



LIBERAL INTERNATIONAL

EXTRAORDINARY VIRTUAL CONGRESS

20 OCT 2020

Delegate Pack

Against the unprecedented backdrop of a global pandemic, Liberal International has move its congress online. Recognising the enormous challenges - logistical, political, and financial - faced by the global federation in these times, the bureau has approved a proposal to be presented to the executive committee and then, if successful, to the congress requesting an extension of the LI statutory deadlines by twelve months, providing enough time to plan for a full congress, whether in-person, hybrid, or online. Together with the other essential business of the executive committee and congress, this virtual meeting on Tuesday 20th October will hear the results of the online voting and a report back from the president and secretariat.

Yet while these administrative challenges have been planned for the bureau and secretariat didn't want to stop there.

From policy labs, online debates, to campaign launches, the LI secretariat has prepared a broad and appealing range of political activity especially for this online congress. You can read more about the panels, people and politics that make up this exciting programme of events in this guide.

Offering fresh insights in to the most important political issues affecting liberalism today, from COVID-19 to the US elections, LI has brought together prominent parliamentarians, internationally acclaimed authors, business leaders, and journalists over the course of a three week congress period. Over 40 international guests spanning 15 events are set to engage our global membership.

Our human rights and climate justice committees will hold dedicated events as will the LI fair trade working group. Every region of the world will be represented with at least one debate set to take place in French and Spanish.

So, while it is not possible to meet in 2020 in the way that had been envisaged both the LI bureau and secretariat hope that you will find some, if not all, of these events original and stimulating. If you can't watch live, remember that it is possible to watch again via the LI Facebook page - www.facebook.com/liberalinternational - at a later date.

Finally, an enormous 'thank you' to the entire membership - parties, partners, and supporters - for your patience as we navigate these challenging times. COVID has compelled us to think in new and original ways - something for which liberals are well known - and we are confident that we will emerge stronger for it, with fresh approaches and bright ideas when we next meet in person.

Table of Contents

	Page
How to join:	
- Microsoft Teams	4
- Zoom	4
- Facebook Live	5
Etiquette on Zoom & Teams	5
Programme of events around LI virtual congress 2020	6 - 13
<u>Detailed information regarding each session:</u>	
- Cambodia at crossroads: sanctions and isolation or reconciliation and prosperity	14 - 15
- Isaiah Berlin Lecture: The 10 Commandments of Isaiah Berlin	16 - 17
- Constraining COVID's Comeback: Managing the politics of a second peak	18 - 19
- Gender Equality Report: Findings from the Women in Political Parties Index <i>(Registration Required)</i>	20 - 23
- Extraordinary Virtual Congress	24
- Truth or Share: How will the digital disinformation war end?	25 - 27
- Securing multilateralism, promoting development after COVID	28 - 29
- Africa Liberal Network: Leading Women In Africa <i>(In French)</i>	30 - 31
- Happy Marriage or Bad Romance? Transatlantic relations after the US election	32 - 33
- Beirut Blast: Fundraising Campaign Update	34
- Climate Migration Impact Series: Campaign Launch	35 - 37
- Policy lab: Safeguarding human rights in the digital age <i>(Registration Required)</i>	38 - 39
- 2nd Council of Liberal Presidents Meeting	40 - 43
- Latin America Election Event <i>(In Spanish)</i>	44
- The Road to COP26	45 - 47

How to join Microsoft Teams

The Congress will be convened virtually using the video conferencing platform, **Microsoft Teams**. Certain online events in the programme will also use Microsoft Teams and will be indicated in the programme. To facilitate a smooth experience please download Microsoft Teams on your computer in advance by clicking here: <https://www.microsoft.com/en-gb/microsoft-365/microsoft-teams/download-app>

iPhone/Smart Phone:

If you are using an iPhone, please download the Teams App from the App store.

iPhone: <https://apps.apple.com/gb/app/microsoft-teams/id1113153706>

Android: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.microsoft.teams>

You do not need to create an account; you can sign in as a guest when the link is provided to you. Be sure to allow access to Microphone and Camera upon entry to Teams. You can also allow access in Settings under 'Teams' - Allow Access to Microphone & Camera (This should be toggled on green).

Laptop/Desktop:

Ensure you have Google Chrome downloaded. Click the Microsoft Teams link to attend, this should redirect you to Chrome (once installed) and select the second option 'Continue on this browser' and add your name as well as grant access to camera and microphone.

How to join Zoom

Only *select* online events in the programme will use **Zoom** and will be indicated in the programme. To facilitate a smooth experience please download the latest version of Zoom on your computer in advance by clicking here: <https://zoom.us/download>

iPhone/Smart Phone:

If you are using an iPhone, please download the Zoom App from the App store

iPhone: <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/id546505307>

Android: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=us.zoom.videomeetings>

You do not need to create an account; you can sign in as a guest when the link is provided to you. Be sure to allow access to Microphone and Camera upon entry to Zoom. You can also allow access in Settings under 'Zoom' - Allow Access to Microphone & Camera (This should be toggled on green)

Laptop/Desktop:

Ensure you have Zoom downloaded. Click the Zoom link to attend, this should redirect you to the zoom application (once installed) and add your name as well as grant access to camera and microphone (if required).

Watching webinars on Facebook

All of our events, unless otherwise stated, will be live streamed on the Liberal International [Facebook page](#). Please look out for the event you would like to view and save the date and time, noting that all times are shown in UK Time.

If you are watching on LI's Facebook page, please share the post, comment and ask questions to our panel.

Etiquette on Zoom & Teams

If attending an online event through Zoom &/or Microsoft Teams, please ensure you arrive on time. Failure to do so, and arriving late, might restrict entry into that session especially if the online event is being live streamed.

Upon entry into the online event please mute your microphone. There will be a few online events that will require you also turn off your camera for the first portion of the live streamed section. The moderator will also mention this before the live stream (which is why it is important to not be late).

Programme of events around LI virtual congress 2020

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Tuesday, 13 October	13:00-13:50 UK-time	Cambodia at crossroads: sanctions and isolation or reconciliation and prosperity Speakers: - Mu Sochua CNRP Vice President - Astrid Thors Liberal International Human Rights Committee Chairperson - Wong Chen MP PKR, Malaysia & ASEAN Parliamentarians for Human Rights Moderator: - Emil Kirjas Founder, Kirjas Global
Wednesday, 14 October	14:00-15:00 UK-time	Isaiah Berlin Lecture - <i>The 10 Commandments of Isaiah Berlin</i> Livestream - Facebook Live / Zoom Speaker: - Dr. Henry Hardy Editor and Author. (Co-)editor of eighteen volumes of Isaiah Berlin's writings Moderator: - Lord Alderdice, John President of Honour, Liberal International Introductory Remarks: - Dr. Hakima El Haité President, Liberal International

Friday, 16 October	16:00-17:00 UK-time	Constraining COVID's Comeback: Managing the politics of a second peak Speaker: - Hon. John Steenhuisen MP Interim leader of the Democratic Alliance - Dr. Yi-Chun Lo Deputy Director General, Taiwan Centre for Disease Control - Prof. Erik Angner Behavioural economist and author Moderator: - Dr. Katalin Cseh MEP Physician & Member of the European Parliament
Monday, 19 October	15:00-15:30 UK time Livestream 15:30-17:00 UK time Registration required for full session	Gender Equality Report: Findings from the Women in Political Parties Index Livestream - Facebook Live / Zoom Speakers: - Astrid Thors LI Vice President & LI Human Rights Committee Chairperson - Flavia Kalule Nabagabe Chairperson of the Women's League, National Unity Platform (Uganda) - Sandra Pepera Director Gender and Women, NDI (USA) - Anela Lemeš Executive Director of Boris Divkovic Foundation, (Bosnia and Herzegovina) - Cllr. Jasmina Mršo Councillor in Sarajevo & International Officer, Naša Stranka (Bosnia and Herzegovina) - Cllr. Emma Murphy Councillor in South Dublin County Council, Fianna Fáil (Ireland) Moderator: - Petra Stienen Dutch Senator for D66

