



EUROPE for CITIZENS CITIZENS for EUROPE

Presentation of PLUS EUROPE



Fernando Plaza

In October 2012 a group of concerned citizens initiated a civic movement which insists that economic and social stability of Europe can only be achieved through the unification of the continent.

We believe that Europe needs to rethink the status of the citizen in European Governance in order to become a robust democracy.



Ramon Masia

We want to influence European institutions, so that they grant citizens a new role as main actors in governance in European Governance.

In order to attain our goals, we have created Plus Europe, an organisation that works on the national and continental levels to forge an integrative model of Governance.

Fernando Plaza

President Plus Europe Conference

Ramón Masia

Secretary General Plus Europe Conference



What is PLUS EUROPE?

The PLUS EUROPE Associations is a civic entity that acts as a bridge between citizens and European Institutions.

It is a network of committed citizens that works to achieve a European Civic Alliance by promoting a new model of European governance based on the mutual respect between the citizen and the different levels of governance in Europe.

GENERAL SECRETARIAT
PLUS EUROPE CONFERENCE

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What are the objectives of PLUS EUROPE?

The main objective of PLUS EUROPE is to promote civic participation in governance.

In other words, PLUS EUROPE works to foster citizen networks related to the business and professional environment with the aim of developing a more proactive civic involvement in European governance.

We work to position the citizens of Europe at the centre of its democratic governance. Therefore, the more civic participation in Europe, the better Europe we will have.

PROMOTING
PROFESSIONAL, BUSINESS
& CIVIC NETWORKING
AMONG CITIZENS

DEVELOPING A MORE
ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP
PARTICIPATION WITHIN
EUROPEAN GOVERNANCE

How does PLUS EUROPE work?

PLUS EUROPE works with its network of collaborators to coordinate civic initiatives, interacting with European institutions, to enforce civic participation in European democratic governance.

European citizens and civic entities

The raison d'être of PLUS EUROPE are the citizens. Therefore, citizens are the natural partner with which we collaborate, either at individual level or through civic entities at local, national or international level.

Chambers of Commerce and Companies

Chambers of Commerce are essential to enhance civic participation in European governance, since they are the greatest business network of committed and talented citizens.

The power of chambers in Europe is represented, for example, by Eurochambres, the European Association of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, that counts with*:

- 47 European member countries
- 2,000 regional and local Chambers of Commerce
- 20,000,000 of enterprises
 - of which 93% are small and medium-sized
- 120 million employees

*Source: Eurochambres 2013

Professional Associations

The involvement of several professional associations is fundamental as well. The expertise and professionalism of their affiliates make them committed citizens, not only to their profession or skill, but also to a wider conception of shared European citizenship.

Therefore, PLUS EUROPE collaborates, among others, with European, national, regional and local associations of Economists, Lawyers, Engineers, Journalists, Consumers, or students.

Rotary International

Rotary International is civil organisation with the objective of advancing international understanding and peace through local clubs in many cities around the world that are united through ethical standards of service.

Rotary in Europe is comprised of *:

- 8,560 European Rotary Clubs
- 323,128 Members

And in the Mediterranean Basin:

- 445 Mediterranean Basin Rotary clubs
- 10,691 Mediterranean Basin members

Which represent a total of 9,095 Clubs & 333,819 Members

* Source: RI Official Directory 2013



**WORKING FOR AN
ORGANISED CIVIL
SOCIETY**



**CREATING A CIVIC
ALLIANCE FOR A BETTER
EUROPEAN GOVERNANCE**



What does PLUS EUROPE DO?



| The Annual PLUS EUROPE Conference

Every year, the PLUS EUROPE Conference becomes a meeting point for committed citizens who want to have their say and be heard in Europe. Debates and discussions oriented towards the consolidation of Europe are the protagonists of the event, in which the interaction among the

| The PLUS EUROPE Awards

PLUS EUROPE wants to honour the best civic initiatives in Europe. Therefore, it has created the PLUS EUROPE Awards, that have three categories:

EU Professional Commitment: awarded by the Chambers of Commerce and Professional Associations.

EU Civic Initiative: awarded by the European Rotary Governors.

