



Speakers

Dr. Katarina Barley is Vice-President of the European Parliament and member of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs and substitute member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs. In the European elections in May 2019 she was the lead candidate of the Social Democratic Party of Germany (SPD). Prior to that, she was a member of the German Bundestag from 2013 to 2019, during which time she was, among others, SPD Secretary General, Federal Minister for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth, Acting Federal Minister for Labour and Federal Minister for Justice and Consumer Protection. Before her time in politics, she worked as a lawyer, research assistant at the Federal Constitutional Court

and as a judge at the Regional Court of Trier and the Wittlich District Court.



Prof. Dr. Christian Lahusen is professor of sociology at the Department of Social Sciences at the Faculty of Arts at Siegen University. He studied sociology in Düsseldorf and Madrid, received his PhD from the European University Institute (Florence) and obtained his habilitation from the University of Bamberg. His research interests include the sociology of European societies and European integration, social movements and civil societies, social problems and social exclusion, the sociology of bureaucracy and of the transformation of the state. He has directed and participated in a number of national and international research projects on topics relating to contentious politics, civil society and social exclusion, most of them with a European and comparative perspective. Currently, he is coordinator and principal investigator of the EnTrust project (H20020). He also was coordinator and investigator of the EU-funded

project TransSOL (H2020) and a participant in other EU-funded projects such as UNEMPOL (EU FP5), YOUNEX (EU FP7), LIVEWHAT (EU FP7) and EURYKA (H2020).



Brikena Xhomaqi is the Director of the **Lifelong Learning Platform - European Civil Society for Education (former EUCIS-LLL)** since 2016. The LLL PLaatform represents over 40 European wide civil society networks in the field of education from early childhood to adult education, including formal, non-formal and informal learning providers and learners. She has been elected as interim co-chair of the EESC Liaison Group of Civil Society. She is a member of the **Civil Society Europe** Steering Committee since 2017 and the Advisory Board member of Association Hub Belgium. She is the former Head of Office of the **European Students' Union (ESU)** and Director of the Erasmus Student Network (ESN). She was active in civil society

from early ages as an elected representative of different school and university student bodies.



Anna Donáth is a Hungarian MEP sitting in the European Parliament's Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs as well as the Employment and Social Affairs Committees. She studied sociology at the Eötvös Loránd University in Budapest, and migration and ethnic studies

at the University of Amsterdam. After studies she worked in the civil sector in Hungary. A founding member of the Momentum Movement, she was vice-president of the party for two years. In 2018 during a protest she was taken by the police and became a symbol of the fight for fundamental rights in Hungary.

In the European Parliament, she focuses mainly on issues linked to the rule of law, non-discrimination, the integration of people

with Romani background, shrinking civic space and media freedom.



Dr. Sergey Lagodinsky is Member of the European Parliament (Alliance 90/The Greens) since 2019. He is 1st Vice-Chair of the Parliament's Committee on Legal Affairs, working in the Committee on Foreign Affairs as well as the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs. He is Chair of the European Parliament's Delegation to the EU-Turkey Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC).

Born on 1 December 1975 in Astrakhan, Soviet Union. Moved to Germany (1993), Abitur in Kassel (1996). Studied law in Göttingen (first state examination in 2001), Master of Public Administration at Harvard University, USA (2001-2003), second state examination and legal doctorate at Humboldt University Berlin (2010). Scholarship holder of the Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes, the

Heinrich Böll Foundation, Fellow of the Global Public Policy Institute, of the Stiftung Neue Verantwortung and of Yale University.



Program Director and Advisor to the American Jewish Committee (2003-2008), Attorney at Law with Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe, LLP (2011-2012), Head of the EU/North America/Turkey Division of the Heinrich Böll Foundation (2012-2019).

Author of numerous publications and guest contributions. Lecturer (constitutional law and politics) at Bard College Berlin (2017) and Leuphana University Lüneburg (2018).

Party entry to Bündnis 90/Die Grünen in 2011, since then holder of various offices, among

others chairman of the district association Pankow (Berlin). Member of the Representatives Assembly of the Jewish Community Berlin (since 2008) and of the Presidium (2008-2012).

Jean-Eric Paquet, *has been working as the Director-General for Research and Innovation (DG RTD) since April 2018.*

Mr Paquet started working with the European Commission in 1993 and since then has worked in various areas throughout the Commission.

From 2002 until 2004 he was the Deputy Head of Cabinet of former Commissioner for Research, Philippe Busquin. From 2007 until 2011 he worked as a Head of Unit within the Directorate-General for Mobility and Transport (DG MOVE) before becoming the Director of DG MOVE's TEN-T and Smart Transport directorate.

Mr Paquet joined The Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations (DG Enlargement) in 2013. He took over the Directorate in charge of relations with Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Serbia, Kosovo and later

added Montenegro and the FYROM to his portfolio.



Before starting his current position as Director-General, Mr Paquet served as one of the three Deputy Secretaries-General of the Juncker Commission and was responsible for Better Regulation and Policy Coordination.

Domènec Ruiz Devesa is a member of the Culture and Education Committee and of the Constitutional Affairs Committee and of the Iraq delegation of the European Parliament since 2019. He is also a Substitute member of the Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs Committee, Petitions Committee, Iran Delegation 2019- He has been a member of the Spain – Spanish Socialist Workers' Party (S&D) since 1997. He has been Secretary-general, Spanish Socialist Workers' Party, Washington, DC 2007-11 and Team member of the Carme Chacón campaign for Secretary-general in 2012.

Graduated in law and economics at the Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, he holds also a degree in political science and sociology as well as in European studies in American foreign relations from John Hopkins University

Previous to being elected at the European parliament he has been Deputy-chief, Cabinet of the Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs 2018-19, consultant for the Inter-American Development Bank 2005; Education Specialist, Latin American and the Caribbean Region, World Bank 2008-10; Education consultant,

Nigeria 2009-11, as well as Parliamentary Assistant at the European Parliament 2017-18;

He has been member of the Executive Bureau of the Spanish Federal Council of the European Movement (CFEME) in 2013; : Member, Executive Bureau, Union of European Federalists (UEF) in 2016-18, and Vice-chair, UEF Spain, in 2016-18

His main political interests are European politics, transatlantic affairs, international issues, international development

