

THE COMMISSION'S LEADERSHIP AND THE GOVERNANCE OF EUROPE

16 MARCH 2015 – 16.00 > 19.00

Sofitel Brussels Europe, Place Jourdan 1, 1040 - Brussels

With the Juncker Commission now in office for a hundred days, the Jacques Delors Institute and Friends of Europe have invited Jacques Delors, Jean-Claude Juncker and Etienne Davignon to debate the challenges facing European governance.

Key issues for discussion include the qualities needed for the job of President of the European Commission: is it all about personality, or are factors like institutional architecture and the political context also in play? Should the Commission do more to make public the shortcomings of national governments? Would a regular TV address by the Commission president help to improve the connection with Europe's citizens by updating them on recent developments, global flashpoints and key issues ranging from Ukraine and Syria to migration, unemployment, energy and the euro? Is the rise of Syriza, Podemos and extremist newcomers likely to change the EU's political calculus significantly?

After this dialogue, two young representatives of civil society will discuss the future perspective of the European governance with the three guests, before opening the debate to the audience.

This event will be livestreamed, allowing a wide audience to follow the debates and to ask question electronically.

The debates will take place in English and in French (with simultaneous translation)

PROGRAMME

16.00 > 16.30: Welcoming of the participants

16.30 > 16.40: Introduction

Yves BERTONCINI, Director of the Jacques Delors Institute

16.45 > 18.30: The Commission's leadership and the governance of Europe

Jean-Claude JUNCKER, President of the European Commission

Jacques DELORS, President of the European Commission
(1985 – 1995)

Etienne DAVIGNON, Vice-President of the European Commission
(1981 – 1985)

Discussants:

Peter OOMSLS, Vice-president of the Young Europeans Federalists

Valentina POP, EU correspondent, Wall Street Journal

Debate moderated by **Giles MERRITT**, Secretary General at Friends of Europe

18.30 > 19.00 : Cocktail

Mandatory inscriptions