



Weekend Seminar in Brussels

The call to public life:

RESHAPING EUROPE

11-13 October 2019



JESUIT
EUROPEAN
SOCIAL
CENTRE

The call to public life:

RESHAPING EUROPE

After the elections on 26 May 2019, we will know the make-up of the newly elected European Parliament and in October of this year we will take time out in Brussels to reflect on how to shape our action as Christians to help Europe navigate the challenges it is facing. In that respect, responding to the call to engage in public life is a way to help shape another Europe.

Public life exists because of the conflicting viewpoints and interests to be found in every society. It enables people to live with present realities which they do not want in the hope of getting what they want in the future. It also enables people to adjust and learn new ways without being coerced. Public life cannot survive without a shared conscientious engagement with issues which are seen by all to be of common concern.

To be conscientious is to see ourselves as accountable to a greater reality than our own egos – something spiritual and mysterious in the sense of being partly, but never fully, assessable. When we see this sense of conscience in others, it commands our trust.

This awareness of the spiritual is also a source of passion and determination. Without it, nothing of any consequence can happen but, unchecked, passion can turn into fanaticism. There is a time for the passion of outrage – for protest and condemnation – but without moments of civil conversation, outrage only compounds mistrust and mutual hostility. Political opponents need to seek out shared values and to debate in a manner which appeals to those values.

Civility is thing of the surface, a veneer, which depends very much on inherited forms. New ideas and technologies can render 'old ways' obsolete. Civility is fragile and, in changing times, ways of civility need to be adapted. One reason for the lack of civility in social media is that it is like a new frontier in which the inhabitants have not yet managed to establish mutually respectful social mores.

Even at the best of times, the superficiality of civility does not mean it is trivial. Beneath this surface lie all kinds of passions and irrationality and when it is peeled away – like skin – what we see is something raw and bloody. Leadership today is about finding ways to make people civil and respectful. Without this, public life will remain ineffectual.

To be engaged, aware of huge problems in our society:
how do we achieve our goals in political life?

Être engagé, conscient des graves problèmes de la société : comment atteindre ses objectifs dans la vie politique ?

How can we find new paths together while coming from different starting points?

Comment trouver de nouveaux chemins ensemble sans entrer dans les conflits ?

How can the various viewpoints in our society coexist in a harmonious manner?

Comment faire coexister de manière harmonieuse différents points de vue dans la société ?

Can we rediscover our passion by sharing our hopes for a better world?

Comment redécouvrir ses passions en partageant des idées pour un monde meilleur ?

How can we engage in a confidence-building dialogue in full respect for our common values?

Comment construire un dialogue de confiance en étant à l'écoute de nos valeurs communes ?

How can we find common interests which respect the overall morality?

Comment trouver des intérêts communs qui respectent la moralité générale ?

How to develop its social leadership: ensure that people are respectful, listening to each other, sharing common values?

Comment développer son leadership social : faire en sorte que les gens soient respectueux, s'écoutent, tout en partageant des valeurs communes.

www.calltopubliclife.eu



Program from 11th to 13th of October 2019

FRIDAY

18:00 Session about responsibility, engagement and civility

Invited speaker: Peter Rožič SJ

How to be engaged into the public service? How to keep abreast of current conflicts? How to build together a shared vision of a better political world? How to encourage interactions in a dialogue to strengthen mutual understanding without entering into the conflict?

The Seminar will start with an introductory session by addressing different subjects. Small groups will be organised for this purpose, and then feed into a common reflection in the larger group.

Comment être engagé dans le service public ? Comment se tenir au courant des conflits ? Comment construire ensemble une vision partagée d'un monde politique meilleur ? Comment favoriser les interactions dans le dialogue pour renforcer la compréhension mutuelle et ne pas entrer dans le conflit ?

Le Séminaire commencera par une session d'ouverture abordant les différentes thématiques. Des groupes restreints s'articuleront à cet effet pour ensuite pouvoir nourrir une réflexion commune au sein d'un groupe plus large.

SATURDAY

9:00 – 9:15 Meditation, prayer session, reflection

Invited speaker: Botond Feledy

How to be at the service of the world through the reflection and meditation? So, we can hear the world around us, 3 steps are essential:

1. Address the problematics in the world that affect us all
2. Engage the conversation on its problematics
3. Build a solidarity network, and then take action

Comment être au service du monde en alliant la réflexion et la méditation ? Pour pouvoir entendre le monde qui nous entoure, 3 étapes sont indispensables :

1. Prêter attention à des problématiques du monde qui nous concernent tous
2. Engager la conversation sur ces problématiques
3. Construire un réseau de solidarité, puis passer à l'action

9.15 – 13:00 The Role Play simulation on immigration

An expert on immigration will come to address this thematic in order to organize after a Role Play simulation. The aim is to discover where passions work or don't work and how we can be misled by them.

