



Back to the Future: empowering the next generation of European leaders **Thursday 25 March, 12.00-13.15 (CET)**

Bold young people and visionary decision-makers have several things in common – they do not accept things as they are, and are convinced they can change the world. CEPS has teamed up with the International Youth Think Tank (IYTT) to shine a light on the importance of bringing together young people in Europe with today's policymakers and leaders. By putting young voices centre stage, we allow the next generation to convey their ideas and fresh perspectives to those in power, promoting opportunities to shape a future in which they themselves can become leaders.

This event will launch **CEPS newest initiative, the CEPS Young Thinkers, aimed at including more diverse and young voices in the European debate.** The Young Thinkers Initiative will take place at the 2021 edition of Ideas Lab on 31 May - 4 June, where thirty young thinkers will work together to envision the future of Europe. IYTT will announce the final report of their International Youth Conference that took place in November last year. The report outlines the youth fellows' policy proposals addressing some of the biggest challenges facing Europe today. Curious to learn more about these two ventures? Join our virtual seminar on 25 March.

The boldness of young people will be embodied by four IYTT Youth Fellows, and the visions of decision-makers will be represented by **Heather Grabbe, Cecilia Malmström** and MEPS, **Daniel Freund** and **Katalin Cseh**.

Agenda:

- 12:00- 12:05** **Welcome**
Tinatin Akhvlediani, Researcher, Coordinator of Young Thinkers Initiative at CEPS

- 12:05 12:15** **Keynote speech**
The world doesn't wait for Europe: Challenges that will shape the future EU,
Heather Grabbe, Director, Open Society European Policy Institute

- 12:15 -12:25** **Launch of Call for CEPS Young Thinkers Initiative**
Isobel Watson, Membership & Communications Officer and member of Young Thinkers Working Group, CEPS

- 12:25 -12:30** **Introduction of IYTT**
Urban Strandberg, Co-Founder and Manager of the International Youth Think Tank

- 12:30 -12:40** **Presentation of the [IYTT's 2020 Conference Report's policy proposals](#)**
IYTT Youth Fellows – **Helena Back, Yassine Ben Yacoub, Joshua Bloodworth** and **Mirjam Vallström**



INTERNATIONAL
YOUTH
THINK TANK

12:40 -13:05 **Panel discussion Addressing the ideas on bringing youth together with policymakers and societal challenges highlighted in presentations**
Cecilia Malmström, former EU Trade Commissioner, Co-Founder of the IVTT
Daniel Freund, MEP, Group of the Greens/European Free Alliance
Katalin Cseh, MEP, Renew Europe Group

13:05 - 13:15 **Q&A**