



Conference
on the **Future**
of **Europe**





Contributions of the State of Baden-Württemberg to the Conference on the Future of Europe

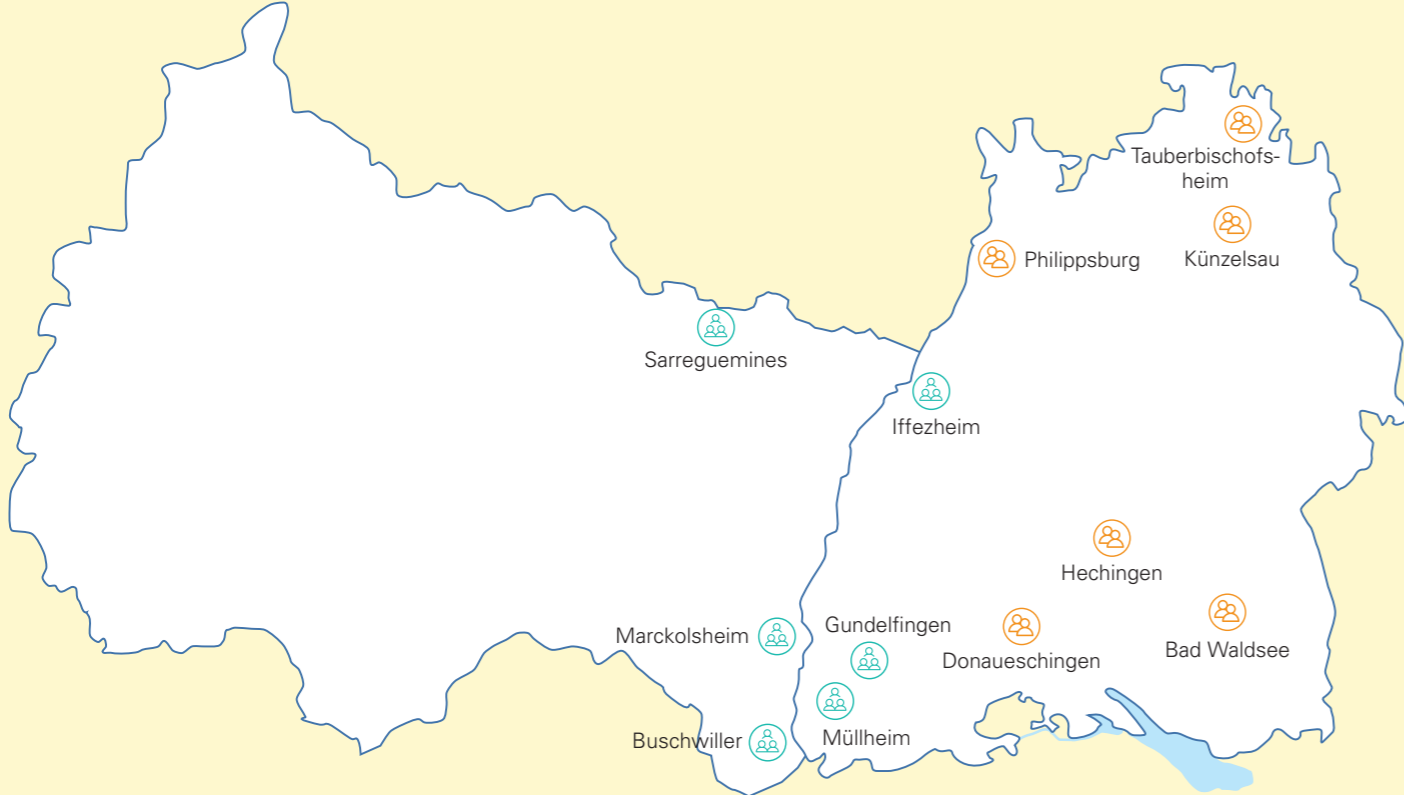


Baden-Württemberg


Venues in Baden-Württemberg and from the Grand Est region


 Baden-Württemberg Dialogue


 German-French Dialogue



Venues across Europe

 East-West Dialogue

 Four-Engines for Europe

 Donau-Youthsalon



Dear Sir / Madam,

European unification is the greatest peace project of our time. With Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine in our immediate neighbourhood, we are once again sadly reminded of the valuable achievement of peace for us in Europe. The European project is our answer to the future challenges we face in Europe and globally. I am convinced that we can only face these challenges if we work together as Europeans. This is why it is essential to have a strong and effective European Union (EU).

The Conference on the Future of Europe, which was launched on 9 May 2021, aims to provide answers to the question of how the EU should develop in the future. For the first time, the citizens of Europe will be centrally involved in this process. Citizens come together in numerous formats, including local, regional, national and European levels, to discuss their wishes and ideas for the future of the EU.

Baden-Württemberg has contributed to the Conference on the Future of Europe with its own programme of events. We discussed with citizens across the state and collected their ideas and suggestions for the future shape of the EU. People have very clear ideas about what the EU should look like in the future. The results show a clear desire for change. One of the top priorities is a stronger and more continuous involvement of citizens in political processes.



Baden-Württemberg contributed the results from our events to the preparation of the Conference on the Future of Europe. We are committed to helping shape a strong EU that is fit for the future. On the following pages you will gain an insight into the results of our events and the issues arising from them, as identified by the State Government.

Our very special thanks go to all the citizens who participated and to the project partners whose commitment made these events possible.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'F. Hassler'.

Florian Hassler

State Secretary for Political Coordination and Europe

Dear Sir / Madam,

Baden-Württemberg lies at the heart of Europe. Our citizens truly live and experience Europe every day. On the one hand, this applies very specifically to the cross-border coexistence with our neighbours in France and Switzerland. On the other hand, our companies, research institutions, municipalities and civil society have strong links and partnerships across Europe.

That is why citizens in our state are engaged in the debate on the future of Europe. Baden-Württemberg has a long tradition of being actively involved in European political processes. The Conference on the Future of Europe has opened up this debate. We have participated intensively offering many opportunities for dialogue.

We talked to young people from the regions of Lombardy, Rhône-Alpes and Catalonia about their ideas. In the Danube region, people from both the younger and older generations came together to discuss their visions for a future within the EU and as neighbours. In citizens' dialogues with randomly selected citizens living in six municipalities in Baden-Württemberg, together with citizens from the Grand Est region, Saxony, Lower Silesia in Poland and the Ústí and Karlovy Vary regions in the Czech Republic, we listened to what people had to say and recorded their ideas. These dialogues are proof that people are willing to participate constructively in open and



critical debates on the European idea and its future. I would therefore like to thank all those involved for their committed participation.

We have compiled the results in this brochure. At the same time, we have incorporated them into the future process at the European level. We are committed to ensuring that this form of citizen participation continues at the European level in the future, for Baden-Württemberg has shown how a lively culture of participation can enrich and further enhance our democracy and our coexistence.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Barbara Bosch'.

Barbara Bosch

State Councilor for Civil Society and Civic Participation

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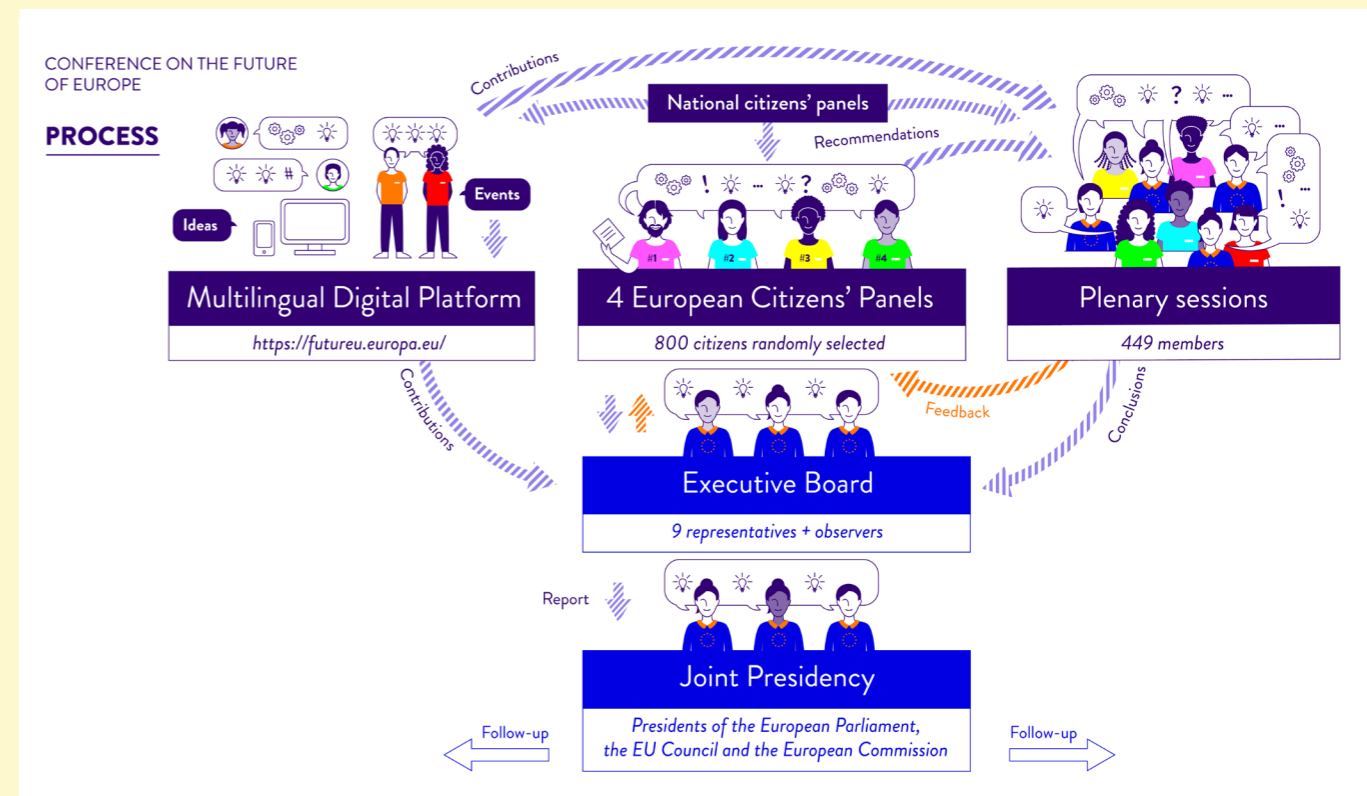
Background