Tuesday, 20 October	15:00-16:00 UK Time	Extraordinary Virtual Congress Microsoft Teams (delegates only) <u>Virtual Executive Committee Administrative Session:</u> 1. <i>Opening</i> 2. <i>Adoption of agenda</i> 3. <i>Report from the Treasurers</i> 3.1 - <i>Report from the LI Treasurers on 2019-20 finances</i> 3.2 - <i>LI Treasurers present the 2021 budget</i> 3.3 - <i>Result of online voting for 2021 Budget</i> 4. <i>Results from the virtual executive committee voting</i> 4.1 - <i>Result of online voting to extend the LI statutes by 12 months</i> 4.2 - <i>Result of online voting to amend the LI constitution</i> 5. <i>Date and place of next meeting</i> 6. <i>Close</i> <u>Virtual Congress Administrative Session:</u> 1. <i>Opening</i> 2. <i>Adoption of the agenda</i> 3. <i>Report from the President and Secretariat</i> 4. <i>Results from the virtual congress voting</i> 4.1 - <i>Result of online voting to extend the LI statutes by 12 months</i> 4.2 - <i>Result of online voting to amend the LI constitution</i> 5. <i>Date and place of next meeting</i> 6. <i>Close</i>
--------------------------------	--------------------------------	---

Wednesday, 21 October	10:00-10:45 UK Time	Truth or Share: How will the digital disinformation war end? Livestream - Facebook Live/Zoom Speakers: - Maria Ressa CEO, Rappler; Journalist - Akinwale Goodluck Head of Sub Saharan Africa, Global System for Mobile Communications (GMSA) - Ketevan Bojgva Founder and Chairperson, Democracy Lab Georgia; Journalist Moderator: - Dragoş Tudorache MEP Chairman, Special committee on artificial intelligence in a digital age in the European Parliament
Thursday, 22 October	11:00 UK Time	Fireside chat: Securing multilateralism, promoting development after COVID <i>LI Fair Trade Working Group</i> Livestream - Facebook Live/Zoom Speakers: - Hon. Bill Morneau Canadian Minister of Finance (2015-20); Candidate for OECD Secretary General Moderator: - Prof. Karl-Heinz Paqué LI Deputy President & LI FTWG Chairman
Friday, 23 October	12:00 UK time	Africa Liberal Network: Leading Women In Africa <i>(In French)</i> Livestream - Facebook Live/Zoom Speakers: - Dr Hakima el Haité, LI President, Liberal International; Businesswoman; Politician; UN Climate Champion Moderator: - Mariem Fatnassi National Council Member, Afek Tunis

Saturday 24 October		UN Day
Tuesday, 27 October	14:00-14:45 UK-time	Happy Marriage or Bad Romance? Transatlantic relations after the US election Livestream - Facebook Live/Zoom Speakers: - Hans van Baalen President, ALDE Party - Jessica Brandt Head of Research and Policy at the Alliance for Securing Democracy, The German Marshall Fund of the United States - Erik Brattberg Director of the Europe Program and a fellow at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace Moderator: - Dr. Hakima El Haité President, Liberal International
Wednesday, 28 October	11:00 UK time	Beirut Blast: Fundraising Campaign Update <i>An on the ground reportage from the young liberals of the LI Democratic Training Academy, leading a campaign to raise fund for the victims of the Beirut explosion in August 2020.</i>

Thursday, 29 October	13:00 UK time	Climate Migration Impact Series: Campaign Launch Livestream - Facebook Live <i>Climate Migration Campaign Soft-Launch</i> - David Zimmer Former Provincial Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation - Susanna Rivero Baughman Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Advisor, Ministry for Environment and Sustainability, Government of Catalonia. <i>Expert Panel</i> Speakers: - Dr. Ingrid Boas Environmental Policy Group of Wageningen University - Njeri Kabeberi Director of Chapter Four Programs and Projects Ltd; Immediate past Executive Director of Greenpeace Africa - David Zimmer Former Provincial Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation Moderator: - Vincent Hoffmans D66 think tank, Mr. Hans van Mierlo Stichting
Friday, 30 October	15:00-15:45 UK time Livestream 15:45-17:00 UK time Registration required for full session	Policy lab: Safeguarding human rights in the digital age Livestream - Facebook Live/Zoom Speakers: - Marietje Schaake International policy director at Stanford University's Cyber Policy Center, D66 MEP (2009–2019) - Felicia Anthonio 'Keep it on' campaign lead, Access Now Moderator: - Karen Melchior MEP Lawyer & Member of the European Parliament

Tuesday, 3 November	15:00-16:00 UK-time	2nd Council of Liberal Presidents Meeting Venue: Microsoft Teams (Closed Session) - Dr Hakima el Haité President, Liberal International - Hassan Abbyaba President, ALF (MENA) - Gilbert Ouédraogo President, ALN (Africa) - Hans van Baalen President, ALDE Party (Europe) - Kiko Pangilinan President, CALD (Asia) - Ricardo Gomes President, RELIAL (Latin America) Special Guest: - Birgitta Ohlsson NDI Director, Political Parties Team; Minister for European Affairs 2010-14 (Sweden)
Wednesday, 4 November	TBC	Latin America Election Event <i>(In Spanish)</i> Livestream - Facebook Live/Zoom Speakers: - María Corina Machado Leader, Vente Venezuela; LI Prize for Freedom Laureate - Kitty Monterrey President, Ciudadanos por la libertad - OAS Representative, tbc Moderator: - tbc

TBD	TBD	The Road to COP26 Livestream - Facebook Live/Zoom Speakers: - Dr. Hakima el Haité President, Liberal International - Lord Barker of Battle, Greg UK Minister of State for Energy and Climate Change (2010-15) - Jean-Pierre Bou Deputy Head of the Delegation of the European Union in Mexico - Jean Pierre Elong Mbassi Secretary General of UCLG Africa Moderator: - Roger Bertozzi (tbc) Vice-president, Energypact Foundation, Vienna
-----	-----	--

Cambodia at crossroads: sanctions and isolation or reconciliation and prosperity

Tuesday, 13 October

13:00 - 13:50 UK-time

Three years since the arbitrary arrest of the leader of the opposition **Kem Sokha** and the subsequent dissolution of **Cambodia National Rescue Party**, and two years after the illegitimate national elections, the Cambodian regime finds itself under increased international pressure with limited options and few international allies. The politics and human rights situation in Cambodia presents complex challenges with severe consequences that could set a positive or deeply negative precedent for the region, so join our panel of experts to identify where next for Cambodia.



Mu Sochua
CNRP Vice President

Mu Sochua is a Cambodian politician and rights activist. She was a Member of Parliament for Battambang from 2013 to 2017, a seat which she previously held from 1998 to 2003. She was a member and Vice President of the Cambodia National Rescue Party (CNRP) until its dissolve, and previously a member of the Sam Rainsy Party (SRP) prior to its merger with the Human Rights Party.

As a member of FUNCINPEC, she also served as Minister of Women and Veterans' Affairs in Hun Sen's coalition government from 1998 to 2004. She is currently one of 118 senior opposition figures serving a five-year ban from politics following a court ruling on 16 November 2017.



Astrid Thors
Liberal International
Human Rights Committee
Chairperson

Astrid Thors is a Finnish politician & the former Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) High Commissioner on National Minorities (2013-2016). She currently serves as deputy chairperson of Liberal International's Human Rights Committee and was elected as vice president at LI's 70th-anniversary congress in Andorra in 2017.

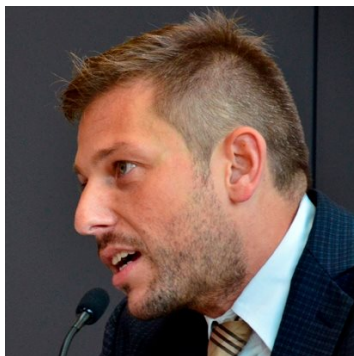
Ms Thors has extensive experience in international politics and human rights which provides valuable insight into international relations and diplomacy. She served parliamentary terms in the European Parliament (1996-2004) and in the Finnish Parliament (2004-2013), where she was the Finnish Minister of Migration and European Affairs (2007-11).



Wong Chen MP
PKR, Malaysia & Asean
Parliamentarians for
Human Rights

Wong Chen is a Malaysian politician from the People's Justice Party (PKR) currently serving as Member of Parliament of Malaysia for the Subang (Subang Jaya seat, formerly known as Kelana Jaya) constituency in Selangor.

