President, **Martin Schulz**. The event was a full success with **50 young Members of Parliament** attending from 14 Member States in 2015 and 30 young MPs attending this year.



President Schulz delivered an inspiring message to attendees, opening the Forum. Leader of the EPP Group in the European Parliament, **Manfred Weber**, and leader of the S&D Group in the European Parliament, **Gianni Pittella**, welcomed the participants, alongside with European Commissioner for International Trade and Trade Agreements, **Cecilia Malmström**, European Commissioner for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs, **Elżbieta Bieńkowska**, and Deputy Assistant Secretary General for Emerging Security Challenges, NATO, **Jamie Shea**. The **US and Canadian Ambassadors** to the EU participated, as well.

The overall theme of this year's Forum was the **EU's Transatlantic Cooperation**, with **trade, security & defence, data protection** placed at the centre of the discussions. Due to current events we naturally also took time to debate the situation of the EU post Brexit. The Forum ended with a resolution adopted by the young MPs who participated.

Video and pictures of the event are available at: <http://bit.ly/2gfXHHI>



23. The Standing Men: Technologies for Life, October 10th – 14th on the Esplanade of the European Parliament, outdoor exhibition with 18 side events

EU40 and **MedTech Europe** organised a **light and sound installation** on the Esplanade of the European Parliament, between 10-13 October 2016, titled “The Standing Men: Technologies for Life” supported by Polydea.

This unique art exhibit was a light and sound art installation created by the French artistic team **AADN**.

During the display, 16 life-like models were placed in front of the European Parliament and activated to **speak and interact** with audiences on the Esplanade. The models are designed to voice the personal and professional views of **Members of the European Parliament, officials from the EU institutions, patients and other stakeholders**. These testimonies highlight the thoughts of policymakers and stakeholders on life, aspirations and the future of healthcare. Furthermore, the art installation underlines the importance of the value of life.

See the Standing Men presentation **video** at: <http://bit.ly/2gg4dOr>

Interviews with MEPs who took part in the even can be viewed at: <http://bit.ly/2gbYEyx> while **photos** from the event can be viewed here: <http://bit.ly/2eYt9fq>



24. 'What we can learn from Silicon Valley' EU40 - EIF event with Orange on the 9th of November, EP

Following the EIF-EU40 Study Visit to Silicon Valley in July, on 9 November all EIF and EU40's members and friends had the opportunity to discuss with prominent speakers what Europe has been doing to help start-ups and scale-ups overcome their biggest challenges and what take-aways are still relevant from Silicon Valley's famous ecosystem. 8 MEPs attended the debate on this occasion.

Georges Nahon, CEO, Orange Silicon Valley was joined by **Peteris Zilgalvis**, Head of Unit, Start-ups and Innovation, DG CONNECT, European Commission, amongst other speakers, as well as MEP **Sorin Moisa** and MEP **Lambert van Nistelrooij** as co-hosts. Video highlights are available at: <http://bit.ly/2fNyGo3>



25. New technologies, new skills, new jobs debate with Commissioner Moedas, jointly organised with Enel on the 10th of November , ICAB Incubator



European Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation, **Carlos Moedas** participated in the debate that was co-hosted by **MEP Brando Benifei**, **MEP Martina Dlabajova** and **MEP Sofia Ribeiro**.

The European Youth Forum Board Member and Enel Executive Vice-President were joined by a successful young entrepreneur.

We welcomed students from **local universities** (technical courses), as well as innovation and **scientific networks** in order to **debate about the challenges and opportunities** in the scientific field.

We took this opportunity to create a rich and engaging discussion with young people who shared their experiences and insights in terms of the difficulties they met when being confronted with the difficult situation of the job market and opportunities that can arise from a win-win cooperation with all the parties involved.

