Policy Dialogue with European University Institute
on
"EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT ELECTIONS - CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES OF NEW DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES"

Chair: Danuta Maria HÜBNER,
Chair of Committee on Constitutional Affairs

DRAFT AGENDA

Thursday 18 October 2018, 10.00 – 12.30
Room PHS P1C047 (videolink Florence - Brussels)
Florence: Teatro, Badia Fiesolana

10.00-10.15	Opening remarks	**Prof Dr Danuta HÜBNER**, **MEP**
10.15-10.25	The European Parliament's initiatives in the area of new information and communications technologies (ICT) services	**Giancarlo Vilella, EP Director-General for Innovation and Technological Support (DG ITEC)**
10:25 -10:40	European Parliament elections and digital tools.	**Prof Dr Giovanni Sartor, European University Institute**
10.40-10.55	Digital technologies' challenges to media and democracy.	**Prof Dr Pier Luigi Parcu European University Institute**
10.55-11.10	Effects of algorithmic bias in social media platforms.	**Prof Dr Dino Pedreschi, University of Pisa**

11.10-11.25	Artificial Intelligence (AI), democracy and cybersecurity.	**Prof Dr Andrea Calderaro, University of Cardiff**
11.25-11.40	Technological opportunities to improve turnout in EP elections.	**Prof Dr Diego Garzia, University of Lucerne**
11.40- 12.25	**Q & A session Moderator: Miguel TELL CREMADES, Head of Policy Department for Citizens' Rights and Constitutional Affairs.**	
12.25-12.30	**Conclusions**	

Abstract

The joint EP - EUI Policy Dialogue- on the upcoming Elections 2019, jointly organised by Policy Department on Citizens' Rights and Constitutional Affairs and the European University Institute (EUI) intends to bring together Members of the European Parliament and staff with academics from the European University Institute, Florence via video-conference between Florence and Brussels.

The intervening academic experts have done important research in the last few years on the impact of informational tools on their users in the context of democratic elections. With back-up from Social and Political Science trends have been identified concerning possible information biases from new digital technologies as well as new technological opportunities to improve election campaigns.

On the one hand, wide amount of readily available information provided has shown to contribute to reducing costs involved in gathering relevant political information for citizens. Available evidence also supports the idea that artificial intelligence, technological opportunities and new social media platforms can increase interest in, and knowledge of political matters, possibly creating better turnouts for elections as a result.

However, recent popular vote in Europe and the US has highlighted the possibilities of an impact on democratic elections as to the result of the popular vote (trends in recent elections 2016-2018 such as U.S. elections and Brexit referendum).

In view of the upcoming European elections of 23 - 26 May 2019, the experts invited will present some aspects of their research on the topic over the last years.

This "Policy Dialogue" therefore will give opportunity to discuss the challenges amongst Academics, politicians and involved staff, with some conclusions as to sentiments of European voters.

Info on the experts and participants

Prof. Dr Giovanni Sartor, European University Institute Florence, PhD in Legal Sciences in 1987 at the European University Institute in Florence with special mention: "The representation of knowledge in the legal applications of artificial intelligence". Lawyer since 1990. Researcher at the Institute for Legal Documentation of the National Research Council 1990-1996. Part time professor of Computer Law at the University of Modena 1988-1997. Full professor in Jurisprudence at the Queen's University of Belfast 1996-1999. Full professor in Philosophy of Law and Legal Informatics at the University of Bologna. Member of the Executive Committee of the International Association for Artificial Intelligence and Law since 1995. Author of more than 120 publications.

His main research areas are: Legal philosophy and General Theory of law; Legal informatics; Computer law; Logics and Logic programming; Artificial intelligence; Knowledge representation; Automatic reasoning; law and technology, in particular legal issues of robotics.

Prof. Dr Pier Luigi Parcu, Director of the Communications & Media Area of the FSR, Director of the Centre for Media Pluralism and Media Freedom and Director of the Florence Competition Programme Programme in Law and Economics. He is part-time Professor at the European University Institute (EUI) from 2010.
Since 2004 he is the Chairman of a consultancy company specialized in antitrust and regulatory issues. From 2000 to 2003, he has been CEO of the Independent System Operator running the Italian Electricity Grid (GRTN). From 1991 to 2000 he was the Director of Investigation at the Italian Competition Authority (AGCM) in charge of several regulated sectors. Previously, he served as Chief Economist at the Italian Security and Exchange Commission (CONSOB) and as Economist at the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Prof. Dr Dino Pedreschi is a Professor of Computer Science at the University of Pisa, and a pioneering scientist in mobility data mining, social network mining and privacy-preserving data mining. He co-leads the Pisa KDD Lab – Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining Laboratory http://kdd.isti.cnr.it, a joint research initiative of the University of Pisa and the Information Science and Technology Institute of the Italian National Research Council, one of the earliest research lab centered on data mining. His research focus is on big data analytics and mining and their impact on society. He is a founder of the Business Informatics MSc program at Univ. Pisa, a course targeted at the education of interdisciplinary data scientists. Dino has been a visiting scientist at Barabasi Lab (Center for Complex Network Research) of Northeastern University, Boston (2009-2010), and earlier at the

University of Texas at Austin (1989-90), at CWI Amsterdam (1993) and at UCLA (1995). In 2009, he received a Google Research Award for his research on privacy-preserving data mining.

Prof. Dr. Andrea Calderaro is the director of the Centre for Internet and Global Politics, and a Senior Lecturer/Associate Professor at Cardiff University. He holds a PhD in Political Sciences from the European University Institute. His work centres on Internet and International politics, with a particular focus on internet governance, cybersecurity, cyber capacity building, telecom reforms, digital rights and freedoms, and the role of the EU in the global internet policy debate. His publications are clustered around these issues, including the "Policy & Internet" Edited Volume (2013). Dr. Calderaro serves as consultant for the EU Institutions, Italian Parliament, UK House of Lords, UNESCO, and the OECD. In particular, he has served as Member of the Scientific Board of the Global Internet Policy Observatory (GIPO) for the EC/DGCNect, as Board Member of UNESCO's "Internet Universality Indicators" Program, and as Member of the Civil Society Information Society Advisory Council (CSISAC) at OECD. As a member of "EU Cyber Capacity Building Task Force" (European Commission /DG Development & Cooperation/EEAS) Dr. Calderaro has contributed to design the " Operational Guidance for the EU's international cooperation on cyber capacity building " (2018).

Prof Dr Diego Garzia, is a Senior Researcher and Lecturer, Department of Political Science at the University of Lucerne (since 2016), He was Research Fellow, Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies, European University Institute (2014-2016) and Jean Monnet Fellow, Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies, European University Institute (2012-2014). He holds a PhD in Comparative and European Politics, University of Siena (2012), a MA in Political Science, University of Leiden (2008) and a BA in Political Science and International Relations, University of Rome "Sapienza" (2005). Visiting Research Fellow, Centre for the Study of Democracy, University of California at Irvine (2018), Visiting Fellow, Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies, European University Institute (2016-), Visiting Professor, Department of Political and Social Sciences, Pompeu Fabra University, Barcelona (2015) and Visiting Doctoral Student, Department of Politics and International Relations, University of Oxford (2011).