Wong was appointed chair of the International Relations and Trade Select Committee on 4 December 2019



Emil Kirjas
Founder of Kirjas Global

Emil is a Macedonian politician. He served as junior minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Macedonia from 2004 to 2006. He is currently a vice-president of Liberal International, the oldest political international in the world based in London, where he was one of the longest serving secretaries-general (from 2007 to 2017).[2] In 2007 he was elected a vice-president of the Liberal Democratic Party (North Macedonia) for a mandate of 2 years.

He is a former President of the International Federation of Liberal Youth (IFLRY),[3] a position which he occupied from 2001 to 2005, after having served as secretary-general (1999-2001) and vice-president of the organisation.

His career includes working for various international organisations and institutions, including the Friedrich Naumann Foundation, the Council of Europe and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe. In 2017 he founded Kirjas Global Ltd. and currently advises heads of states and prominent political leaders world-wide.

He graduated with a master's degree in Geopolitics, Territory and Security from King's College London in 2007 where he was a Chevening Scholar.[2] He holds an engineering degree in Computer Science from the Ss. Cyril and Methodius University of Skopje.

Isaiah Berlin Lecture: The 10 Commandments of Isaiah Berlin

Wednesday, 14 October

14:00 - 15:00 UK-time

20 years ago, LI's 1st Isaiah Berlin Lecture was delivered by former leader of the Liberal Democrats, the late Rt. Hon. **Charles Kennedy**.

This year as societies are fractured by the political and economic consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic the wisdom of one of the twentieth century's most celebrated liberal thinkers, **Isaiah Berlin**, is needed perhaps now more than ever. The keynote address will be from editor and author who (Co-)editor of eighteen volumes of Isaiah Berlin's writings Dr **Henry Hardy** and moderated by LI President of Honour Lord **John Alderdice**. Welcome remarks will be made by LI President Dr **Hakima el Haité**.



Dr Henry Hardy
Editor and Author

Dr Henry Hardy is an Honorary Fellow of Wolfson College, Oxford. He is Isaiah Berlin's principal editor, and one of his literary trustees. He began editing Berlin's work in 1974 as a graduate student at Wolfson. He was a commissioning editor at Oxford University Press from 1977 to 1990, and has been working full time on Berlin since 1990. He has edited or co-edited eighteen of Berlin's books, as well as a four-volume edition of his letters. His memoir of working with Berlin, *In Search of Isaiah Berlin: A Literary Adventure*, was published in 2018. He is also the editor of *The Book of Isaiah: Personal Impressions of Isaiah Berlin* (2009).



Lord Alderdice, John
President of Honour,
Liberal International

Lord John Alderdice is a Northern Irish parliamentarian who has held numerous senior roles in UK politics, as well as serving as LI president 2005-09. With a lifetime's work dedicated to peacebuilding, today Lord Alderdice is the director of the Centre for the Resolution of Intractable Conflict, at the University of Oxford.

A former leader of the Alliance Party, Lord Alderdice was made a Liberal Democrat Life Peer in the UK House of Lords in 1996 and then became the first Speaker of the Northern Ireland Assembly (1998-2004) following the Good Friday Agreement. Prior to entering politics, he was a psychiatrist.

Lord Alderdice is the recipient of many international awards and honours, recognising his global efforts to bring about peaceful conclusions to violent conflict. Notably, he has been presented with the John F Kennedy Profiles in Courage Award; the W. Averell Harriman Democracy Award; the Silver Medal of Congress of Peru, and the Freedom of the City of Baltimore.



Dr. Hakima El Haité
President of Liberal
International

Hakima el Haité is a member of the executive board of Mouvement Populaire Morocco. Ms El Haité was elected as the 14th president of Liberal International at the 62nd Congress in Dakar, Senegal in 2018 and she is the second female president in LI's history and the first from the Middle East – North Africa Region.

El Haité is an internationally recognised leader in the fields of environmental sustainability development & climate change. As the former Minister of Environment for the Kingdom of Morocco, she was a major actor in bringing COP22 to Morocco. She was elected vice president of COP 21 (Paris Agreement) and appointed as Special Envoy and UN High-Level Champion of the International Climate Conference (COP 22).

Constraining COVID's Comeback: Managing the politics of a second peak

Friday, 16 October

16:00 - 17:00 UK-time

Much like the search for an effective vaccine, the political response to COVID-19 has been one of trial and error. Countries such as Sweden have opted for minimal government intervention while in the UK a paternalistic prime minister has taken to the airwaves to address citizens like errant school children. Meanwhile Taiwan, widely regarded as the poster-child for success, is prohibited by outmoded geopolitical convention from sharing its wisdom in international fora such as the World Health Assembly.

Eight months after the world registered the seriousness of the pandemic, many countries are preparing for a second wave - but are there any universal truths that can be applied to empower political leaders to make the right decisions?

The panellists will centre not on the crisis in statistical terms alone but on what lessons from earlier lockdowns have been learned and how political leaders can now improve their response to the next phase of the pandemic in terms of policy-making and public trust.

Our prominent panel of experts will share their experiences from the front line. From the **Democratic Alliance** governed Western Cape province in South Africa to the administration of a nation's health during a global pandemic. All tested and developed by the thinking of internationally renowned behavioural economist **Erik Angner**.



Hon. John Steenhuisen MP
Interim leader of the
Democratic Alliance

Elected interim DA leader in November 2019, John, previously served as the Chief Whip of the Official Opposition from May 2014 to October 2019. John has been a public representative for over 20 years. He has been serving as a Member of the National Assembly since July 2011. Prior to his appointment to the National Assembly, he was involved with the politics of KwaZulu-Natal first being elected as a councillor in Durban at the age of 22 and serving as the Provincial Leader of the DA and the party's caucus leader in the KwaZulu Natal Legislature.



Dr. Yi-Chun Lo
Deputy Director General,
Taiwan CDC

Dr. Lo is currently Deputy Director-General and spokesperson of Taiwan Centre for Disease Control and adjunct infectious disease physician at National Taiwan University Hospital. Since changing career path from clinical medicine to public health in 2008, Dr. Lo has been dedicated to controlling the HIV epidemic and associated co-infection outbreaks among MSM (e.g., HCV, shigellosis, hepatitis A) as well as responding to emerging threats including H7N9, ebola, MERS, zika, chikungunya and most recently COVID-19 in Taiwan. Dr. Lo is also a leading advocate in the Taiwanese government for HIV self-testing, PrEP, and legal protection policies among key populations.



Prof. Erik Angner
Behavioural economist and
author

Professor of Practical Philosophy at Stockholm University, Erik Angner is an internationally published behavioural economist whose research is an effort to answer the classical philosophical question “How should people live?” by exploring issues of well-being, rationality, and social order.

In his work, Erik tries to integrate the best available social science with the most careful philosophical reflection. He has written two books and a number of papers and book chapters published in journals of philosophy, economics, psychology, medicine, and history of science.

Prof. Angner’s approach is thoroughly interdisciplinary and he holds two PhDs – one in History and Philosophy of Science and one in Economics – both from the University of Pittsburgh.



Dr. Katalin Cseh MEP
Physician & Member of the
European Parliament

Dr. Cseh is a Canadian-born Hungarian physician and politician. Katalin studied medicine in Budapest and health economics in the Netherlands before she started her political career at Momentum Movement, a newly established centre-progressive party.

She was one of the founding members of the party and later she became a candidate for the European Parliamentary elections. After taking up her mandate in the European Parliament, she was elected for the position of Vice-President of Renew Europe. Katalin is working actively as a member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committee on Human Rights, the Committee on Regional Development and the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy.

She is an active member of the European Parliament’s Gender Mainstreaming Network, as well as the bureau member of the Anti-Corruption Intergroup and Vice-Chair of the Climate Intergroup. Katalin is also the Chair of Renew Europe’s Working Group on Values and Democracy.

Gender Equality Report: Findings from the Women in Political Parties Index

Monday, 19 October

15:00 - 17:00 UK-time

Registration Required for full session

Register here: <http://bit.ly/EqualityReportWIPPI>

This event will present the results of the inaugural Liberal International Women in Political Parties Survey and launch the first-ever Liberal International Gender Equality Report.

Taking place on the eve of LI's Virtual Congress, it is one of the most important projects of the Human Rights Committee for 2020. The aim of the event is to present the findings of the survey, where all LI member parties were invited to take a self-assessment survey to determine their level of gender inclusivity, and also engage the membership in an interactive discussion on some of the barriers to achieving female participation.

