



Europe for Citizens
Programme

List of presenters:

Dr József Györkös is a professor at the University of Maribor, Faculty of electrical engineering and computer sciences teaching media communication and information society related courses. He was a deputy minister / state secretary in mandates of two governments in Republic of Slovenia with responsibility on higher education, science, technology and information society. By European Commission, DG Communications Networks, Content and Technology (former DG Information Society and Media) he is appointed as a member of theCONNECT Advisory Group.

Filip Dobranić is about to finish his studies of philosophy and sociology of culture at the Faculty of arts in Ljubljana, he is an expert and a researcher of social movements and Internet, a hacker, one of the funder and co-creators of the on-line platform »Danes je nov dan.«

Simon Delakorda, M.Sc. is a full time eDemocracy / eParticipation practitioner & researcher and founding director of non-governmental organization the Institute for Electronic Participation from Ljubljana (www.inepa.eu). Starting in 2000, he participated in an early internet democracy projects within university and NGO's sector in Slovenia. He is an author and co-author of articles and case studies and conference speaker on democracy, political participation, active citizenship, non-governmental organizations and governments on-line. Currently, he is Ph.D. student of Social Informatics at the Faculty of Social Sciences in Ljubljana. During 2006-2007 he coordinated and managed the E-participacija web portal and facilitated the first successful e-democracy project in Slovenia - the Citizen's Forum. His current projects and research focus include political informatics, democratic challenges of digital society, e-participation at the EU level and civil society e-democracy. His memberships include the Slovenian Political Science Association, Demonet: the eParticipation network of Excellence, CEE CN eParticipation experts group and Association of the Slovene NGO's managers. He received awards and experts recognitions as an e-democracy student, expert and facilitator.

Barbara Zagorc is a Master's student at the Department of Sociology, University of Maribor, Faculty of Arts, Slovenia. She is a political activist and active in bodies of University of Maribor. Her main research interests are political socialization, political participation, political parties and movements, protests, neoliberalism and hip hop culture.

Andrej Kirbiš, Ph.D., is an assistant professor at the Department of Sociology, University of Maribor, Faculty of Arts, Slovenia. He has authored or co-authored numerous scientific articles and book chapters in areas of political participation, political culture, democratic consolidation, value change, religion and New Age, adolescent development, health and well-being, youth media use, leisure activities and educational success.

Jure Hederih is the last year student at II. gimnazija Maribor. In his future studies he aspires to be a scientist with professional expertise in the field of medicine. Despite his keenness for natural sciences, he, in many aspects, engages in human sciences as well. As a member of WSDC team of Slovenia in 2013 he reaffirmed his status as a debater, while also engaging in other projects of non-competitive nature, such as volunteering. Majority of his studies and work are driven by the feeling of moral obligation to at least try to change the world for the better.

Zoran Fijavž is the last year student at Gimnazija Franca Miklošiča Ljutomer, one of the best debater in Slovenia, active member of Leo club Murska Sobota.

Gregorc Tomaž (1981) holds a bachelor degree in cultural studies and social anthropology. In the years 2007 to 2010 he was a teaching assistant and researcher in the field of social anthropology on the University of Primorska, Faculty for humanistic studies and the Institute for inter-cultural studies, University of Primorska. In years 2006-2010 he was organizer, facilitator and workshop leader of different international seminars, summer schools and workshops held by different universities in Europe. From the year 2011 (till June 2013) he works at the Public institute Maribor 2012 – European capital of culture (ECOC) as program producer and coordinator for the field of migration in Urban Furrows, an socio-ecological strand of ECOC.

Recently he co-authored the booklet “The compass of civil and workers’ rights for migrants in Maribor or How can you become integrated with your own rights?”, the handbook “Za-nič kišta [Zero dollar laptop]” and the book “Prihodnost znanosti: neoliberalizem, univerza in politika sodobnega znanstvenega raziskovanja [The future of science: neoliberalism, University and contemporary scientific research policies]”. In 2011 and 2012 he facilitated and led more than 90 workshops in migrants and workers’ rights and digital literacy on open-source software. His primary field of action and researches are radical education, critical thinking, theoretic psychoanalysis, militant research, autonomous social action and the topic of social exclusion/inclusion with a specialization in migration questions/policies, worker’s rights, precarious work and formation of collective processes. In his free time he endeavours the path of experimental sound art and writes articles about noise/glitch/experimental electronic music.

Jure Čuhalev works in the web industry, where he helps different startups with product management. He produces different visualizations that are sometimes based on governmental data at night.

Jaka Kukavica is a debater and a law student at University of Ljubljana.

Tewfiq Al-Sharaiyra is an Oxford historian with a particular interest in issues regarding sovereignty, regionalism and mass media. He has been Panel Chair at the Australian National University's Asia-Pacific Conference, a scholar at UC Berkley's Middle East Center. Currently, he is a researcher with Romania's National Council for the Study of Intelligence Archives (CNSAS), working to uncover the control structure of Romanian Communist mass media.