The Conference on the Future of Europe was launched on Europe Day, May 9, 2021, by the Council of the European Union, the European Parliament and the European Commission. In a year-long Europe-wide debate, the aim is to work with citizens to find new solutions to the challenges facing Europe and to formulate the priorities for the EU's further development.

With its 2018 statewide Dialogue on Europe, Baden-Württemberg provided the blueprint for the Conference on the Future of Europe. The method of random citizen selection was adopted for the European citizens' forums, as has previously been implemented in Baden-Württemberg. 800 citizens from all 27 EU Member States met over three weekends, divided into four thematic groups, to draw up their recommendations for the further development of the EU. At the same time, in keeping

with the bottom-up approach, a large number of citizens' forums and events were also held at national, transnational, regional and local level. The contributions made at these events were fed into the discussion process at the European level via an online platform.

At the end of the process, the citizens' proposals will be consolidated into a joint decision proposal by the plenary assembly of the conference and subsequently presented to the public on Europe Day, May 9, 2022. In addition to the European institutions and representatives of the European citizens' forums, the plenary assembly is also made up of members of the national parliaments, the Committee of the Regions and representatives of associations from business, trade unions and civil society.



The State Government of Baden-Württemberg's Guiding Principles on Europe you can download with the following QR-code.





Process description

The Baden-Württemberg Ministry of State held a series of citizens' dialogues and events to actively participate in the Conference on the Future of Europe. The aim was to engage in discussions with randomly selected citizens from Baden-Württemberg and partner regions, and to work with them on ideas and proposals for the future direction of the EU. The proposals and ideas arising from the citizens' dialogues and other events were posted on the Conference's online platform (<https://futureu.europa.eu>) and as a result fed directly into the process at the European level.

Statewide citizens' dialogues

In cooperation with six Baden-Württemberg municipalities (Tauberbischofsheim, Bad Waldsee, Hechingen, Philippsburg, Donaueschingen and Künzelsau) the Ministry of State conducted a digital citizens' dialogue. Five hundred citizens were invited, selected at random from the register of residents of each municipality.

A total of 65 people participated in the citizens' dialogue on 22-23 October 2021 and 12-13 November 2021. On the first weekend, citizens identified the issues for the future of the EU that were important to them, and in 5 working groups, outlined their initial

specific ideas and recommendations for taking action. On the second weekend, participants further developed their ideas and proposals in their working groups with the support of external experts and then consolidated them with the whole group.

Cross-border citizens' dialogue between Baden-Württemberg and Grand Est

As part of the cross-border dialogue on 19-20 November 2021, citizens from three municipalities in Baden-Württemberg (Iffezheim, Müllheim, Gundelfingen) and three municipalities in the Grand Est region (Sarreguemines, Marckolsheim, Buschwiller) were asked how they view Europe and the EU and what issues concern them. In working groups, they formulated a range of specific ideas and proposals on various topics, which were subsequently consolidated with input from all the participants.

The Baden-Württemberg municipalities each invited 500 citizens selected at random from the register of residents; from the Grand Est region, people were recruited from the electoral roll of the three municipalities; in total, 35 people took part. The event was translated simultaneously into German and French.

Six-region dialogue

Under the umbrella of and in cooperation with the Committee of the Regions and the Bertelsmann Foundation, the Ministry of State, together with the Saxon State Ministry of Justice and for Democracy, Europe and Equality, held a dialogue with the partner regions Grand Est (France), Dolno I skie (Poland) and Karlovasy Kraj and Ústecký Kraj (Czech Republic) on 10-11 December 2021. This citizens' dialogue was attended by 65 citizens from all the above-mentioned regions. The event was translated simultaneously into German, French, Polish and Czech.

"Climate protection and the environment", "Strengthening cooperation in cross-border collaboration" and "Democracy and European values" were the topics of the two previous cross-border citizens' dialogues between the regions of Baden-Württemberg and Grand Est and between Saxony, Lower Silesia, Ústí and Karlovy Vary, and were further explored in the six-region dialogue.

After a review of the previous two citizens' dialogues, a discussion took place with political representatives from the individual regions as well as with experts. On the second day, participants working in six small multilingual groups developed specific ideas and recommendations for action in three thematic areas.



Discussion series for young adults from the regions of the Four Motors for Europe

In addition, the Ministry of State organised a discussion series for young adults from the regions of the “Four Motors for Europe” (Baden-Württemberg, Catalonia, Auvergne Rhône-Alpes, Lombardy) in cooperation with their local Europe Direct Information Centres (EDIC). A kick-off meeting was held in June 2021 to identify the topics for the discussion panels. During a workshop on 10 October 2021, young people from the four partner regions prepared their contributions on the issues of digitalisation and mental health.

Youth.DanubeSalon

The “Youth.DanubeSalon” took place from 27 to 29 September 2021 and on 15 October 2021. The aim of this series of events was to encourage the participation of young people from the Danube countries and to hear their ideas and aspirations for the future of Europe. Young people from non-EU countries such as Serbia and Ukraine also got involved.

At the conference from 27 to 29 September 2021, the focus was on the perspectives of young people from non-EU countries in the Danube region and, in particular, the opportunities they have for participating and cooperating at European level. In addition, they discussed increasing East-West migration and engaged in intergenerational dialogue on topics such as climate change, digitalisation, interregional civil society cooperation and cultural heritage.

Finally, on 15 October 2021, a selection of young people presented the core aspects covered by the previous conferences in a panel discussion in Berlin.

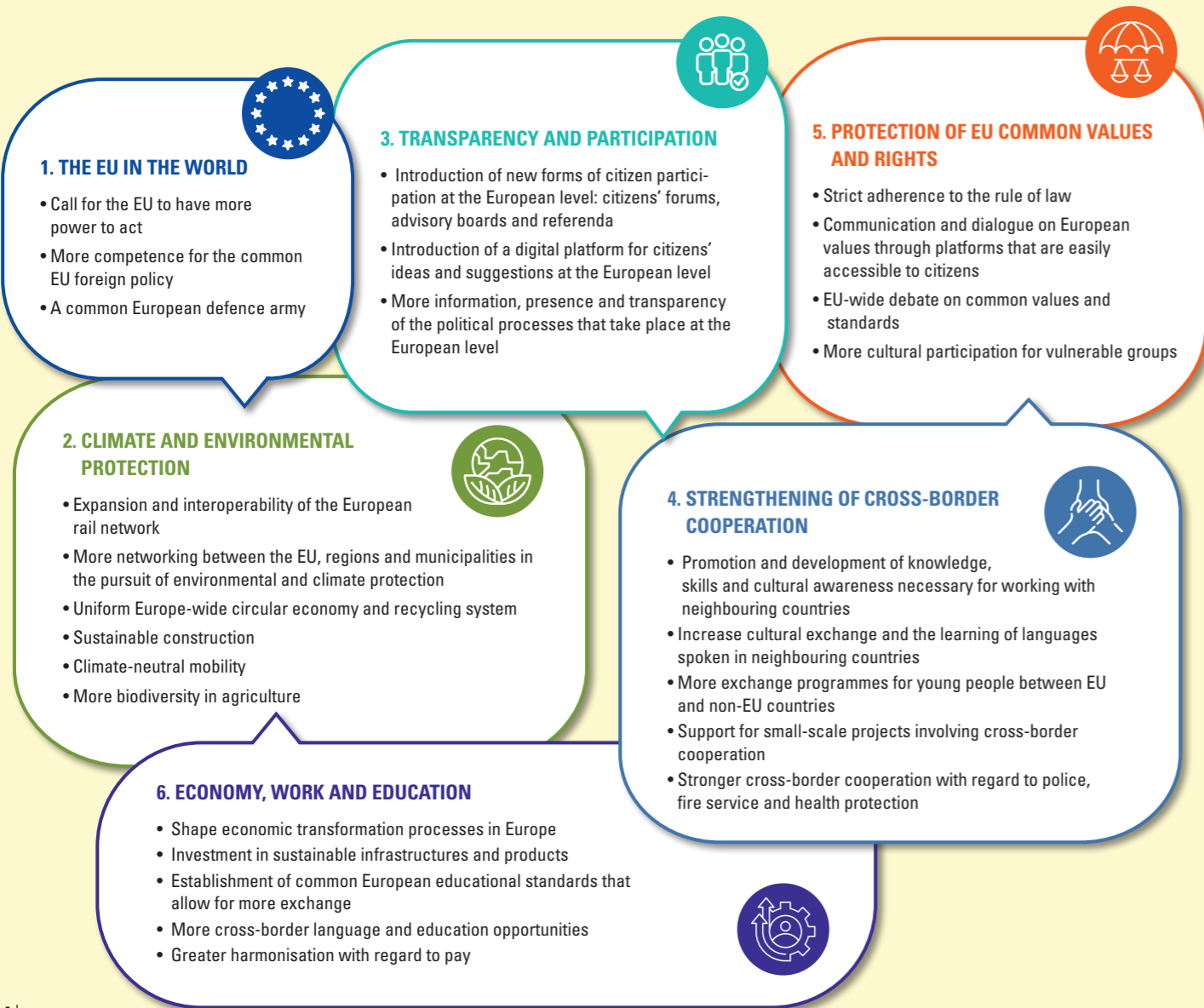
In total, some 260 people from all 14 Danube countries took part in the online conferences. About 50 people from 9 countries attended the hybrid event at the State Representation in Berlin.