A moderator will lead the session, where the results will first be presented and where LI member parties will afterwards be invited in sharing best practices and discuss some of the recommendations of the LI Inclusivity Handbook.

This event is organised by Liberal International in cooperation with **D66**.



Astrid Thors
Liberal International
Human Rights Committee
Chairperson

Astrid Thors is a Finnish politician & the former Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) High Commissioner on National Minorities (2013-2016). She currently serves as deputy chairperson of Liberal International's Human Rights Committee and was elected as vice president at LI's 70th-anniversary congress in Andorra in 2017.

Ms Thors has extensive experience in international politics and human rights which provides valuable insight into international relations and diplomacy. She served parliamentary terms in the European Parliament (1996-2004) and in the Finnish Parliament (2004-2013), where she was the Finnish Minister of Migration and European Affairs (2007-11).



Flavia Kalule Nabagabe
Chairperson of the
Women's League, National
Unity Platform

Flavia Kalule Nabagabe has over 10 years of experience in governance, gender, politics, human rights, and social activism. Currently, Flavia is contesting for the position of Woman Member of Parliament, Kas-sanda district Constituency, Uganda in the forthcoming 2021 general elections. Flavia is currently the Team Leader of the Women League of the People Power Movement, Uganda, a Ugandan nonviolent political movement uniting people from all political affiliations and quotas with the aim of bringing about a Constitutional regime change. Flavia also currently works as an independent consultant in leadership, gender, civic engagement, and social work in various fields.

Flavia worked for the past six years with Forum for Women in Democracy, a national women's rights organisation in Uganda and has vast experience in capacity building, networking and mentorship for women and girls. She is currently pursuing a master's degree in Arts with Human Rights focusing on women's right to political participation at Makerere University.



Sandra Pepera
Director Gender and
Women, NDI

Sandra Pepera is a career diplomat and international development professional. Before joining the National Democratic Institute (NDI) as its director for Gender, Women and Democracy in 2014, she spent thirteen years as a senior officer at the UK's Department for International Development (DFID), including leading programs in the Caribbean, Rwanda-Burundi and Sudan. Prior to joining DFID, Sandra spent time in British domestic politics; lecturing in political science and international relations at the University of Ghana; and as a political analyst in the Political Affairs Division at the Commonwealth Secretariat. She has a portfolio of skills and experience which include strategy development, political and risk analysis, diplomacy, general management and corporate governance.



Anela Lemeš

Executive Director of Boris
Divkovic Foundation

Anela Lemeš is an Executive Director of Boris Divkovic Foundation (BDF) from 2016, who is leading the project management and organization of educational activities. Anela has led and organized a number of regional academies for youth and has worked on civil society networking and establishing new collaborations. She has managed to strengthen the capacity of the Foundation and expand the connections both inside the Bosnia and Herzegovina and around the Europe.

Anela has graduated in Political Sciences on University of Sarajevo and has completed her MA in Management and Organization on Adizes Institute USA, California, Adizes School of Management in Faculty of Economics, University of Sarajevo on the topic of Quality as the main foundation of the leadership position for universities in BiH.

Before working for BDF, she has worked as a Graduate Program Coordinator at the University Sarajevo School of Science and Technology (SSST) and won an award for the THE EX SOLO AD SOME AWARD for the contribution to the development and progress of SSST over a ten-year period.

When not traveling for work, she enjoys spending free time with her family.



Cllr. Jasmina Mršo

Councillor in Sarajevo &
International Officer, Naša
Stranka

Jasmina Mršo is currently the acting international officer of Bosnian liberal party Naša Stranka and a member of the party's Main board. She is also an elected councillor in the Municipal Council of Stari Grad, Sarajevo, as well as vice-chair of her local party branch. An educated pharmacist, she has a long political engagement in particular in health policy. She also works for the party's foundation, the Boris Divkovic Foundation, where she arranges trainings and seminars on important policy topics.



Cllr. Emma Murphy
Councillor in South Dublin
County Council, Fianna Fáil

Emma Murphy was elected to South Dublin County Council in 2016 and re-elected in 2019. Emma is a member of the Fianna Fáil party and was extremely active during the referendums for Marriage Equality and Abortion Rights in Ireland over the past number of years. Her background is in the NGO sector and previous roles include working as a Communications and Fundraising professional with NGO's in the areas of Intellectual Disability, Education, International Development and LGBTQ+ Sport. In July 2020 Emma took up the position of Communications Director for Barry Andrews MEP of the Renew Europe group.

Emma took part in the ALDE EWA programme in 2018. She has a personal interest in gender equality and education and is involved in working on such programmes in schools across the country. She has a passion for driving female representation in politics and acts as an advocate for increased female representation across all facets of the political spectrum.



Petra Stienen
Dutch Senator for D66

Petra Stienen is an author, independent advisor and former diplomat. She worked at the Netherlands Embassies in Egypt and Syria from 1995-2004, at the Gender division 2004-2005, and was the deputy head of the North America Division 2005-2009. After she left the Foreign Ministry in 2009 she established her own business as an independent advisor for various clients in the field of democracy, diversity and diplomacy to governments, ngo's and companies. She is one of the thought leaders in the Netherlands on European relations with the Middle East and gender. She is an established public speaker and has won a number of prestigious awards for her work.

She is a senator for D66 (focusing on asylum and migration and the labour market). She is also a member of the Netherlands delegation to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe.

Extraordinary Virtual Congress

Tuesday, 20 October

15:00 - 16:00 UK-time

Microsoft Teams (delegates only)

Virtual Executive Committee Administrative Session:

1. *Opening*
2. *Adoption of agenda*
3. *Report from the Treasurers*
 - 3.1 - *Report from the LI Treasurers on 2019-20 finances*
 - 3.2 - *LI Treasurers present the 2021 budget*
 - 3.3 - *Result of online voting for 2021 Budget*
4. *Results from the virtual executive committee voting*
 - 4.1 - *Result of online voting to extend the LI statutes by 12 months*
 - 4.2 - *Result of online voting to amend the LI constitution*
5. *Date and place of next meeting*
6. *Close*

Virtual Congress Administrative Session:

1. *Opening*
2. *Adoption of the agenda*
3. *Report from the President and Secretariat*
4. *Results from the virtual congress voting*
 - 4.1 - *Result of online voting to extend the LI statutes by 12 months*
 - 4.2 - *Result of online voting to amend the LI constitution*
5. *Date and place of next meeting*
6. *Close*

Truth or Share: How will the digital disinformation war end?

Wednesday, 21 October

10:00 – 10:45 UK-time

From swaying the outcome of national elections to discrediting free press and 5g conspiracies that lead to acts of industrial arson, the disinformation pandemic shows no sign of retrenchment.

Amid the global health crisis populations are locked down and reliant on online information like never before. Consequently, the proliferation of opportunist and nefarious groups as well as hard-line governments who are uniquely placed to set about unpicking the fibres of social solidarity should prompt a concerned public, business, media, and parliamentarians worldwide to ask ‘what will it take to end the disinformation war?’.

Bringing together high-level experts from the political, media, and policy spheres, this event will address how citizens can become empowered allies in the war against disinformation? Can we counter the global phenomenon of disinformation with policy from the top or action from the bottom? What else can we do to strengthen the resolve of those fighting for media, electoral, and commercial freedoms around the world in the face of staggering challenges?

This panel is organised as part of the LI-FNF global communication campaign, #FreedomFightsFake, an international project to spread awareness of, and educate populations around, the threats posed by disinformation. Learn more about the campaign and how to engage at www.freedomfightsfake.org



Maria Ressa
CEO, Rappler; Author and
Journalist

Maria Ressa is one of the Philippines' most distinguished journalists and authors, known for co-founding the news website Rappler in 2012, one of the first multimedia news websites and largest news outlets in the Philippines. Previously, Ms Ressa worked as CNN's bureau chief in Manila.

Shortly after the election of Philippines' President, Rodrigo Duterte, Rappler began to shine a spotlight on the pro-Duterte online “troll army” – who were pushing out fake news stories and manipulating the narrative around his presidency. Having been subsequently targeted by the Duterte regime and convicted of “cyber liable”, Ressa emphasised the importance of media freedom, stating: “We’re at the precipice. If we fall over, we’re no longer a democracy.”