26. Alliance for YOUTh, initiated by Nestlé', on the 15th of November 2016, European Parliament, Business-Education partnership

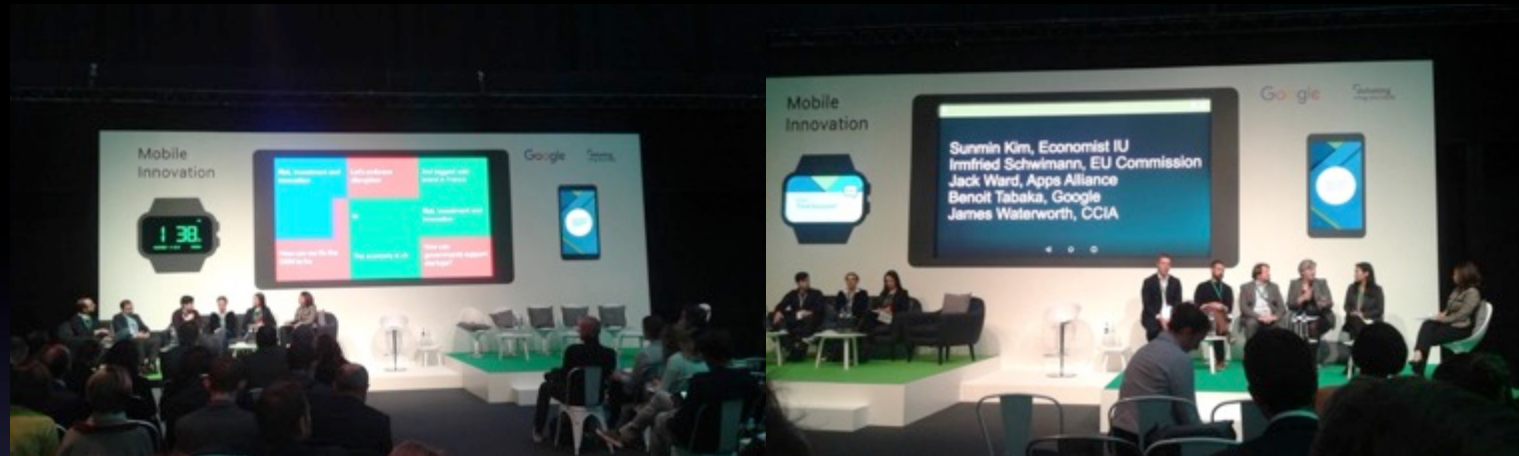
MEPs Eva Paunova, Martina Dlabajová and Brando Benifei, the European partners of the “Alliance for YOUTh” and EU40 were pleased to organise a dynamic one-day event on Business-Education Collaboration. The workshops and high-level policy debate brought together current and former apprentices, representatives from the education and business sectors, trade unions, youth organisations and high-level policy-makers. The event was an opportunity to take stock of progress and to announce new 2020 commitments.

Dual learning schemes from "Alliance for YOUTh" partners were presented and participants were divided in breakout sessions where they discussed the benefits of dual learning and exchanged experiences and best practices. The morning sessions was followed by a networking lunch and a high-level policy debate with Commissioner Thyssen and other high-level speakers. Pictures are available here: <http://bit.ly/2gOf2JP>

The “Alliance for YOUTh”, initiated by Nestlé, has pledged in 2014 to develop a number of joint and individual initiatives to give young people meaningful work experience and internships, generating more than 100,000 jobs and training opportunities.



27. Mobile Innovation, organised by Google and Debating Europe and supported by EU40 on the 14th of November, Autoworld



Participants were joined by app developers, business leaders and policymakers in order to discuss ways to power growth in the mobile economy. Europe's mobile economy is a hotbed for innovation – driving growth, and jobs and enabling millions of consumers to access the world's information while they're on the move.

What is needed to ensure this mobile ecosystem remains competitive and innovative in the future? What policies can boost the impact of mobile on the wider economy and remove barriers to future growth?