Other events

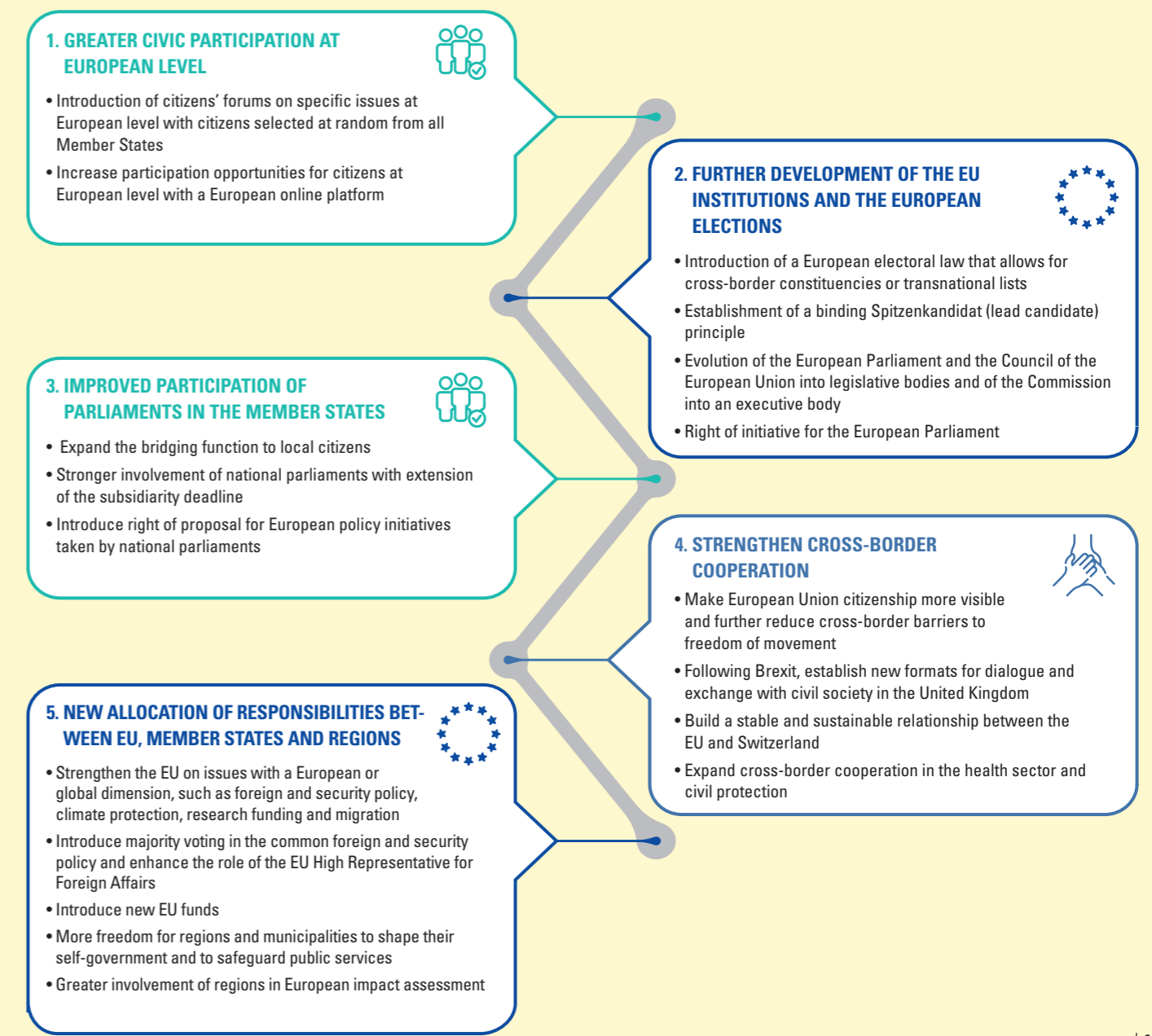
The Ministry of State also held the following events to support the Conference on the Future of Europe:

- Digital debriefings after the plenary sessions with plenary members from Germany and Baden-Württemberg
- Event on 9 July 2021 to mark the founding of the European Coal and Steel Community 70 years ago and the signing of the Treaty of Nice 20 years ago
- Graffiti workshop with young people “We are Europe” on 18/25 September 2021
- Series of poetry slam seminars with pupils
- Talks and panel discussions; grants to municipalities for Conference on the Future of Europe events

Key topics of discussion in the citizens' dialogues



Key institutional demands





Events held by the Baden-Württemberg
Ministry of State for the
Conference on the Future of Europe



Baden-Württemberg Dialogue

22. – 23.10.2021 and 12. – 13.11.2021, virtual event

PARTICIPANTS

The Ministry of State conducted a digital citizens' dialogue in cooperation with six Baden-Württemberg municipalities (Tauberbischofsheim, Bad Waldsee, Hechingen, Philippsburg, Donaueschingen and Künzelsau). For each municipality, 500 citizens were invited, selected at random from the register of residents; 65 people took part on the first weekend and 50 people on the second weekend.

PROCEDURE

As part of the statewide dialogue, citizens from six Baden-Württemberg municipalities were asked how they view Europe and the EU and what issues concern them with regard to the future of Europe.

On the first weekend, citizens identified the issues for the future of the EU that were important to them, and in 5 thematic working groups, outlined their initial specific ideas and recommendations for taking action. On the second weekend, participants further developed their ideas and proposals in their working groups with the support of external experts and then consolidated them with the whole group.

After the events, the proposals arising from the citizens' dialogue were submitted to the online platform of the Conference on the Future of Europe (<https://futureu.europa.eu>).

RESULTS

WORKING GROUP "CLIMATE PROTECTION AND RESOURCE EFFICIENCY – FOCUS ON TRANSPORT"

- Expansion and standardisation of the rail network: achieve climate neutrality (reduction of CO2 and particulate emissions) in freight and passenger transport within the next 10 years at the latest
- Alternative mobility options: develop cross-regional local public transport as a serious means of transport within 10 years at the latest
- Promote climate-neutral mobility in rural areas within a maximum of 10 years

WORKING GROUP "POSITIONING OF THE EU IN WORLD POLITICS"

- A common European defence army
- Europe's foreign policy based on shared values & shift of foreign policy responsibility to EU level

WORKING GROUP "INFORMATION, TRANSPARENCY AND PARTICIPATION"

- Further develop our democracy: more direct democracy in the form of citizen participation
- More information, presence and transparency
- More equalisation of living conditions

WORKING GROUP "REINFORCING THE CANON OF VALUES – EUROPE OF RESPECT"

- Strengthening the canon of values & communicating values
- More European "self-promotion"

WORKING GROUP "SOCIAL MARKET ECONOMY"

- Keep manufacturing in Europe
- Drive transformation: standardisation of framework conditions for the European economy and transformation process
- Strengthening of labour market-oriented subjects in school education

German-French Dialogue

19. – 20.11.2021, virtual event

PARTICIPANTS

The Ministry of State conducted a digital citizens' dialogue in cooperation with three Baden-Württemberg municipalities (Iffezheim, Müllheim, Gundelfingen) and three municipalities from Grand Est (Sarreguemines, Marckolsheim, Buschwiller). The Baden-Württemberg municipalities each invited 500 citizens selected at random from the register of residents; from the Grand Est region, people were recruited from the electoral roll of the three municipalities; in total, 35 people took part.