Maria Ressa was included in Time's Person of the Year 2018 as one of a collection of journalists from around the world combating fake news and is the recipient of numerous awards, including the National Democratic Institute's Democracy Award (2017).



Akinwale Goodluck
Head of Sub Saharan Africa
GSMA

Akinwale Goodluck is the Head of the GSMA in Sub-Saharan Africa and has primary responsibility for the attainment of the GSMA's objective in Africa of connecting everyone and everything intelligently to a better future.

He leads GSMA's objective to serve as a guiding beacon for the mobile industry in Africa, focusing on collaboration between mobile operators, governments and other ecosystem players to overcome the physical, social and economic barriers to GSMA's vision for a better future. Akinwale joined the GSMA in February 2017.



Keteven Bojgva
Founder and Chairperson,
Democracy Lab Georgia;
Journalist

Keteven Bojgva is a communication professional with 15+ years of experience in media, PR and project management. She is a founder and chairperson at Democracy Lab, a Georgia-based organisation which has implemented over 20 projects in the fields of communication and informal education.

Over a thirteen-year career as a news journalist, Keteven has covered local and international politics and conflicts, including the Russia-Georgia war of 2008. As the chairperson of Democracy Lab she works on nationwide project which aims to strengthen the media literacy of young people in Georgia.



Dragoș Tudorache MEP
Chairman, Special
committee on artificial
intelligence in a digital age
in the European Parliament

Dragos Tudorache is a Member of the European Parliament (Renew Europe) and the Executive President of the PLUS party in Romania. He is the Chair of the AIDA (Artificial Intelligence in the Digital Age) special committee and sits in LIBE, AFET, SEDE, and the European Parliament's delegation with the United States.

Dragos began his career in 1997 as judge at the Galati court. Between 2000 and 2005 he built and led the legal departments at the OSCE and UN missions in Kosovo. After working on justice and anticorruption at the Commission Representation in Romania, supporting the country's EU ascension, he joined the Commission and, subsequently, qualified for leadership roles in EU institutions, managing a number of units and strategic projects such as the Schengen Information System, Visa Information System, and the establishment of eu-LISA.

During the migration crisis, he was entrusted with leading the coordination and strategy Unit in DG-Home, until he joined the Government led by Dacian Ciolos. Between 2015 and 2017, in Romania, he was Head of the Prime Minister's Chancellery, Minister of Communications and for the Digital Society, and Minister of Interior.

His current interests in the European Parliament include Artificial Intelligence and new technologies, the Republic of Moldova, internal affairs, security, and transatlantic issues.

Fireside chat: Securing multilateralism, promoting development after COVID

Thursday, 22 October

11:00 UK-time

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), will select its sixth secretary general in 2020, just ahead of its 60th anniversary in 2021. Whoever inherits the task of guiding the 37 member states of mostly rich countries will take over at a time of unprecedented international political and economic disruption.

While the full cost of the COVID-19 pandemic will unlikely be known, the next secretary general will need to be armed with a bold vision for fulfilling the OECD's stated objectives of promoting of democracy and the market economy and coordinating domestic and international policies of its members. Goals that coalesce neatly with the mission of Liberal International.

With the nomination window closing at the end of October 2020, this intimate fireside discussion will hear from Hon Bill Morneau - Canada's former Minister of Finance (2015-20) - from the Liberal Party of Canada (LI full member), who will set out his aspirations for leading one of the world's pre-eminent international bodies.



Hon. Bill Morneau
Canadian Minister of
Finance (2015-20);
Candidate for OECD
Secretary General

Hon. William "Bill" Morneau is a Canadian politician and businessman who served in the Trudeau administration as Canada's Minister of Finance between 2015-20. From April 2019, Mr Morneau also took on the responsibilities of Canada's Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs and Internal Trade. Today Bill is standing for secretary general of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

As Finance Minister, Mr Morneau is responsible for directing more than \$300 billion CAD in revenues via the federal budget each year. Administering tariffs and financial regulations also being part of his portfolio. As Finance Minister, Bill represented Canada at international gatherings, including the G7 and G20 Summits, in addition to serving as Governor of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank.

In addition to previously operating the largest HR firm in Canada, William Morneau has led an initiative with the UNHCR to open a secondary school for refugee girls in Kakuma refugee camp, Kenya, which opened in 2014. Mr Morneau was the first Finance Minister to become an International Gender Champion and also tabled Canada's first gender-based budget and introduced a banknote featuring civil-rights activist Viola Desmond, making it Canada's first circulation banknote to feature a Canadian woman, and the first to feature a Black woman.

Mr Morneau holds a BA from the University of Western Ontario, an MBA from INSEAD, and an MSc (Econ) from the London School of Economics (LSE).



Prof. Karl-Heinz Paqué
LI Deputy President & LI
FTWG Chairman

Professor Karl-Heinz Paqué is the chairman of the Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom (FNF). As well as being a member of the Freie Demokratische Partei (FDP) federal executive committee, he was elected as one of the vice-presidents of Liberal International at the 70th-anniversary congress in Andorra in 2017.

In addition to serving as minister of finance to the state of Saxony-Anhalt between 2002-06, Professor Paqué is today the Chair of International Economics at the Otto-von-Guericke-University of Magdeburg and Dean of the faculty of economics and management. He holds Ph. D. from the University of Kiel where he worked as a Professor, research director, and department head at the Kiel Institute for the World Economy from 1991-1996. Professor Paqué is the recipient of an honorary doctorate from the University of Miskolc, Hungary and is chief editor of the Journal *Perspektiven der Wirtschaftspolitik* of the German Economic Association.

Africa Liberal Network: Leading Women In Africa

Friday, 23 October

12:00 UK-time

Session will be in French – No Translation available

The Africa Liberal Network proposes to feature five episodes, one per month, of leading women from Africa. The purpose is to introduce to an Africa audience, the women who are investing in the development of our continent. The proposed five episodes will be broadcast once a month during August – December 2020.

All episodes may be styled to suite the personality of the woman featured in that interview. These are leading women in their chosen field, like politics, business etc. Meriem Fatnassi from Tunisia, will through the interviews take us on a virtual journey to meet Dr Hakima El Haite , understand her contributions to Morocco, Africa and globally and document motivation and words of encouragement from Dr Hakima El Haite, to all women in Africa.

The dominating narrative of the Leading Women in Africa episodes is to market women from the continent as exemplary role models and as pillars of support. Through this series, the Africa Liberal Network hopes to initiate a ripple of women whom can coordinate a support and solidarity network amongst themselves and together, advocate for women and girls, everywhere, to have equal rights, equal access to opportunities, and be able to live free of violence and discrimination.

The series markets the ideals of an open opportunity society and shines the spotlight on the fruits of our collective decisions of supporting women to lead. Women's equality and empowerment is one of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, but also integral to all dimensions of inclusive and sustainable development.

Gender equality by 2030 requires coordinated and urgent action, to eliminate the many root causes of discrimination that still curtail women's rights in private and public spheres. Discriminatory laws need to change, and legislation adopted to proactively advance equality.



Dr. Hakima El Haité
President of Liberal
International

Hakima el Haité is a member of the executive board of Mouvement Populaire Morocco. Ms El Haité was elected as the 14th president of Liberal International at the 62nd Congress in Dakar, Senegal in 2018 and she is the second female president in LI's history and the first from the Middle East – North Africa Region.

El Haité is an internationally recognised leader in the fields of environmental sustainability development & climate change. As the former Minister of Environment for the Kingdom of Morocco, she was a major actor in bringing COP22 to Morocco. She was elected vice president of COP 21 (Paris Agreement) and appointed as Special Envoy and UN High-Level Champion of the International Climate Conference (COP 22).



Mariem Fatnassi
National Council Member,
Afek Tunis

Mariem Fatnassi was born on October 19, 1988 in the coastal city of Sousse. She moved to Tunis in 1994 where she currently resides. Mariem has a Master's degree in English for Communications from the Higher Institute of Languages in Tunis. During her master's studies Mariem started her career as an activist with the I-Watch Organization, a Tunisian watchdog NGO.

After obtaining her degree in 2013, Mariem was recruited by the International Republican Institute, where she worked closely with civil society and political parties during a crucial period of democratic transition for Tunisia.