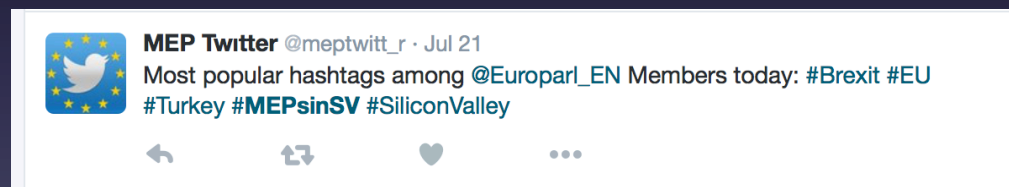
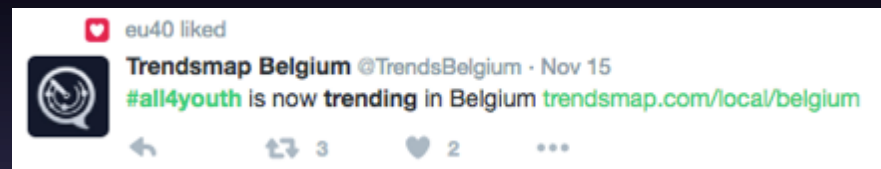
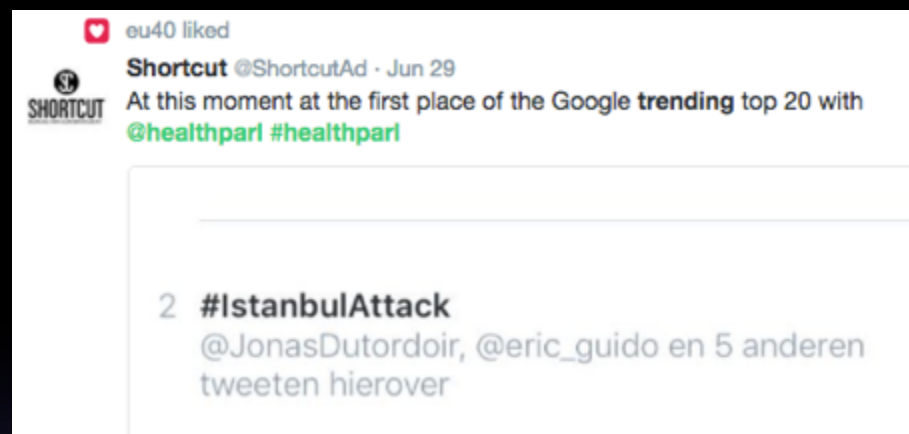
28. Sustainable EU livestock: The way forward, on the 30th of November 2016, room 4Q-1, EP

Hosted by MEPs Franc Bogovic (EPP), Michela Giuffrida (S&D), Daniel Dalton (ECR) and Hannu Takkula (ALDE), the event included speakers from DG Agri, FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations), CEJA (the European Council of Young Farmers), Rabobank, the Polish Poultry Council and Newcastle University. Pictures, event report and interviews are available at: <http://bit.ly/2fbq2Rn>

This was the last debate of a trilogy where the audience agreed on the challenges, but also is strongly convinced that economic development and sustainable livestock production are not mutually exclusive and are achievable mainly through innovation, research and development, improved farming methods, clear regulation, new governance and business models. #SLEU was trending topic on the day.



Social media outreach – some examples



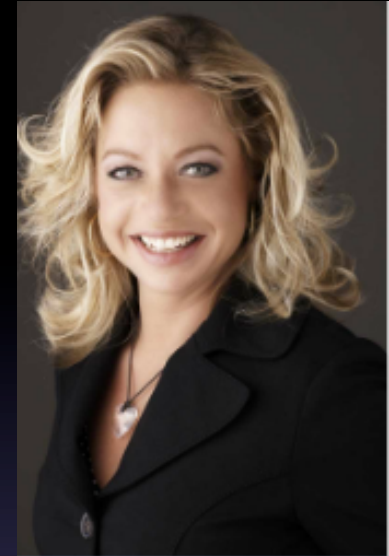
EU40 Alumnae endorsing us



"Since my involvement in the early years of EU40 as a loose network, when I was still a young MEP in the European Parliament, EU40 has had an outstanding development, with a current outreach, which is not be underestimated."

Cecilia Malmstrom
European Commissioner

eu40®



"I remember EU40 well from back in the day and I always had a ball attending their events"

Jeanine Hennis-
Plasschaert
Dutch Defence
Minister

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