

White Paper : Future of Europe

Draft

Europe matters. It's done its job, albeit to various degrees of success in the last 60 years. But given the events of the past 24 months, it is ripe for a shakeup. The financial crisis, climate change, digital and the technological revolution, the incidents of poor governance and political conduct and the changing geopolitics across the globe, fundamentally differ from what was experienced in the past years.

In this pre-European election year, there is no better time than now to engage policy makers, citizens, the private sector, civil society organizations and institutions in a foresight exercise to think through policy choices for a better Europe in a 2030 world.

The choices we make or don't make today are what will define the fate of Europe. It is therefore crucial that we understand what implications the policy decisions of today may have on the future of Europe?

This white paper – developed in partnership with the McKinsey Global Institute - will answer that question through the creation of a set of scenarios co-designed and co-produced with senior and influential stakeholders from a range of sectors. The main issues we'll look at are: social model; European industrial policy; Artificial Intelligence and globalisation, education and skills; decarbonisation; security; and the governance of Europe.

These issues and policy areas will affect the life of citizens, the success of member states, economic growth and the successful operation of a European Union in the coming years. They will form the foundation of the EU project in the later part of this century.

This work will form the basis for the 2018 high level roundtable, The State of Europe - an invite-only brainstorm that has brought together for the last 15 years the best minds, global protagonists and decision-makers to brainstorm on Europe's future.

Methodology

Develop a set of scenarios for 2030 based on today's policy choices, using information from:

- Research and data, this will be supported by data from the McKinsey Global institute
- A series of working group brainstorms with senior and influential stakeholders across Europe.

The scenarios will be discussed at The State of Europe in October 2018. The outcomes will be further supported by debates (online and physical) in the lead-up to the European Parliament elections. We will also involve our citizens' platform Debating Europe and its over 3,4 million unique users.

The final deliverable expected from this exercise and the subsequent debates, is to develop concrete recommendations for the incoming European Parliament and European Commission in 2019, as well as EU member states.

Main themes

- **Europe's Social model**
What is the right social model for Europe and what system will be needed in the future? Given the differences between member states, how can we have coherence of European policy and governance in the EU? Is Europe ready for the demographical challenges ahead?

- **Industrial policy**
How can we keep European industry relevant in the competitive world market? How will geopolitics affect economics and markets?
- **Digital impact - Artificial Intelligence, education and skills**
Artificial intelligence will push globalisation further, impacting low-cost outsourcing and migration patterns, among others. Cash and investment will also stay where the ideas are, and not where people work. How will this affect financial influx to Europe?
- **De-carbonization**
How can Europe green its economies and best manage its energy transition? Should Europe focus on investing in renewables?
- **Security in Europe**
How can Europe ensure it is prepared to face a tide of new threats, such as cyber, and at the same time build up its conventional military capacity to defend itself should the worst happen?
- **Governance in Europe**
Is the current governance structure working? How can Europe best use the systems currently in place and what changes should be made? How can we ensure that citizen engagement in democracy is a priority?

Who's involved?

- Friends of Europe Trustees & European Young Leaders
- Senior representatives of the relevant policy areas including from the business community
- Rapporteur / author

Timeline: production of white paper

- **20 April: Scoping brainstorm:** scoping and developing content of paper
- 25 May: author deadline: for structure, headline narrative and key questions for each scenario to drive data production
- **30 May: Second brainstorm:** in depth discussion on key questions for each scenario
- May-June drafting of the white paper and further input by persons that were unable to join the two brainstorms
- **16 July: Draft finalized**
- Mid-July to mid-August: comments from co-producers
- Mid-August to 5 September: finalisation of the report by author
- 17 September: agreement by Friends of Europe and the McKinsey Global institute on the report
- **1 October:** report sent to discussants that will join the State of Europe
- 10 October: President's Dinner
- **11 October: Distribution of the report and discussion of the scenarios at the State of Europe high-level roundtable**
- 12 October: discussion of the paper at the European Young Leaders (EYL40) alumni meeting
- Post State of Europe: possible local level launch events in Member States to stimulate discussion of the paper beyond Brussels; further debates on Debating Europe to better include the voice of citizens
- October – November: preparation of the Recommendations drawn from the discussions
- **Early 2019:** White Paper and Recommendations promoted to incoming European leadership