In late 2014, Mariem decided to launch her political career with Afek Tounes Party, a social liberal party founded after the Tunisian revolution. Mariem is active in Afek Tounes on the national, regional, and local levels. She was particularly active in the party's Academy as a board member and a trainer, where she has conducted trainings for young and senior party members alike.

She was elected to the Afek Tounes National Council in 2016.

In 2015 Mariem joined the Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom (FNF) and now she is holding the position of Senior Officer for Policy and Outreach in charge of political programs and partnership with Afek Tounes.

In March 2017 Mariem was elected as vice president of Afek Tounes' first elective party convention and was re-elected as a member of the party National Council where she came third in a list of 117 candidates.

In March 2019, Mariem was elected as a member of Afek Tounes' Political Board.

Happy Marriage or Bad Romance? Transatlantic relations after the US election

Tuesday, 27 October

TBC UK-time

Liberal democrats the world over have watched with a combination of confusion and alarm over the past four years as President Donald Trump, the leader of the free world, has torpedoed international foreign policy norms while successfully germinating seeds of division at home.

As Joe Biden at the time of writing surges ahead in the poll, and this event takes place just one week before the presidential election, a second term of President Trump is very far from assured but his legacy will continue to be felt at home and abroad for years into the future.

Against this very visible factious and fractious backdrop, how can America regain the trust of its international allies and what can we expect from a would-be President Biden? At home, and in light of his mismanagement of COVID in the US, how can we be sure that voters aren't rejecting Trump's incompetence rather than his illiberalism?



Hans van Baalen
President, ALDE Party

Johannes Cornelis “Hans” van Baalen served as LI president 2009-14. He is a veteran Dutch parliamentarian who, until 2019, led the VVD delegation in the European Parliament with a special focus on foreign affairs and defence.

As president of the ALDE Party – Europe's transnational political party – Mr Van Baalen works with Liberal Democratic parties to promote liberal values across the continent. Having worked as a management consultant for Deloitte, he entered the Dutch parliament in 1999 and the European Parliament in 2009.

For his defence of liberal ideas, Mr Van Baalen has been bestowed with awards from many countries including Chile, Germany, Catalonia, and Ukraine.

Hans van Baalen holds the rank of Colonel (Reserve) in the Royal Netherlands Army and completed a tour of duty in Bosnia in 2002.



Jessica Brandt

Senior Head of Research and Policy at the Alliance for Securing Democracy, , The German Marshall Fund of the United States

Jessica Brandt is Head of Research and Policy at the Alliance for Securing Democracy and a Fellow of the German Marshall Fund. She was previously a fellow in the Foreign Policy program at the Brookings Institution, where her research focused on multilateral institutions and geopolitics, and where she led the Democracy at Risk initiative. Jessica previously served as special adviser to the president of the Brookings Institution, as an International and Global Affairs fellow at the Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs at Harvard University, and as the director of Foreign Relations for the Geneva Accord. She is a member of the Advisory Council of the American Ditchley Foundation, a term member of the Council on Foreign Relations, and a David Rockefeller Fellow of the Trilateral Commission.



Erik Brattberg

Director of the Europe Program and a fellow at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace

Erik Brattberg is director of the Europe Program and a fellow at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace in Washington. He is an expert on European politics and security and transatlantic relations. His current research at Carnegie focuses on U.S. foreign policy toward the EU and NATO, transatlantic cooperation in an age of great power competition, European approaches toward AI and disinformation, and Europe's relations with China and Asia.

He holds a master of science in foreign service (MSFS) from Georgetown University and master's and bachelor's degrees in political science from Uppsala University.



Dr. Hakima El Haité
President of Liberal International

Hakima el Haité is a member of the executive board of Mouvement Populaire Morocco. Ms El Haité was elected as the 14th president of Liberal International at the 62nd Congress in Dakar, Senegal in 2018 and she is the second female president in LI's history and the first from the Middle East – North Africa Region.

El Haité is an internationally recognised leader in the fields of environmental sustainability development & climate change. As the former Minister of Environment for the Kingdom of Morocco, she was a major actor in bringing COP22 to Morocco. She was elected vice president of COP 21 (Paris Agreement) and appointed as Special Envoy and UN High-Level Champion of the International Climate Conference (COP 22).

Beirut Blast: Fundraising Campaign Update

Wednesday, 28 October

11:00 UK-time

An on the ground reportage from the young liberals of the LI Democratic Training Academy, leading a campaign to raise fund for the victims of the Beirut explosion in August 2020.

Climate Migration Impact Series: Campaign Launch

Thursday, 29 October

13:00 UK-time

The Climate Migration Impact Series, implemented jointly between **Liberal International** and **D66 International**, is aimed at raising awareness of the growing issue of human mobility linked to climate. Liberal International's Climate Justice Committee, established in 2018 to identify and fight the root causes of inequality linked to the climate crisis, is fully engaged in the initiative and will be supporting throughout the duration of the campaign.

Climate-induced migration, human mobility, or climate displacement is an ever-increasing issue on the international stage, with some estimates putting the number of movements up to 70 million per year. Liberal International and D66 International have come together to organise a series of experts level sessions on this topic, in order to inform the public and provide information to liberal colleagues taking part of in the project.

Throughout the month of September, 15 knowledgeable liberal activists have discussed the issues surrounding climate & migration with experts from academia, policy, and field practitioners in order to take in as broad a perspective as possible before they develop a liberally aligned campaign on this very important topic.

This event will be split into two parts 1) setting out the process of this great project and what the campaign the team are now undertaking (culminate with the PR video screening) and 2) a 45 minute free flowing debate.



David Zimmer
Former Provincial Minister
of Indigenous Relations and
Reconciliation

David Zimmer is the former Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation (2013 – 2018) and a four-term member of the Ontario Legislature. He has the distinction of being the longest serving Minister responsible for Indigenous Relations. Mr. Zimmer represented the riding of Willowdale in both the McGuinty and Wynne governments and acted as Parliamentary Assistant to Attorneys General Michael Bryant and Chris Bentley (2003 – 2011) as well as Parliamentary Assistant to Kathleen Wynne, then Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing and Minister of Aboriginal Affairs (2011 – 2013).

Mr Zimmer is a lawyer by training having practised at Ledrew Laishley Reed and served as an administrative law instructor in the Law Society's Bar Admission Course.



Susanna Rivero Baughman
Foreign Affairs and
Cooperation Advisor,
Ministry for Environment
and Sustainability,
Government of Catalonia.

Susanna Rivero Baughman is the Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Advisor at the Ministry for Environment and Sustainability in the Government of Catalonia. Before this, Ms. Baughman worked for the Ministry of Environment and Housing. She is also the leading member of the Regions Adapt, the first global initiative of regional governments to take action on climate change adaptations.



Dr. Ingrid Boas
Environmental Policy
Group of Wageningen
University

Ingrid is an Associate Professor at the Environmental Policy Group at Wageningen University. Ingrid does research in the fields of environmental change, mobilities, and governance, with a focus on the topic of environmental/climate change-related human mobility.

Since 2007 Ingrid works on the subject of climate change and human mobility, studied from the angles of governance, discourse and human geography. She holds a PhD in International Relations, obtained at the University of Kent (UK) in February 2014, on the securitisation of climate migration, funded by the UK Economic Social Research Council. She is research fellow with the Earth System Governance Network; permanent member of the Management Committee of the EU COST ACTION on climate change and migration which ran until 2015; and serves as an expert for the EU, the Dutch Government, the UN and for several NGOs. She co-chaired the international conference on 'Disclosing Sustainability' held at Wageningen University (2016), and led an international symposium on climate mobilities (2019).



Njeri Kabeberi

Director of Chapter Four
Programs and Projects Ltd;
Immediate past Executive
Director of Greenpeace
Africa

Njeri Kabeberi is a Kenyan human rights defender. Ms Kabeberi is the Director of Chapter Four Programs and Projects Ltd and the immediate past Executive Director of Greenpeace Africa.

Ms. Kabeberi is an international award-winning individual and previously influenced the environmental movement in Africa as the former Executive Director of Greenpeace Africa. Previously Njeri held various positions where she contributed extensively to the development of the human rights discourse in Kenya and the Africa continent. Ms. Kabeberi has significantly participated in the expansion of the democratic space and ideals, has fought for political freedom & political participation and is an ardent supporter of Good Governance. Her work has significantly contributed to gender equality and social justice in Africa and internationally. Njeri is an active member of several local and international boards.