Petru Seicaru is a postgraduate student pursuing a Master of Law degree at the University of Cambridge, having completed his undergraduate studies at the University of Oxford. His main academic interests lie in the field of EU law, with a particular focus on the external relations policy of the EU. In his free time, Petru coaches a debating club in Bucharest and provides counseling to students wishing to pursue studies abroad. On the long term, Petru is hoping to pursue a career at the Legal Service of the European Commission.

Public Assemblies Initiative (Iniciativa mestni zbor) is a grass root movement of politically engaged individuals, interest groups and other formal or informal organizations, who wants to co-create and facilitate the development of positive practices for a better Maribor and, through this, a better Slovenia. Despite the fact that the group is highly political (politically engaged), we have no ambitions to participate in the system of parties but to build a grass-root politically engaged movement. Our work is based on the bottom up perspective, involving all interested and active citizens, because we believe this is the only way to achieve long-term (sustainable) positive political change. Workshop facilitators will be: Maja, Aljoša and Tomaž.

Tamara Atanasoska, civil rights activist based in Skopje, Macedonia. She's been part (and still is) and an initiator of many grass-roots movements and civil initiatives in the last few years. She is mostly known for "Stop police brutality" movement. She is also a columnist for the Youth Online Column project of Radio Free Europe for over a year. Tamara currently works as a web developer in Reactor - Research in Action, creating web solutions for awareness and advocacy of different questions, for the needs of Reactor itself and other NGOs (like React - Be safe! <http://www.reagiraj-bidibezbedna.mk/>). She is also an active member of Free Software Macedonia, and she is contributing in the free software world through advocacy and code for a few years. Tamara is currently pursuing a Masters degree in Software Engineering.

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Simona Ognenovska works as junior project officer in the Department for Civil Society and Democratization. Born on 14.7.1987 in Skopje, she graduated from the Faculty of Economics, department marketing management, at the European University - Skopje, where she continues her master studies in the field of marketing management. Currently preparing her master thesis and researching the effect of social responsibility of small and medium sized businesses upon the consumer buying behavior in Republic of Macedonia. Her focus is mainly to support the activities for development of a strong civil society actively involved in public policy creation.

Julia Mikić has been active in parliamentary debate since 2001, and has since competed at Worlds, Euros, and more than 30 international competitions (speaking as well as adjudicating), given numerous BP workshops and lectures (most recently at IDAS), run tournaments, translated debating material, and preached debate as a religion (or a social activism tool at least). She's notorious for giving long feedback - debater beware. Currently she's running HERMES (Croatian education and development network for the evolution of communication), using knowledge and skills learned in debate to help improve the world, one project at a time.

Predrag Tasevski: Master of Science in Engineering, in a field of Cyber Security. His objective research interests are in the field of cyber security as part of national security, cyber attacks, cyber conflicts, international security, cyber terrorism, critical infrastructure security, information warfare, risk assessment, identity/risk management, awareness of cyber security, strategy framework and socio-technical aspects. Predrag is an author of two paper-back books: Messenger-Pigeon and Interactive Cyber Security Awareness Program. As well as an author in PenTest and Hackin9 magazines. Also he is a Microsoft Certified Trainer.

Dona Dzambaska: a volunteer at Metamorphosis Foundation. Studied Environmental engineering and resource management at Ss. Cyril and Methodius University, faculty of mechanical engineering in Skopje and at the University of Florence, in Florence, Italy. She is currently working on her thesis and plans to enroll in a post-grad program in order to enrich her knowledge in environmental engineering.

Elena Ignatova: Project Coordinator at Metamorphosis Foundation. Holds a Bachelor degree in Internet and Mobile Technologies and Master degree in Communications and New Media. She is certified CompTIA Linux specialist and has extensive experience in the area of FOSS applications and development. Her expertise covers use of PHP-based CMS systems (Joomla, Drupal u Wordpress), both in the areas of implementation and trainings, in classroom environments and as e-raider. Within her engagement in Metamorphosis, Ms Ignatova is responsible for the development of the several tutorials for computer literacy. She is also responsible for the cooperation with Global Voices Online, and in particular the Macedonian and Albanian version of this influential citizen journalism portal.

Tvrtko Pater, Debate trainer, HERMES member, participated in ACTA-related research in Croatia.

Antonio Tokić -A student, programmer, and a philosopher-theologian, Antonio has always seen himself in the IT-sector, while maintaining an interest in all things transcendental. Firm in his belief that there is too little real dialogue among people out there, he has decided to start an initiative that could help spread the debating virus, using the internet of course

Blaž Leban BA in social informatics, associate of ZIP Debater and judge.

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