PROCEDURE

The event was translated simultaneously into German and French.

As part of the cross-border dialogue, citizens from three municipalities in Baden-Württemberg and three municipalities in the Grand Est region were asked how they view Europe and the EU and what issues concern them with regard to the future of Europe.

As a first step, citizens identified the issues for the future of the EU that were important to them and, working in five thematic working groups, outlined specific ideas and recommendations for taking action. The second step involved the participants further developing their ideas and proposals in the



working groups and then consolidating them with the whole group.

After the event, the proposals arising from the citizens' dialogue were submitted to the online platform of the Conference on the Future of Europe (<https://futureu.europa.eu>).

RESULTS

WORKING GROUP "DEMOCRACY IN EUROPE"

- Participation and involvement in shaping democracy, more referendums, citizens' advisory boards
- Debating culture: formats for the exchange of opinions, regulated use of digital platforms

- Transparency of EU policy, more presence of EU policy in the media
- Proactive role of the EU and transparency of Member States: promote faster decision-making, forward-looking action

WORKING GROUP "CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE ENVIRONMENT"

- Climate neutrality in the EU: Alignment of objectives between Member States and policy sectors
- Develop EU-wide circular economy: European recycling system, recyclability of products as EU requirement
- Strengthening of rail transport in the EU (for passengers and goods)
- Advancing sustainable construction: European standards for new buildings, strengthening the supply of regional building materials
- Strengthen smallholder agriculture: advance agriculture that promotes biodiversity, adjust agricultural subsidies

WORKING GROUP "EDUCATION, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT"

- Adapt school curriculum: boost language exchange, more alignment of educational standards
- Improve communication: more awareness of educational opportunities
- Enhance the role of culture and sport: harmonise the law of associations in the EU, strengthen town twinning

WORKING GROUP "VALUES AND RIGHTS, RULE OF LAW, SECURITY"

- Living together in the EU: more exchanges across all age groups, low-threshold opportunities for interaction
- Strengthen values necessary for living together: EU-wide debate on values and foundations for mutual respect; dialogue formats aimed at listening
- Strengthen the rule of law: (further) develop a common understanding of the rule of law, the principle of unanimity must not prevent sanctions
- Borders in the EU: strengthen cross-border police cooperation; retain random checks as a tool for combating crime

WORKING GROUP "ECONOMY, SOCIAL JUSTICE, EMPLOYMENT, DIGITALISATION"

- Harmonisation of wages
- Investment in sustainable and qualitative infrastructure/products
- Support for public transport
- Promote increased awareness among consumers/companies
- Lobby interest transparency
- Shape sustainable digitalisation



East-West Dialogue

10. – 11.12.2021, virtual event

PARTICIPANTS

The Ministry of State, in cooperation with the Saxon State Ministry for Justice, Democracy, Europe and Equality, the Grand Est region, the Dolny Slask region, the Elbe/Labe Euroregion and Euregio Egrensis/ Europe Direct Vogtland, conducted a six-region digital dialogue.

There were 65 participants taking part in this citizens' dialogue who came from Baden-Württemberg, Saxony, the Grand-Est region, the Dolny Slask region (Poland) and the two regions of Karlovasy Kraj and Ústecký Kraj (Czech Republic).

PROCEDURE

The Ministry of State was commissioned by the Committee of the Regions to organise this dialogue; the Bertelsmann Foundation was responsible for developing the concept and moderating the event. The event was translated simultaneously into German, French, Polish and Czech.

The event was the second stage of a two-stage concept. In the first stage, citizens from three municipalities from Baden-Württemberg and three municipalities from the Grand Est region developed their ideas and proposals for the future of Europe in a

cross-border citizens' dialogue on 19-20.11.2021. On 27.11.2021, citizens from Saxony, Lower Silesia and the Ústí and Karlovy Vary regions in the Czech Republic developed ideas for the future of Europe.

The themes "Climate Protection and the Environment", "Strengthening Cooperation in Cross-border Collaboration" and "Democracy and European Values" were themes in both of the previous citizens' dialogues and were therefore further elaborated in the six-region dialogue.

The citizens exchanged their experiences of life together in the border regions. After a review of the previous two citizens' dialogues, there was a discussion with political representatives from the individual regions as well as with experts.

On the second day, participants working in six small multilingual groups developed specific ideas and recommendations for action in three thematic areas.

After the events, the proposals arising from the citizens' dialogue were submitted to the online platform of the Conference on the Future of Europe (<https://futureu.europa.eu>).

RESULTS

WORKING GROUP "CLIMATE PROTECTION AND THE ENVIRONMENT"

Strengthen and network the regional level in the field of climate and environmental protection

- Network the regional levels through the representatives from different countries.
- Enhance intermediate levels such as societies, associations, foundations or organisations involved in climate protection and environmental activities.
- More involvement of the regional level in decision-making processes on climate and environmental policy.
- More citizen participation at regional level on climate and environmental protection.
- More networking opportunities for cross-border meetings and dialogue on climate and environmental issues.
- More concrete and low-threshold opportunities: organised walks, annual meeting with the mayor to answer citizens' questions, car ban on a certain day.
- Learn more from one another, e.g. introduce environmental zones in the municipalities to improve air quality, less bureaucracy, more education to spread knowledge about environmental and climate protection.
- More involvement of the local level for increased engagement in decision-making processes.
- Support for local economic development.

Establish a Europe-wide programme to promote climate neutral and environmentally friendly behaviour

- There needs to be a Europe-wide programme for climate neutral and environmentally friendly behaviour and for raising public awareness.
- Educational measures must be provided in schools (e.g. through a school subject), in childcare settings and in public educational institutions, in order to educate, raise awareness and communicate information.
- A Europe-wide public campaign/alliance of business, civil society and politics is needed to promote climate and environmentally friendly behaviour (advertising campaign in text, print, online, digital, etc. to engage and motivate the public to act).
- Funding should be obtained by making climate-damaging behaviour more expensive and climate-friendly behaviour more affordable, e.g. rail fares must decrease.
- Any resulting welfare costs need to be mitigated: there needs to be greater financial support for socially vulnerable groups and direct communication with them to address their fears and concerns and to educate them about the need for such measures.
- Civil society must be given the space to become actively involved, to set up projects in a decentralised manner and to participate locally. There is a need to actively promote a culture of dialogue and participation.

Establish a uniform Europe-wide circular economy and recycling system

- Set up a Europe-wide uniform deposit system and a circular economy
- For products to be approved, it is mandatory that they are durable, reusable or recyclable, with components that can be separated and recycled. This information must be clearly visible on the products.
- Furthermore, only products that generate as little waste as possible and can be repaired should be approved.
- A uniform system should prevent Europe-wide waste transports. In addition, there needs to be an export ban on waste that cannot be recycled according to European standards. At the same time, there must also be an import ban on products that do not meet the above criteria.
- Extracting raw materials must be made more expensive in order to make recycling more attractive, e.g. by charging a fee on natural raw materials.
- Use of the recycling and closed-loop system must be free of charge for citizens.

WORKING GROUP “STRENGTHENING COOPERATION IN CROSS-BORDER COLLABORATION”

Targeted promotion and development of knowledge, skills and cultural awareness necessary for working with neighbouring countries

Insufficient knowledge about the history of neighbouring countries, differing levels of cultural sensitivity and awareness in certain areas, and language barriers were mentioned as some of the hurdles that prevent cross-border cooperation from reaching its full potential. International activities seem to be flourishing in academia, but there are not enough initiatives in rural, urban and suburban areas. As cooperation between regions is a complex issue, the participants in this dialogue agreed that targeted promotion and development of knowledge, skills and cultural awareness necessary for working with neighbouring countries would be required at many levels. This would include:

1. The support or creation of cross-border cooperation ambassadors in a municipality/city/region. These individuals would be responsible for implementing cross-border projects and supporting the municipalities in shaping international cooperation. This would include organising cross-border festivals, events and workshops.
2. Supporting PL-CZ-DE television cooperation – creating a channel that focuses on promoting partnerships, projects and cross-border events.
3. Setting up a budget for the regions: Funds for implementing cross-border activities and financing the activities mentioned in point 1.

4. Cooperation in tourism – joint tourism marketing, joint communication, joint training of staff.
5. Facilitating the ability to visit museums in the languages of the border regions.
6. Support for language courses at university that teach the languages of the neighbouring countries.
7. Development of PR projects should be well advertised, marketing opportunities should be cultivated through the use of Instagram, FB, website, LinkedIn.

Support for campaigners and local stakeholders in implementing cross-border projects

The working group saw a problem in the overwhelming financial burden and bureaucracy involved in setting up international or cross-border projects. Moreover, the impact of such projects often tends to fade or be forgotten after some time.

Organisers and local stakeholders, for example municipalities, should receive more support from national and EU groups. This would include making funding clearer and more accessible and establishing a cross-border project bank – a fund/project database of cross-border materials and publications that is available to all. This would help keep track of ongoing activities and also monitor the delivery of each project's results.