Vincent Hoffmans

D66 think tank, Mr. Hans
van Mierlo Stichting

Vincent Hoffmans works for the D66 think tank, Mr. Hans van Mierlo Stichting. In this capacity, he is responsible for overseeing the institute's projects and public events. Additionally, he is currently writing a policy paper on the links between climate policy and democracy.

Policy lab: Safeguarding human rights in the digital age

Friday, 30 October

15:00 – 17:00 UK-time

Registration Required for full session

Register here: <http://bit.ly/LIPolicyLab>

LI's second Policy Lab will gather parliamentarians and experts within the field of digitalisation and human rights from across the global liberal family. The participants will discuss some of the key policy issues surrounding digitalisation and human rights, and work to develop liberal responses to the questions that will shape the internet and societies of our future.

An increasingly digital world reshapes our societies and poses a range of questions about what these societies will look like and how individual rights will continue to be respected. This event aims to lay the foundations for a global liberal response for these questions, building towards a publication outlining the Liberal Principles for Digitalisation and Human Rights.



Marietje Schaake
International policy
director at Stanford
University's Cyber Policy
Center, D66 MEP
(2009–2019)

Marietje Schaake is the international policy director at Stanford University's Cyber Policy Center and international policy fellow at Stanford's Institute for Human-Centered Artificial Intelligence. She was named President of the Cyber Peace Institute.

Between 2009 and 2019, Marietje served as a Member of European Parliament for the Dutch liberal democratic party where she focused on trade, foreign affairs, and technology policies. Marietje is affiliated with a number of non-profits including the European Council on Foreign Relations and the Observer Research Foundation in India and writes a monthly column for the Financial Times and a bi-monthly column for the Dutch NRC newspaper.



Felicia Anthonio

'Keep it on' campaign lead,
Access Now

Felicia Anthonio works with Access Now as Campaigner for the #KeepItOn Campaign, a global campaign that fights against internet shutdowns. The #KeepItOn coalition is made up of over 210 organizations across the world. Before joining Access Now, she was a Programme Associate at the Media Foundation for West Africa (MFWA) where she coordinated the African Freedom of Expression Exchange (AFEX), a continental network of free expression organisations in Africa. Felicia led the AFEX's campaigns and advocacy work on freedom of expression including the safety of journalists, access to information and internet freedoms and digital rights with particular focus on policy reforms that are inimical to the enjoyment of freedom of expression (offline and online). She is a 2019 Fellow of the African Internet Governance School (AfriSIG).

She holds a Master's Degree in Lettres, Langues et Affaires Internationales from l' Université d'Orléans, France and holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in French and Psychology from the University of Ghana.



Karen Melchior MEP

Lawyer & Member of the
European Parliament

Karen Melchior is a Member of the European Parliament from Radikale Venstre, Denmark. She was elected to the European Parliament in 2019. She has since been serving on the Committee on Legal Affairs and on the Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality. She is also a member of the European Internet Forum.

2nd Council of Liberal Presidents Meeting

Tuesday, 3 November

15:00 – 16:00 UK-time

Closed Session

On 25 June 2020 at the invitation of Liberal International, the presidents of the regional liberal networks worldwide - **ALDE**, **ALN**, **CALD**, and **RELIAL** - met virtually to form a new basis of cooperation and design strategies to tackle some of the greatest challenges to liberalism on their respective continents.

Convened by LI President **Dr Hakima el Haité**, the Council of Liberal Presidents discussed the global impact of COVID-19. They pledged to take action in the coming days to support liberals facing repression from governments cynically exploiting the pandemic to consolidate power as well as join up campaigning to secure Taiwan's seat at the WHO, when the World Health Assembly meets again later this year. You can read about the political positions adopted in the agreed readout by clicking here: <https://liberal-international.org/news-articles/liberal-international-inaugurates-global-council-of-liberal-presidents/>

This session will be the 2nd Council of Liberal Presidents.



Dr. Hakima El Haité
President of Liberal
International

Hakima el Haité is a member of the executive board of Mouvement Populaire Morocco. Ms El Haité was elected as the 14th president of Liberal International at the 62nd Congress in Dakar, Senegal in 2018 and she is the second female president in LI's history and the first from the Middle East – North Africa Region.

El Haité is an internationally recognised leader in the fields of environmental sustainability development & climate change. As the former Minister of Environment for the Kingdom of Morocco, she was a major actor in bringing COP22 to Morocco. She was elected vice president of COP 21 (Paris Agreement) and appointed as Special Envoy and UN High-Level Champion of the International Climate Conference (COP 22).



Hassan Abyaba
President of Arab Liberal
Federation

Hassan Abya is a cabinet member in the Moroccan government under Saad Eddine El Othmani. As of October 2019, he is the Moroccan Minister of Culture and Communication, the Minister of Youth and Sports, and the government spokesperson.

Abya was born in Rass El Ain in the Settat region of Morocco. He earned his bachelor's in 1989 and Master's degrees in economic geography. In 2010, he earned his doctorate in geopolitical studies from Mohammed V University in Rabat. He worked as a professor in the Faculty of Letters at Ben M'Sick University.

As Minister of Culture, he is working with the IESCO to put more Moroccan heritage sites on the Islamic World Heritage Site list.



Gilbert Ouédraogo
President of Africa Liberal
Network

Gilbert Noël Ouédraogo is a Burkinabé politician who has been President of the Alliance for Democracy and Federation–African Democratic Rally (ADF-RDA), a political party in Burkina Faso, since 2003. He served in the government of Burkina Faso as Minister of Social Action and National Solidarity from 2000 to 2002 and as Minister of Transport from 2006 to 2013. He was the Fourth Vice-President of the National Assembly of Burkina Faso from 2013 to 2014. Mr Ouédraogo is the President of the Africa Liberal Network.



Hans van Baalen
President of ALDE Party

Johannes Cornelis “Hans” van Baalen served as LI president 2009-14. He is a veteran Dutch parliamentarian who, until 2019, led the VVD delegation in the European Parliament with a special focus on foreign affairs and defence.

As president of the ALDE Party – Europe’s transnational political party – Mr Van Baalen works with Liberal Democratic parties to promote liberal values across the continent. Having worked as a management consultant for Deloitte, he entered the Dutch parliament in 1999 and the European Parliament in 2009.

For his defence of liberal ideas, Mr Van Baalen has been bestowed with awards from many countries including Chile, Germany, Catalonia, and Ukraine.

Hans van Baalen holds the rank of Colonel (Reserve) in the Royal Netherlands Army and completed a tour of duty in Bosnia in 2002.



Sen. Francis 'Kiko' Pangilinan
President of Council of Asian Liberals and Democrats

Senator Francis Pangilinan, president of the Liberal Party of the Philippines, is a leading opposition figure in the Philippines.

He has been vocal about his opposition to the various ways that the current Philippine government has tried to rewrite history, subvert democracy and the rule of law, and terrorize its population — in burying the late dictator Marcos at the Libingan ng mga Bayani, in its continuing kowtowing to China, in its persecution of Sen. Leila de Lima, in the removal of Chief Justice Lourdes Sereno from the Supreme Court, in the brutal and deadly drug war, and the anti-terror bill.

Pangilinan cut his political teeth in student politics at the University of the Philippines pre-EDSA People Power 1986. Then, he was elected youngest councilor in the capital's biggest city in 1988. After EDSA People Power II he won as senator in 2001 and was re-elected to a second term in 2007, the first incumbent senator to run as an independent and win.

His first two Senate terms were focused on justice, passing laws that created a judicial process for children separate from adult suspects and abolished the death penalty, among others. In 2014 he became Presidential Assistant for Food Security and Agricultural Modernization. In 2016 he won another six-year Senate term, this time focused on food and environment.

As President of the Liberal Party of the Philippines since 2016 he has been rebuilding and redefining it from the ground up (like a cathedral), changing its membership from purely politicians to include regular folk who want to contribute to nation-building and now in the time of COVID-19, in building a better normal.



Ricardo Gomes
President of RELIAL – the Latin American Liberal Network

Ricardo Gomes is a City Councilor in Porto Alegre, the southernmost capital city in Brazil. He was a Labor lawyer and consultant for 15 years before entering politics following his involvement in the demonstrations that led to Dilma Rousseff's impeachment.

