

**Are the gates of the European Institutional Construction Site closed for citizens?
A first comment to the last proposals of the Executive Board of the
Conference on the future of Europe**

At the beginning the innovative idea was to create a public space to host a Conference on the future of Europe (CoFoE) open to civil society and institutions on equal foot.

After the solemn and first inauguration in Strasbourg the 9th of May with silent citizens on a large screen, it will be a second inauguration all over again in Strasbourg the 19th of June with the representatives of the national and European institutions.

It will be composed by nine working groups chaired by the nine official members of the Executive board.

How many citizens will be there, where they will seat and are they allowed to take the floor?

In fact, 28 “lucky” citizens – as winners of a European lottery as a substitute of the participatory democracy – will be invited in Lisbon two days before the plenary session having the chance to meet the three co-chairs of the Executive board, the other members of it being remotely.

Three of the lucky citizens will be allowed to speak and “*present their vision for the organization of CoFoE events at national level*”.

Two first citizens’ panels with 200 people each one - selected random- will be held in September in Florence (EUI), Maastricht, Dublin and Natolin (European College).

A second session of the 4 citizens’ panels will take place in November, in remote way only, with 200 people each one.

A third session of the 4 citizens’ panels will take place in December followed by a plenary session to discuss the conclusions of the 1st and 2nd panels.

In January 2022, another plenary session will discuss the conclusions of the 3rd and 4th citizens’ panels.

There will be two other plenary sessions in February and March to come up with proposals based on those citizens’ panels discussions.

MOVIMENTO EUROPEO CONSIGLIO ITALIANO

IL PRESIDENTE

Do the citizens be part of the plenaries?

There will be a final event of the European citizens' panels in the end of April 2022.

No news about the last plenary session and its capacity to deliver compared to the Executive board.

No reference is made to the ideas, comments and endorsements submitted by the citizens on the digital platform

Is the Conference descending into farce?

Pier Virgilio Dastoli

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