Harmonisation of cross-border cooperation in the emergency services

Rescue and civil protection services are still not allowed to freely cross the border in some regions. Patients sometimes have to be transferred at the border into an ambulance of the neighbouring country. In order to improve the cross-border emergency response situation, there needs to be regular and joint cross-border exercises involving the emergency services. In some regions this cooperation is already working well, in others it is stagnating. Therefore, the European Commission should carry out an EU-wide study on cross-border cooperation between the emergency services. Building on this, a plan of action should then be drawn up to standardise cooperation between emergency services throughout Europe. The objectives of this action plan should as a minimum include the harmonisation of reporting in the cross-border regions, regular joint exercises of the emergency services and the provision of bilingual medical forms. In addition, the European Commission should make funds available to provide unbureaucratic subsidies for rescue workers, firefighters, doctors and police officers in border regions to learn the language of the neighbouring country.

Strengthening languages of neighbouring countries through the EU

Language is the pre-eminent medium for bringing people together. Too few citizens speak the language of their immediate neighbouring countries because the focus is often on English. This is partly due to political and financial support, but also partly due to the motivation of the citizens.

The European Commission should therefore put more emphasis on neighbouring languages and support neighbouring language learning projects for all age groups. Bilingual or trilingual signage in border regions should be increased to ensure that the multilingualism of a region is always visible. The European Commission should initiate an EU competition to promote the neighbouring language (exchange between regions) and provide the funding for this. Furthermore, it should be made possible in future for people in border regions to be able to attend a school in the neighbouring country. There should also be regular interaction between teachers in border regions as well as nursery practitioners. Cafés for senior citizens are also a good idea to foster neighbouring language learning.



WORKING GROUP “DEMOCRACY AND EUROPEAN VALUES”

Mutual sense of belonging to a European community, respect for like-minded people, better understanding of our neighbours

This can be achieved by protecting and reinforcing our common history, but also by better understanding the different histories that make up present-day diversity and cultural wealth in Europe.

One proposal is to better support the work of the Council of Europe’s Observatory on History Teaching in Europe, in which several EU Member States are currently not involved. The Observatory’s specialists can help the EU and its Member States by proposing pedagogical tools to improve and strengthen the teaching of European history in schools.

How can the roles of local democracy and local decision-making powers be reinforced in Europe and the different roles of decision-makers be more clearly defined?

Our idea is to set up a European platform that would enable citizens to propose ideas and initiatives/opinions that would then be discussed by decision-makers at the European level. Citizens would then receive clear feedback on whether their proposal could be implemented or not.

A proposal would be put up for discussion at the European level as soon as it receives a certain number of votes in its favour (e.g. 500,000 votes?).

This platform would need to be actively communicated to citizens by national and local decision-makers to make them aware that they have this opportunity.

Organising discussion formats/initiatives on values and democracy

There should be more discussion formats and discussion initiatives organised in the EU, where democracy and values can be discussed in concrete terms. These should be based on existing local structures, such as municipal bodies. Discussion formats between local and European politicians that involve citizens is also a possibility. Digital formats for Europe-wide citizens' dialogues involving citizens selected at random should be more widely used. There should also be target group-specific discussion groups (e.g. for young people). Another idea would be to include more discussion about democracy and European values in foreign language lessons at school. It would also be a good option to include various associations, cultural institutions and adult education centres in European discussion formats.

Creation of a subsidiary platform for the exchange and networking of associations

A platform should be created for more interaction and networking between associations and organisations active in European work. The platform should work like a map of the EU where you can get a quick and comprehensive overview of such clubs. The platform should be structured subsidiarily, i.e. "from the bottom up" so that, for example, associations and organisations in a city can also network and exchange information. It might be possible to develop and expand the current online platform of the Conference on the Future of Europe for such a platform.



Young people's perception

from Non-EU Member States in the Danube Region – differences, similarities, chances (Danube.Youthsalon)

27.09.2021, virtual event

PARTICIPANTS

About 30 young people from Moldova, Serbia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Montenegro and Ukraine participated in the event. The majority of participants were between the ages of 18 and 25.

PROCEDURE

The event marked the beginning of a three-part series of conferences, the results of which were subsequently presented at a panel discussion on 15.10.2021 to State Secretary Florian Hassler and Normunds Popens, Deputy Director General of the Directorate General for Regional and Urban Policy at the European Commission. The conference was organised by the Ministry of State together with the “Danube Youth Network” and the Agapedia Foundation.

The focus of the event was the situation of young people from non-EU countries, in particular the oppor-

tunities they have for getting involved and cooperating at the European level. They discussed, among other things, educational opportunities, mobility and the labour market. The aim was to offer young people and young adults from non-EU countries a platform to talk about their thoughts and ideas on the future of Europe on an equal footing.

After an introduction in English accompanied by several interpreters, the young adults were divided into break-out sessions based on their respective native languages where they discussed specific issues concerning their home countries in relation to the future of Europe.

RESULTS

Many of the European non-EU countries have similar characteristics and challenges, which the young people identified as areas where they would like to see improvement.

- There is a demand for more networking opportunities and cultural exchange for young people from non-EU countries, e.g. through closer links with EU countries and academic institutions. Exchange programmes should not be exclusively for EU citizens but should include non-EU countries. Bureaucratic hurdles, for example when applying for a visa, should also be reduced for people from neighbouring European countries that are not members of the European Union. Laws should be adapted to young people and their needs.
- There should be better communication and stronger cooperation between the European Union and non-EU countries, especially with regard to young people. It is often

the case that EU programmes, especially those that are open to people from non-EU countries, are not widely or sufficiently publicised.

- The European Union should encourage non-EU countries to take action against climate change and contribute to an increased awareness of the consequences of global warming, in politics and in society. Environmental protection is a global problem and one that requires a joint approach.



Should I stay or should I go?

Perspectives for the younger generation in the Danube Region (Youth.Danubesalon)

28.09.2021, virtual event

PARTICIPANTS

The conference was held in German as the majority of participants were students from German schools abroad. Approximately 95 young people from almost all Danube countries participated.

PROCEDURE

The event was the second stage of a three-part series of conferences, the results of which were subsequently presented at a panel discussion on 15.10.2021 to State Secretary Florian Hassler and Mr Normunds Popenis, Deputy Director General of the Directorate General for Regional and Urban Policy at the European Commission. The conference was organised by the Ministry of State in cooperation with the Danube Office Ulm and the Cultural Representative for the Danube Region. A key focus of the conference was the increasing east-west migration of young people, who are often encouraged by their families to seek better education

and work opportunities abroad. The young people spoke about the situation in their home countries and associated issues such as education, healthcare systems and the labour market. This was followed by an analysis of the consequences of increased migration from Eastern to Western Europe for the countries of origin as well as for Europe and the European Union as a whole.

After an introduction and a report by a young woman who had emigrated from Bosnia to Austria, the participants were divided into break-out sessions where they discussed various topics related to migration.

RESULTS

- There should be increased interaction between young people and politics through exchange programmes, youth camps, events, etc. There should also be more transparency, e.g. about the money used by policy makers. Young people want to be

heard. They need opportunities to participate in decision-making processes. Politicians and civil society must work together to address present-day challenges.

- There is a real need to build a stronger community between EU and non-EU countries. There must be more opportunities and programmes that enable people to experience living abroad on a temporary basis. This should also include people from non-EU countries so that they can use the new experiences and knowledge they have gained once they return to their home countries. ERASMUS is clearly not enough and must be supplemented and expanded to meet these needs.

- There is a call for a European standard of education and the accompanying increase in opportunities for intercultural encounters and exchange.
- Minorities in Europe frequently face unequal treatment compared to majorities. In many cases, there is a discrepancy between reality and theory. For example, with regard to human rights, equality, sexual self-determination, etc., people want to see more measures to protect these rights.



Young and old shape the future of Europe together (Youth.Danubesalon)

29.09.2021, virtual event

PARTICIPANTS

About 150 people from 13 Danube states aged 10 - 80 participated in the online event. Approximately 80 participants were younger than 25. The main language of the conference was English, but translations into different languages were provided, especially in the working groups.

PROCEDURE

The event was the last stage of a three-part series of conferences, the results of which were subsequently presented at a panel discussion on 15.10.2021 to State Secretary Florian Hassler and Mr Normunds Popens, Deputy Director General of the Directorate General for Regional and Urban Policy at the European Commission. The conference was organised by the Ministry of State together with the Institute for Virtual and Face-to-face Learning in Adult Education at the University of Ulm e.V. (ILEU) and the "Danube Networkers e. V." association. The focus of the event was on intergenerational and international dialogue on various topics concerning the future of the Danube Region, especially with regard to Europe. Some of the topics of the discussions were climate change and environ-

mental protection, digitalisation, the cultural heritage of the Danube states and demographic change.

The aim of the event was to promote both international and intergenerational dialogue and cooperation, as embracing the perspectives of people from all generations and regions is necessary if we are to meet the challenges facing Europe in the future. Before the final discussion and presentation of the results, the participants were divided into small groups based on the above-mentioned topics in order to work on the results together.