In 2014 he was recognized as one of the top 500 lawyers of Brazil. He is the current President of RELIAL (Red Liberal de America Latina) and ex-President of IEE (Instituto de Estudos Empresariais). In 2012 he led the organisation of the 25th Forum da Liberdade (Liberty Forum), the largest free market event in the world, attracting around 6,000 people to a two sessions meeting. Gomes was Vice President of Instituto Liberdade (Liberty Institute) for 10 years.

He is also a member of the international board of Fundación Club de la Libertad, in Corrientes, Argentina. He is a member of the Mont Pelerin Society since 2013. Gomes contributed to several publications, mainly on classical liberalism.



Birgitta Ohlsson
NDI Director, Political
Parties Team

Birgitta Ohlsson serves as the National Democratic Institute's director of political parties. She has over twenty years of experience as a leader at the national level in political parties, leadership, feminism, civil society and foreign policy.

Ms Ohlsson entered politics formally in 1999 when was elected president of Liberal Youth of Sweden. In 2002, she was elected for as a member of the Swedish Parliament, where she served until 2018, serving in numerous leadership roles, including in the Committee on Foreign Affairs and as her party's spokesperson. Between 2010 and 2014, she was the Swedish Minister for European Affairs and Democracy issues, serving as a strong international voice on gender equality, democracy and LGBTI-rights. She has also been the President of the women's wing of the Liberal Party (2007-2010) and founded an independent Feminist Network, Felira, in 2003.

Latin America Election Event

Wednesday, 4 November

TBC UK-time

Session will be in Spanish – No translation will be provided.



María Corina Machado
Leader, Vente Venezuela; LI
Prize for Freedom Laureate

María Corina Machado is a Venezuelan politician and human rights activist. She is currently the National Leader of Vente Venezuela, the liberal party of Venezuela and Liberal International's 2019 Prize for Freedom laureate.

As a former congresswoman, courageous human rights defender and fighter for democracy and freedom, Ms. Machado has been outspoken in her condemnation of Venezuela's former president Hugo Chávez and led protests against the criminal regime of Nicolás Maduro.

In the face of state-sanctioned attacks, such as being charged with treason and conspiracy, attacked by Venezuelan regime supporters, and removed from the Venezuelan National Assembly due to her political activity. She has never stopped fighting for democracy, freedom, and human rights. She has illegally banned from leaving the country for over five years, time that she has spent travelling around Venezuela, spreading a liberal message and proposal, and strengthening the struggle for a free country. She is the mother of three children: Ana Corina, Ricardo, and Henrique.



Kitty Monterrey
President, Ciudadanos por
la libertad

Kitty Monterrey is the National President of the Party: Citizens for Liberty in Nicaragua. Following a successful professional career both in the United States and in Nicaragua, in 2005 she actively supported Eduardo Montealegre in founding a new liberal political party.

Monterrey held the position of Executive Director until 2016, when the legal representation for the Party was revoked by the government, in an effort to suppress all liberal opposition. Following that year's fraudulent elections and with the support of thousands of their former members, she founded her new Party, Citizens for Liberty (CxL). Nicaragua is suffering the worst suppression of the last decades with a death toll of almost 500, thousands in prison or in exile and constant violation of human rights. Therefore her priority, if elected a vice president of the LI Bureau, would be to ensure all nations are aware of their struggle against the so-called Socialism of the 21st Century, as well as dedicating all her efforts to the liberal cause for freedom and democracy.

The Road to COP26

TBC

TBC UK-time



Dr. Hakima El Haité
President of Liberal
International

Hakima el Haité is a member of the executive board of Mouvement Populaire Morocco. Ms El Haité was elected as the 14th president of Liberal International at the 62nd Congress in Dakar, Senegal in 2018 and she is the second female president in LI's history and the first from the Middle East – North Africa Region.

El Haité is an internationally recognised leader in the fields of environmental sustainability development & climate change. As the former Minister of Environment for the Kingdom of Morocco, she was a major actor in bringing COP22 to Morocco. She was elected vice president of COP 21 (Paris Agreement) and appointed as Special Envoy and UN High-Level Champion of the International Climate Conference (COP 22).



Lord Barker of Battle, Greg
UK Minister of State for
Energy and Climate Change
(2010-15)

Executive Chairman of the Board of Directors, EN+ Group; appointed Independent Chairman of the En+ Board of Directors in October 2017, immediately prior to the company's IPO in London. In February 2019, appointed Executive Chairman of the Board. 2001-15, Member of the British House of Commons. 2010-14, United Kingdom Minister of State for Energy and Climate Change, under Prime Minister David Cameron, becoming the longest serving British energy minister for a generation. August 2015, made a life Peer and, since October 2015, has been a member of the United Kingdom House of Lords. Extensive business experience in the energy sector, mergers and acquisitions, corporate finance, investor relations, and private equity gained prior to a successful career in politics. Educated at Lancing College, London University and London Business School.



Jean-Pierre Bou
Deputy Head of the
Delegation of the European
Union in Mexico

Born in 1965 in Marseille (France). He studied Law at the Aix-Marseille III University (Aix en Provence, 1983-87), Political Science and International Relations at Sciences-Po Paris (1987-89) and European Affairs at the College of Europe (Bruges, Belgium, 1989-1990).

Assistant to a Member of the European Parliament (1990-91)
Consultant in European Public Affairs (1991-93)
Administrator at the European Commission (1993-2010)
General Secretariat of the Commission (1993-95)
Directorate General for Industry / Companies (1995-2004):
relations with countries outside the European Union
Directorate General for Justice, Security and Freedoms (2004-08):
international dimension of immigration, migration and
development policy
Directorate-General for Development (2008-10): relations with
West Africa
EU Delegation in Cameroon: Head of the Political Section (2010-13)
European Service for External Action, Department of the Americas
(2013-19)
Responsible for Relations with Colombia (2013-15)
Deputy Chief of Division for South America (2015-19)
EU Delegation in Mexico: Deputy Head of Delegation (since August
2019).



Jean Pierre Elong Mbassi
Secretary General of UCLG
Africa

The General Secretariat includes the Secretary General and staff based at the headquarters in Rabat and regional offices of UCLG Africa. The Executive Committee appoints the Secretary General on terms and conditions, which it determines at its sole discretion as adopted during the Extraordinary General Assembly on November 13, 2016 in Marrakech, Morocco.

The Secretary General is the General Manager accountable for the accountancy and administration of UCLG Africa. In this capacity, the Secretary General has overall responsibility for the management of the organization and is accountable to the Executive Committee. Powers assigned to the Secretary General are defined by the Constitution and those delegated to him specifically and periodically in writing by the Executive Committee.

As well as leading the General Secretariat, the Secretary General has responsibility for overseeing the regional offices of UCLG Africa including the administering of the organization's administrative, technical, financial and judicial role, including representations before the courts of justice and implementation of the organization's activities and programs.



Roger Bertozzi
Vice President, EnergyPact

From 2015 to 2017 he advised the Moroccan Government in the context of the Presidencies of the UN Climate Conferences COP21 in Paris and COP22 in Marrakech. He is the co-founder of the Federation of Aluminium Consumers in Europe (FACE) and he has been advising for the past 20 years the aluminium industries of the GCC and of Russia. He co-organized the first Brussels Summit on the role of Sovereign Wealth Funds for growth and development and, in partnership with UNCTAD and the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the first international conference on the role of emerging economies in the transition to the green economy, at the UN Headquarters in Geneva, as well as a conference on the new roles of the Global South to mark the 50th Anniversary of the Non-Aligned Movement.

He has been for 17 years a Senior Adviser and negotiator for the United Arab Emirates (UAE) Ministries of Economy and Planning and then of Foreign Trade, including for the negotiation of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)-European Union (EU) Free Trade Agreement and as UAE Delegate to the WTO where he created and coordinated the Sectoral Initiative on Raw Materials. He has been the Permanent Representative for the GCC of the Parliamentary Association for Euro-Arab Cooperation and, as an expert, has been regularly consulted by the EU Commission and the EU Parliament on EU-GCC relations. He was also Member of the Board of the CCMO (International Middle-East Researchers Association) and President of the European Institute for Research on Mediterranean and Euro-Arab Cooperation (MEDEA), a Brussels-based think-tank.