EU Citizen Participation: awarded by the Plus Europe Association.

| The Recommendations to European Institutions

PLUS EUROPE gathers, analyses and proposes recommendations coming from citizens, civic entities, and business and professional associations in Europe. Given its network and its deep first-hand knowledge of European policy-making, PLUS EUROPE facilitates the direct dialogue with the responsible of European policies, becoming an key agent within civic participation in Europe.

| Collaboration Agreements

PLUS EUROPE collaborates with different civic, professional and business organisations and associations, with which it signs collaboration agreements. These establish the terms in which these organisations work with PLUS EUROPE towards the common objective of advancing civic participation in Europe.

| Call for Action

PLUS EUROPE opens a yearly call for proposals to gather best practises and knowledge on civic participation and governance. Every year, the Call for Actions will be devoted to a specific topic, and evaluated by a committee from the PLUS EUROPE Advisory Board.

| PLUS EUROPE [Business] Forum

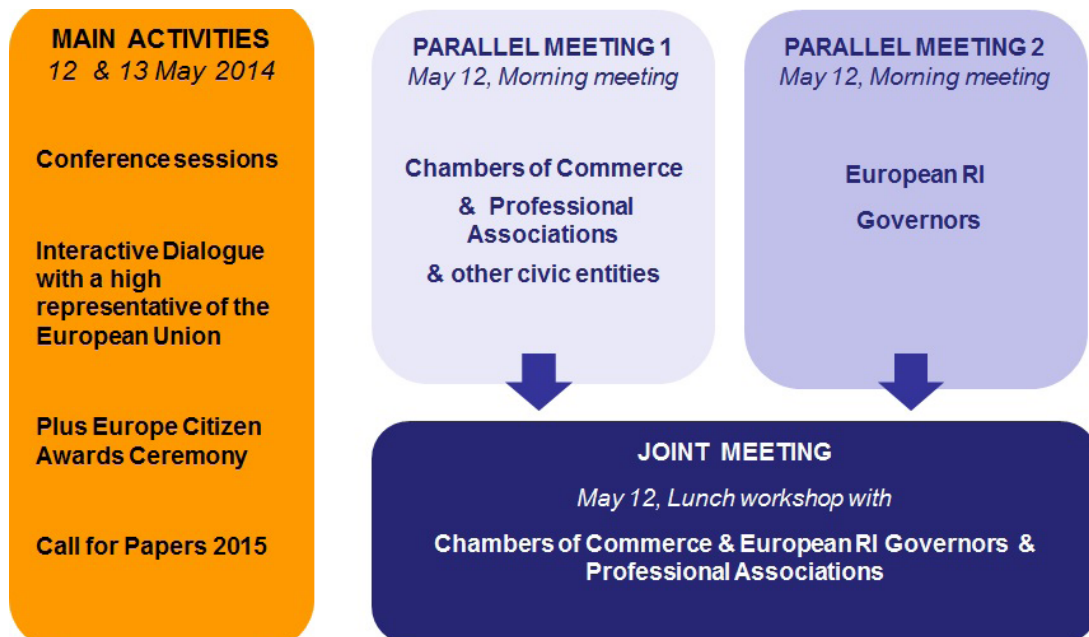
The PLUS EUROPE [Business] Forum is a network of local, national and international companies that want to participate and contribute in the policy-making and development of the European Union.



IN EUROPEAN GOVERNANCE THE ROLE OF THE CITIZEN IS KEY

SECOND PLUS EUROPE CONFERENCE

12 & 13 May, 2014, Committee of the Regions, Brussels



Topics

EU Democratic Governance 'Challenges for Civic Participation in the European Democratic Governance'

Current situation in the EU demands acknowledging and promoting the role of civic participation within the European multi-level framework. Different perspectives will be presented, with a special focus on economic European governance.

EU Social Policies 'The Standards of a Social Model in Europe'

According to the White Paper on social policy (COM (94) 333), this model is based on 'the conviction that economic progress and social progress are inseparable: 'Competitiveness and solidarity have both been taken into account in building a successful Europe for the future.' Guest speakers will discuss where we are now and what the next steps are.

EU Financial Convergence 'Possible Models of Retail Banking in Europe'

The advancement towards the Banking Union is considered a major achievement of the EU. For the future, however, the citizen's perspective, as its service user, is also to be analysed.

PART I: CASE STUDIES 'Common ground for the different pension funds in Europe'

What are the challenges that pension funds in the different national systems within the EU are facing? High quality insights will be shared with the participants on an issue that affects millions of citizens.

PART II: 'What is the state of pensions reform in Europe?'

Experts on the issue will discuss it, with a special focus on converging and diverging trends.