RESULTS

- The migration of skilled workers from Eastern to Western Europe is causing instability and an ageing society in the countries of origin. One of the consequences is a shortage of nursing and care staff for the elderly. Furthermore, the mortality rate is often higher than the birth rate; in Romania, for example, more Romanian children are born outside the country than within.
- Access to cultural opportunities varies depending on a person's origin. There are major differences between Western and Eastern Europe, urban and rural areas and social classes.

Vulnerable groups such as minorities do not have the same opportunities to participate in cultural opportunities. Broader access to culture could be achieved through measures such as cultural exchange programmes for institutions, NGOs, professionals, students and pupils.

- It is important to ensure safety on the internet, in particular for children and young people, as the internet is increasingly providing an important space for education and dialogue. To promote cross-border interaction in civil society, more non-commercialised platforms should be available to allow members of civil society to network in different areas.

- More needs to be done to address the lack of awareness surrounding environmental issues. Education plays a particularly important role in this process.
- Young people have many ideas on how to build a successful and fair future for Europe. However, they are often not heard. There should be more opportunities for young people to participate in politics, e.g. by lowering the voting age.





Youth.DanubeSalon in the State Representation in Berlin

15.10.2021, hybrid event

PARTICIPANTS

The event was attended by 52 citizens from almost all Danube states. Since the focus was on youth, most of the participants belonged to the younger generation. Following on from the third online conference with an intergenerational focus, the older generation was also represented by two women. Unfortunately, due to COVID travel restrictions, some of the presenters were unable to travel to Berlin and therefore participated in the event online. There were 45 people present in Berlin with six young people and the two official

representatives from politics and administration taking part online. All participants were selected on the basis of their outstanding contribution during the three online conferences in September.

Four ambassadors from Danube states were welcomed to Berlin to watch the event: Ms Elana Radkova Shekerletova from Bulgaria, Mr Gordan Bakota from Croatia, Dr Snežana Janković from Serbia and Mr Franc But from Slovenia. In addition, about 120 people followed the livestreamed event, which was available in German and English.

PROCEDURE

On 15 October 2021, the main event of the Youth.Danube Salon took place as a hybrid event, preceded by three online conferences in September. The part of the conference that participants attended in person was held at the Representation of the State of Baden-Württemberg in Berlin. During a panel discussion, the aspects explored in the previous online conferences were presented to Florian Hassler, State Secretary of Baden-Württemberg, and Normunds Popens, Deputy Director General of the European Commission.

The topics were:

- Europe from the perspective of young people from non-EU countries and their ideas and wishes for the future of the Union,
- the increasing east-west migration and its consequences for Europe
- and intergenerational dialogue on various challenges affecting the future of Europe, such as climate protection and digitalisation.

The panel discussion began straight after a short introduction by the moderator and a few words of welcome by State Secretary Hassler. The participants had already summarised the key aspects of the previous online conferences in advance and presented them. There was one group per conference; each of the groups had a total of ten minutes to present their suggestions and concerns. Following on from this, Mr Hassler and Mr Popens were able to respond directly to the presentations.

RESULTS

- Desire for more cooperation between EU and non-EU states and more opportunities for young people to engage, e.g. by lowering the voting age
- Desire for more exchange opportunities for young people, also in non-EU countries
- Concern about the failure to uphold human rights in some regions of Europe, e.g. in relation to the LGBTQI+ community
- Issue of migration from Eastern to Western Europe due to lack of job opportunities
- Need for wider access to culture, especially for vulnerable groups
- Cross-border exchange in civil society needs to be more strongly promoted, e.g. through non-commercialised platforms, especially with a view to raising awareness of environmental issues.

Link to the recording of the event:

<https://stm.baden-wuerttemberg.de/de/service/media/mid/youthdanubosalon-deutsch/>



Hey Europa!

We are your future!

Discussion series for young people and young adults, part 1

11.06.2021, hybrid event

PARTICIPANTS

Twenty participants from Baden-Württemberg attended the event in person; young adults from the Italian region of Lombardy and the French region of Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes – partner regions in the network of the Four Motors for Europe – were also present online; a Europe Direct representative from the region of Catalonia was also connected at least temporarily (due to a poor connection). There were around 30 participants in total.

PROCEDURE

After a welcome speech by the organisers, Wolfgang Petzold (Committee of the Regions) gave a presentation on the Conference on the Future of Europe.

There was a presentation on previously conducted surveys by those carrying them out, followed by a discussion of the results among the different nations.

RESULTS

The aim of the kick-off event was first of all to connect with one another, to hear how young people in Europe are doing right now, and to identify areas of particular concern for young people in the four different regions.

These included the topics “Climate/Climate Protection”, “Democracy” and “Stronger Economy, Social Justice, Jobs”. If possible, these topics should be taken up in the follow-up event in the autumn in order to prepare a contribution for the Conference on the Future of Europe – which is intended to give a voice to young adults in particular.

Hey Europa!

We are your future!

Discussion series for young people and young adults, part 2

9.10. – 11.10.2021, In-person event

PARTICIPANTS

30 participants in total. Young people and young adults, including 4 from Lombardy, 5 from Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes, 5 from Catalonia and 16 from Baden-Württemberg. Some of them also took part in the first event.

PROCEDURE

Due to the international nature of the conference and the fact that the participants had travelled from abroad, the attendees met the evening before, took part in a full-day event on Sunday and went on a guided tour of the city on the Monday.

The conference day was opened with greetings and a getting to know you session. This was followed by a thought-provoking talk on the topic of digitalisation, after which the participants discussed the topic in small groups in two sessions and came up with concrete proposals for the future.

After the lunch break, they moved on to the subject of mental health. In the evening, the participants enjoyed dinner together and spent some time networking.

RESULTS

The five groups came up with many ideas for solving the challenges surrounding the topic of digitalisation, most of which were based on some form of educational programme, as well as on the topic of mental health.

In the final session, the participants voted for the best proposals.



Digital Citizens' Dialogue between Pforzheim and Győr-Moson-Sopron

26.10.2021, virtual event

PARTICIPANTS

During the two-hour online dialogue, almost 30 Pforzheim citizens selected at random and several local politicians discussed the meaning and values of the EU.

PROCEDURE

The city of Pforzheim organised a digital citizens' dialogue on the topic "Pforzheim's perspective on European values and rights". Parallel to this event, a discussion on the same topic was held in the Hungarian partner county of Győr-Moson-Sopron.

In their welcoming addresses, Pforzheim's Mayor Peter Boch and the Member of the Bundestag Gunther Krichbaum encouraged the attendees to participate actively. Krichbaum reiterated to the

citizens that the Conference on the Future of Europe was the ideal platform for them to express their ideas and make suggestions.

Afterwards, the participants reported on the significance of the EU in their day-to-day lives and which values are particularly important to them in the EU. In summary, the participants consider the following values as particularly important: solidarity, freedom, tolerance and (mutual) respect, trust and transparency/freedom of information.

Bijan Moini from the "Jeder Mensch" Foundation gave a short presentation on the vision of having six new fundamental rights. These include, for example, the right to live in a healthy and protected environment or the right to digital self-determination.

RESULTS

The participants reflected on whether changes are needed in the EU and if so, where. They expressed their wish for more accessible information so the EU can connect more closely with the citizens, to make the EU more visible and, above all, to improve people's understanding of other EU countries.

There should also be more reporting on the European Parliament and increased clarity regarding the functions and responsibilities of the various bodies. There was also a call for more social justice in Europe, e.g. by introducing a minimum wage for the whole of Europe or a uniform standard of education.

The participants also suggested having more meetings and exchanges between the countries, especially for adults.

Areas that received the most criticism were existing bureaucratic hurdles and the unanimous decision-making process in the Council.

The participants expressed the wish for more qualified majority. They also identified and criticised the tension between the expectation of the EU to regulate everything and the autonomy of the individual states.

Despite this, or indeed on account of this issue, the majority of participants would like to see a strengthening of commonalities and see the future of the EU in the form of a "United States of Europe".



Joint digital citizens' dialogue with Pforzheim and the county of Győr-Moson-Sopron

24.11.2021, virtual event

PARTICIPANTS

Mayor Peter Boch, County President Zoltán Németh, members of the Győr-Moson-Sopron and Pforzheim administrations and about 40 citizens from both regions who were interested in participating.

PROCEDURE

On 24.11.2021, around 60 citizens from the city of Pforzheim and the Hungarian partner county of Győr-Moson-Sopron exchanged views on the theme of "Digital Citizens' Dialogue on the future of Europe – how citizens from Győr-Moson-Sopron (Hungary) and Pforzheim (Germany) view European values and rights" at the final event of the digital citizens' dialogue on the future of Europe.

By the end of October 2021, two parallel digital citizens' dialogues on the topic of values and rights had been held in Pforzheim and Győr-Moson-Sopron.

The participants discussed the things that unite them and how they can raise awareness of EU values in their own countries. The aim of the transnational citizens' dialogue was to have an opportunity to exchange thoughts and ideas, but also to strengthen the EU and build a sense of community.

