



Europe and the people: Examining the EU's democratic legitimacy – London Conference

DATE: Wednesday 26th October 2016

TIME: 2.30pm-7.30pm (registration from 2.00pm)

VENUE: Europe House, 32 Smith Square, London, SW1P 3EU

Speakers:

- Rt Hon Hilary Benn MP, former Shadow Foreign Secretary, Labour
- Rt Hon Dominic Grieve QC MP, former Attorney General, Conservative
- Douglas Carswell MP, UKIP
- Emma Reynolds MP, Labour
- Stephen Gethins MP, Shadow SNP Spokesperson (Europe)
- Baroness Smith of Newnham, Lib Dem Peer & Senior Politics Lecturer, Cambridge University
- Lord Liddle, Labour Peer and Chair of Policy Network
- Jacqueline Minor, Head of Representation, Representation of the European Commission in the UK
- Professor Vernon Bogdanor, Research Professor, Kings College London
- Dr Marina Prentoulis, Senior Lecturer in Media and Politics, UEA
- Marie Le Conte, BuzzFeed
- Karin Christiansen, Chair, Open Knowledge
- Stephen Booth, Co-Director, Open Europe
- Oli Henman, Head of International Networks, Civicus
- John Peet, Political and Brexit Editor, The Economist
- Adam Hug, Policy Director, Foreign Policy Centre

In the wake of the British vote to leave the EU, this conference will examine concerns across Europe around the democratic legitimacy of EU institutions and the European project as a whole. It will look at how the debate about EU democratic legitimacy across member states fit within the context of a crisis of trust in institutions at both national and international levels in the wake of the 2008 economic crisis.

The conference will explore the mechanisms through which EU institutions have sought to gain democratic legitimacy, comparing and contrasting with other national and international organisations. The conference will look to explore the potential democratic basis for a future UK-EU relationship post-Brexit, examining the emerging UK Government and EU thinking. The conference will explore the findings of the recent Foreign Policy Centre (FPC) publication [Europe and the people: Examining the EU's democratic legitimacy](#) that assessed the major challenges the EU faces and set out ideas for potential democratic and organisational reform. Free copies of the publication will be available.

This conference series is kindly supported by the European Commission Representation in the UK Call for Proposals for civil society organisations 2015-16. The event is independently organised by the FPC and the wide range of views on the matters under discussion are those of the speakers alone.

The event is free and open to all. Refreshments will be served.

Please RSVP to events@fpc.org.uk providing your name and any affiliation.