Dear representatives and observers of the Executive Board,

We would like to invite you to the fifth meeting of the Executive Board that will take place on Wednesday 26 May 2021 from 14:30 to 16:30 in the Council, Europa Building (room S7) and on-line with remote participation.

Following the formal opening of the Conference on 9 May 2021, we would like to propose to you to have an inaugural Conference Plenary on 19 June 2021. The Executive Board will be invited to agree on the draft agenda of the inaugural Conference Plenary on 19 June 2021.

The Co-Chairs will also provide information about the Conference Plenary.

As citizens are a central part of the Conference and as a complement to the inaugural Plenary on 19 June 2021, a European citizens’ event will be organised on 17 June 2021 in Portugal. During our meeting, the Co-Chairs will inform about this event.

At our meeting on 22 April 2021, we informed you of the modalities for the organisation of European Citizens’ Panels. These modalities have now been updated to take the discussion of the Executive Board into account. It also includes the topics to be allocated to the different European Citizens’ Panels. In addition, guidance has been prepared for the organisation of national citizens’ panels. This should provide support to the Member States wishing to organise such panels in line with the spirit of the Conference. The Co-Chairs will inform the Executive Board about these aspects.

As you know, it is crucial that the Conference is able to reach each and every European citizen and that every voice and opinion is heard. The Multilingual Digital Platform plays a crucial role in this. For this to happen, the Conference needs a tailor-made communication strategy. At our meeting, we will have an initial discussion on how we can work together to ensure that our communication about the Conference can be improved in order to ensure that European citizens from all walks of life and corners of the Union participate.

We look forward to our fifth meeting on 26 May 2021 in a spirit of good will and cooperation.

Kind regards,

Guy Verhofstadt
Member of the European Parliament

Ana Paula Zacarias
Secretary of State for EU Affairs

Dubravka Šuica
Vice-President of the European Commission