Pforzheim's Mayor Peter Boch was a guest and welcomed the participants. Afterwards, Hungarian County President Zoltán Németh praised the digital citizens' dialogue, saying "This is a unique opportunity to get to know one another better".

Member of the Bundestag Gunther Krichbaum, who is also the Federal Government's representative at the Conference on the Future of Europe, also took part. He believes that town twinning schemes are particularly valuable because they bring people together in Europe. He was very keen to inspire the younger generation to engage with the European Union, because European rights are the rights of every citizen.

RESULTS

Overall, the participants were very enthusiastic about the online event. They would also like to have the opportunity to exchange views with people from other European countries again in the future, either in person or as part of a digital citizens' dialogue.

Additionally, they think that the EU should be talked about more, not only at school but also in the media. For example, with a regular broadcast featuring reports from the various EU countries, in order to strengthen a sense of community and solidarity. For it is only by getting to know more about one another that we can also engage in dialogue and shape our common future together.

The participants thought it would be beneficial if EU themes were taught as early as primary school. Student exchanges such as the Erasmus programme are also important. It is our shared history that connects the countries of Europe.

However, from the point of view of the participants, German and Hungarian citizens are not only connected by history, but also by their way of life, such as religion, culture and sport. It is important to learn about the events of history together and to develop a common understanding of them. At the same time, it is necessary to promote solidarity between different groups of people.

To sum up, the participants would definitely like to see more transnational exchange opportunities and a greater sense of community. However, this cannot only be achieved through one-off initiatives such as the Conference on the Future of Europe, but must be anchored in people's hearts and minds, for example through the above-mentioned proposals.



Citizens' dialogue on the future of Europe in Sindelfingen

9.10.2021, In-person event

PARTICIPANTS

The focus was on discussions between the 75 citizens present and political decision-makers concerning the questions: what kind of Europe do local people want to live in in the future and what kind of Europe do they want for themselves individually, for Sindelfingen and for Baden-Württemberg.

The panel included Evelyne Gebhardt MEP, Florian Hassler, State Secretary for Political Coordination

and Europe at the Ministry of State of Baden-Württemberg, Dr Renke Deckarm, Press Officer at the European Commission's Regional Representation in Munich, and Christian Gangl, First Mayor of the city of Sindelfingen. The citizens' dialogue was moderated by Prof. Gabriele Abels from the University of Tübingen.

PROCEDURE

On 9 October 2021, a citizens' dialogue on the future of Europe took place following the regional

assembly of the Europa Union Baden-Württemberg on the theme "Europe – We need to talk!". The event was held in the Sindelfingen civic hall in compliance with the regional COVID regulations.

The event took place within the framework of the nationwide series of citizens' dialogues entitled "Europe – We need to talk!", which is sponsored by the European Parliament. The Europa-Union Baden-Württemberg, the Young European Federalists (JEF) Baden-Württemberg and the city of Sindelfingen were all involved in the event.



RESULTS

During the course of the citizens' dialogue, the following key requests were drawn up within the framework of the Conference on the Future of Europe:

1. Creating a citizens' Europe

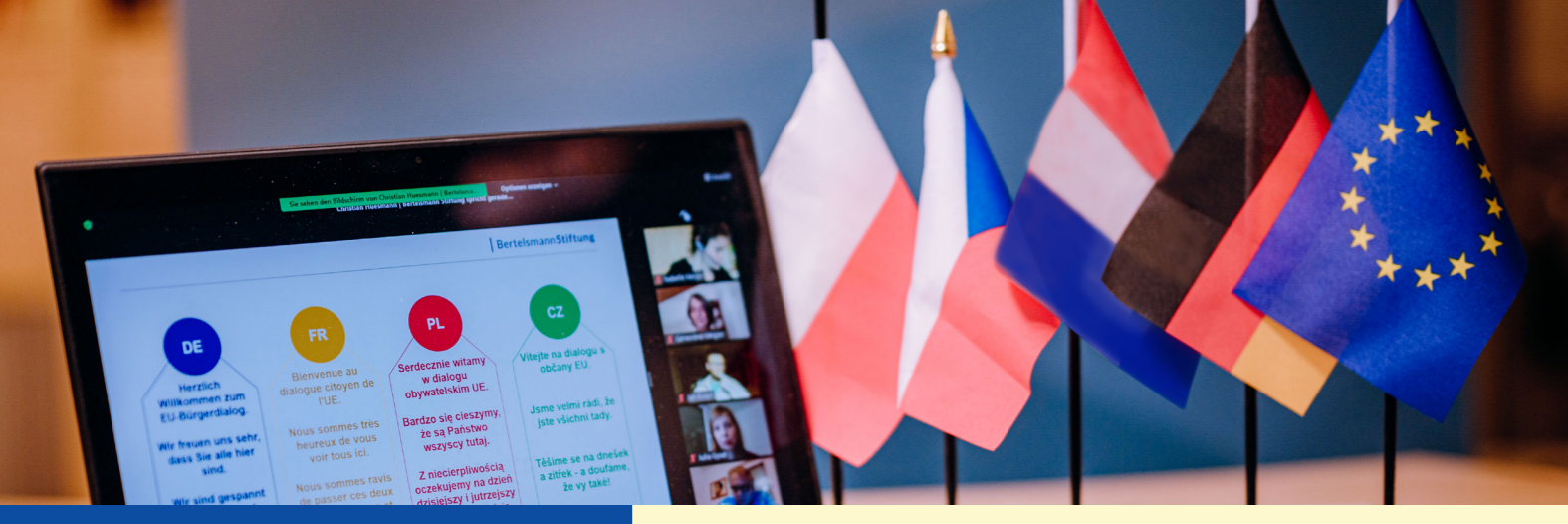
- There is a need to sustainably increase and promote citizen participation.

2. Greater participation and consideration of the local and regional areas in the EU legislative process

- Municipalities and regions should be given a stronger voice at European level and should be involved in the participation process at an early stage.
- The inclusion of municipalities and regions in the European multi-level system should be sustainably supported and intensified.

3. Advancement of subsidiarity and federalism

- An EU capable of taking action both internally and externally taking into account the principle of subsidiarity.



Institutional Concerns

of the State Government of Baden-Württemberg
addressed to the Conference on the Future of Europe

Adapted by the State Government of Baden-Württemberg
on 15th of February 2022

Baden-Württemberg feels particularly committed to the European idea. The state owes a great deal to European integration. At present, the European Union plays a decisive role in shaping the framework conditions for the continued successful development of our state. The State Government is therefore continuing to be actively involved in shaping the European Union.

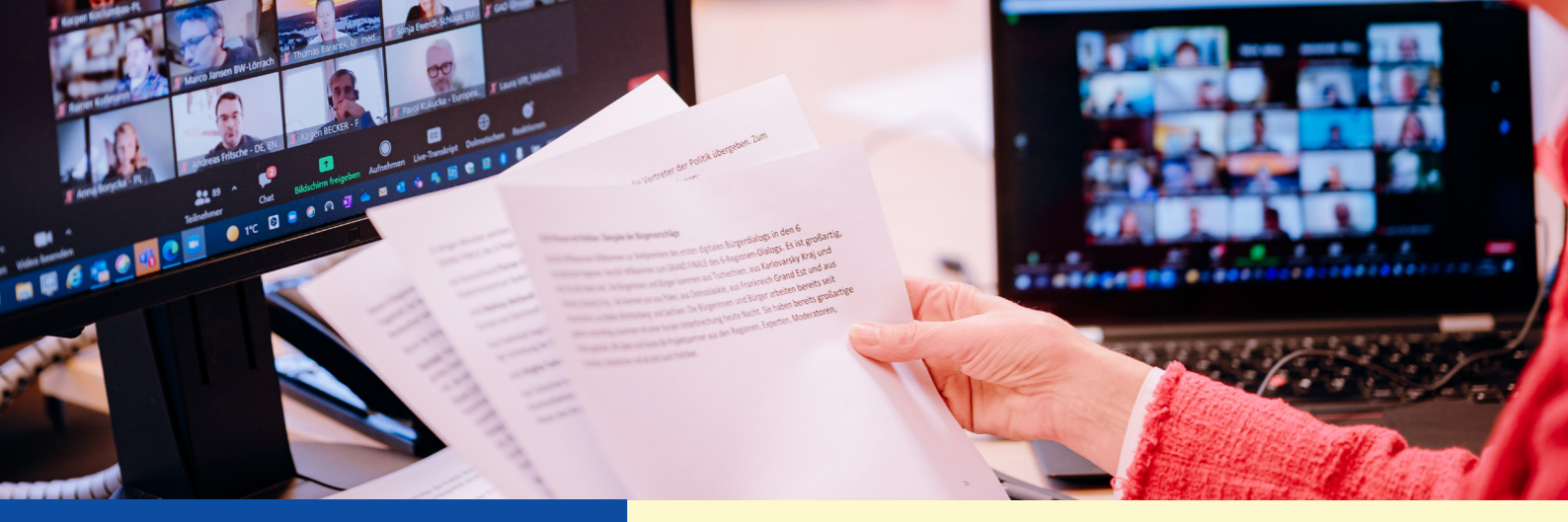
To find answers and solutions to the challenges and priorities ahead, the European Union has convened a Conference on the Future of Europe. Back in 2018, the State Government launched a far-reaching debate on the future of the European Union with its Dialogue on Europe. Citizens selected at random to participate in citizens' forums throughout the state, and experts

from science, associations, churches, business and politics met in expert and specialist forums to discuss the question: what kind of EU do we want to live in in the future? Many of the findings have been incorporated into the Guiding Principles on Europe. The Guiding Principles on Europe serve as the State Government's framework for European policy.