Un expert sur l'immigration viendra aborder cette thématique pour ensuite organiser un jeu de rôles. Le but est découvrir les situations où les passions peuvent fonctionner ou non et comment elles peuvent nous perdre.

14:30 – 17:00 Open walk in the city

Alain Deneef will share his vision of the European Quarter through the House of the European History and Parliament.

Alain Deneef partagera sa vision du quartier européen, en visitant la Maison de l'Histoire Européenne et le Parlement.

17:00 – 17:50 Meditation on the experience

Invited speaker: Martin Maier SJ

How to find the inner peace by using reflection and meditation to free our passions? How to be aligned with our values and focus on solidarity? How not to be misled by our ego and how to inform our level of conscience?

Comment trouver la paix intérieure en utilisant la réflexion et la méditation pour libérer nos passions ? Comment être alignés à nos valeurs et mettre l'accent sur la solidarité ? Comment ne pas être erroné par notre ego et augmenter notre niveau de conscience ?

18:00 – 19:00 Dinner time

During this moment you will be able to discover culinary delights nearby in the heart of Brussels.

A ce moment, vous aurez la possibilité de découvrir les délices culinaires aux alentours dans le cœur de Bruxelles.

19:00 – 20:00 From the perspective of leadership

Invited speaker: To be determined

A renowned speaker will come approach different high-impact current issues.

Un orateur de renom viendra aborder différentes thématiques qui marquent l'actualité.

After 21:00 Drinking time

In down town Brussels, enjoy the convivial atmosphere and discover the city at your own pace.

Au centre de Bruxelles, la possibilité de se détendre dans une ambiance conviviale et de découvrir les différentes facettes de la ville.

SUNDAY

09:00 - 12:30 Concluding exercise

Invited speaker: Edmond Grace SJ

Reconciliation, solidarity and conscience

Réconciliation, solidarité et conscience

09:00 – 09:20 Introduction

What attracts me and moves me? What repels me?

Qu'est-ce qui m'anime ? Qu'est-ce que me repulse ?

09:20 – 09:40 Prayer session

Feeding reflection through meditation.

Le moment pour nourrir la réflexion par la prière.

09:40 – 11:00 Reflection in smaller groups

The opportunity to make reflection in small groups

L'opportunité d'avoir recours au dialogue et à la réflexion en groupes restreints.

11:00 – 11:30 Coffee time

Pause café.

11:30 – 12:30 Review session

What are the elements that have emerged inside us at the end of this road we have travelled together?

Séance d'introspection : quels sont les éléments qui ont vu le jour à l'intérieur de nous-mêmes, à l'issue de ce chemin parcouru ensemble ?

Accommodation

The Seminar will take place in the modern multifaceted and charming Jacques Brel Youth Hostel in the heart of the European capital (<https://www.lesaubergesdejeunesse.be/bruxelles-jacques-brel>). The sessions will take place in one of its meeting rooms. Every morning, an organic breakfast will prepare you for your day of reflection.

Le Séminaire se donnera dans une auberge de jeunesse moderne, aux atouts multiples et pleine de charme en plein cœur de la capitale européenne, l'auberge de jeunesse Jacques Brel (<https://www.lesaubergesdejeunesse.be/bruxelles-jacques-brel>). Les conférences se donneront dans une des salles de réunion de cet hôtel. Chaque matin, le petit déjeuner aux couleurs bio vous préparera à votre journée de réflexion.



PRACTICAL INFORMATION

www.calltopubliclife.eu

PAYMENT

Payment to be made before 15 September 2019 to the European Confederation of Jesuit Alumni :

250 Euros (all included: participation fee, accommodation & meals)

190 Euros (participation fee & meals, no accommodation)

IBAN: IT 43 W05216 01630 000000054724

BIC: BPCVIT2S

CONTACT INFO

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USEFUL LINKS

European Confederation of Jesuit Alumni:

<https://jesuit-alumni.eu>

JESC:

<http://jesc.eu>

Jacques Brel Youth Hostel:

<https://www.lesaubergesdejeunesse.be/en/jacques-brel-youth-hostel>