Building on the experience and insights gained from the Dialogue on Europe, the State Government has conducted several citizens' dialogues involving citizens selected at random with a view to contributing to the Conference on the Future of Europe. The results from these citizens' dialogues confirm the objectives and thematic fields of the Guiding Principles on Europe and expand on them with further suggestions.

- I. The political and institutional issues addressed in the Guiding Principles on Europe also shape the work of the Conference on the Future of Europe. The State Government of Baden-Württemberg is therefore making the Guiding Principles on Europe available to the conference as a concept paper and a contribution to discussion.
- II. Drawing on the Guiding Principles on Europe and on the results of the citizens' dialogues held in Baden-Württemberg on the Conference on the Future of Europe, the State Government sees a need for reform in the following institutional areas:

1. In order to increase political engagement, participation in decision-making and to enhance the European public sphere, new forms of civic participation through citizens' dialogues with citizens selected at random should be carried out on an ad hoc basis and institutionalised at the level of the European Union. Participation should address current issues in order to use citizens' views and ideas to contribute to these projects.
2. By setting up a citizens' participation portal for EU policy based on the online platform of the Future Conference, additional opportunities for participation could be developed that are accessible to all.
3. Union citizenship should be made more visible to people living in the EU, and existing barriers to the free movement of people within the EU should be further reduced.
4. In the long term, an EU electoral law that better reflects the situation of the EU population can make a further contribution to strengthening the European Parliament's democratic reconnection. It would also be conceivable to have cross-border constituencies or transnational lists governed by European law.
5. The institutional structure of the EU is seen by citizens as being somewhat unclear and lacking transparency. Within the framework of further



institutional development, the roles of the Commission as executive and of the European Parliament and the Council as legislative bodies should be enhanced. This would make political responsibility more accountable. A first step would be to link the result of the European elections to the election of the Commission President by way of a binding leading candidate principle.

6. The role and powers of the European Parliament must be enhanced. It must be granted the right of initiative. The current 8-week deadline for submitting subsidiarity concerns or objections is also impossible to meet in practice and must be extended (to 12 weeks). In the area of foreign and security policy, Parliament should be accorded more far-reaching competences in the legislative process.

7. There must be a stronger focus on national parliaments. They fulfil an important bridging function to their local citizens. Particularly with regard to subsidiarity monitoring, procedures must be designed in such a way that the legitimate concerns of national parliaments are better taken into account. So far, a subsidiarity complaint (yellow card) requires the approval of one third of the national parliaments. This hurdle has proved to be too high. We therefore call for the quorum to be lowered. Having a “green card” would allow national parliaments to propose European legislative initiatives or to call for the revision, amendment or repeal of existing legislation without infringing on the Commission’s right of initiative.

8. Subsidiarity must become the decisive criterion for the distribution of functions within the EU. The EU needs to be empowered on issues where European action has added value, in particular on issues with a European or global dimension. Such issues include foreign and security policy, refugee policy, cutting-edge research and climate protection. On the other hand, regions and municipalities must, in turn, be granted more opportunities to shape policy in their municipal self-administration and to safeguard services of general interest. The next reform of the EU should also address the issue of allocation of competencies between the EU level, Member States, regions and municipalities.

9. In new EU legislative projects, the European institutions must better demonstrate the inability of the lower levels to sufficiently achieve the objective, and how this objective can be better achieved at the EU level. To this end, the Commission should improve its impact assessments and involve Member States and regions more closely in the preparation of legislative proposals.

10. It is also necessary to adapt the EU budget to a reformed allocation of responsibilities along the lines of European added value. This could be complemented with the introduction of new EU funds to finance European common properties to be defined.

11. In those areas where treaties already allow this, consideration should be given to where it is possible to move from unanimity to majority voting. This applies in particular to the common foreign and security policy.

12. In foreign policy, the EU must gain more power to act and with that more visibility and responsibilities. To this end, the role of the EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs should be strengthened with the aim of enabling him or her to represent the EU and its Member States on the international stage to a greater extent than is currently the case.

13. The EU is a community of law. Its continued existence depends on the contracting parties adhering to the agreements reached. Should the existing EU instruments for monitoring compliance with constitutional standards prove to be ineffective over time, new, more effective instruments must be considered, including treaty amendments. One possibility here would be to establish a transparent catalogue of measures to be taken in the event that individual Member States violate the EU’s set of values.

14. New dialogue formats should be established with the United Kingdom in order to facilitate and promote links and exchange opportunities for civil society. In particular, new formats for young people should be created. This is to enable affiliation to EU programmes of programmes, which fall within the remit of the regions of the UK.

15. As its neighbour, Baden-Württemberg has close cultural and economic ties with Switzerland. We are committed to the continued advancement of the EU-Switzerland relationship with the aim of creating a new overall institutional framework for cooperation.

16. The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted a new need for urgent action in European cooperation. Particularly in border regions, regulations are needed that enable effective cross-border action in the event of pandemics or other dangerous situations. This includes improving regional early warning systems and integrating them into national and European systems. National governments need to consult their border regions when introducing infection control measures.

17. The State Government sees a need for action to strengthen the role of the EU in coordinating civil protection measures and pandemic emergencies. What is required here are shared and interoperable data systems as well as improved comparability of data and indicators. During a crisis situation, communication with the public requires the participation of all levels concerned (national, regional, local) and coordinated cross-border public relations work. In building complementary structures and capacities at EU level, it is important to reconcile the need for mutual solidarity, accountability that is as citizen-centric as possible, and the preservation of functioning and volunteer-based civil protection structures.

18. Border regions should be empowered to create cross-border model regions in the area of healthcare, where institutional innovations and preparedness planning are established to better respond to health crises and disaster situations.

III. The Conference on the Future of Europe has been given a broad mandate. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and institutional coordination processes, the start of the conference was delayed by a year. It has become apparent that ample time is needed for the debates and securing results – especially given the framework of the citizens' dialogues held at various levels. The State Government of Baden-Württemberg therefore considers it necessary to extend the length of the conference. The State Government of Baden-Württemberg can count on the broad support of the state parliament of Baden-Württemberg. The results of the citizens' dialogues should be addressed in the concluding document of the conference. The conference should also result in specific recommendations for institutional reforms. To implement these recommendations, there must be a binding follow-up process, depending on the nature of the proposals also in the form of a convention according to Art. 48 TEU.



Collection of links to the activities in Baden-Württemberg on the Conference on the Future of Europe

DOCUMENTATION OF THE EVENTS:

The documentation of the events organised by the State Ministry of Baden-Württemberg is available on the participation portal of the State of Baden-Württemberg:



Documentation of the Baden-Württemberg Dialogue



Documentation of the German-French Dialogue



Documentation of the East-West Dialogue



Documentation of the Young people's perception



Documentation of the Youth.DanubeSalon



The results of the citizens' dialogues were published on the European Union's dialogue platform.

MOVIE:

A group of students from the Cooperative State University Mannheim has filmed various events of the Ministry of State of Baden-Württemberg. The film was part of the practical semester 2021 of the study programme "Digital Media".



EVALUATION OF THE ACTIVITIES IN BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG ON THE CONFERENCE ON THE FUTURE OF EUROPE

The series of citizens' dialogues was accompanied and evaluated by the University of Hohenheim (Chair of Prof. Dr. Brettschneider).

The participants in the evaluation rated the citizens' dialogues as (very) positive; in addition to the organisation of the event, the quality of the discussions was particularly praised. The participants are satisfied with the results of the events and almost all respondents would participate in a Citizens' Dialogue on Europe again. For many participants, the Citizens' Dialogues have led to more understanding and knowledge about the EU and other Member States and have improved their opinion about the EU. A large majority would like to see additional opportunities for participation in European issues.



BROCHURE "CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE STATE OF BADEN- WÜRTTEMBERG TO THE CONFERENCE ON THE FUTURE OF EUROPE "



Imprint

Publisher

Staatsministerium Baden-Württemberg
Referat 61 – Europa
Richard-Wagner-Straße 15
70184 Stuttgart, Germany

Layout

BOXFISCH DESIGN
Hohenzollernstr. 90
75177 Pforzheim, Germany
www.boxfisch-design.de

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Printing

WIRmachenDRUCK GmbH
Mühlbachstr. 7
71522 Backnang, Germany
www.wir-machen-druck.de

Edition: 250 Stück

Recycled paper white, Blue Angel

FSC® certified, climate neutrally produced

© State Ministry of Baden-Württemberg, edition 1, March 2022

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