

Wilfried Martens Centre

for European
Studies → 2023

Activity Report

Publications / Events /
Common Projects / Outreach
Bodies and Experts / Staff / Members



Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies

Activity Report 2023

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The Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies is the political foundation and think tank of the European People's Party (EPP) and is dedicated to the promotion of Christian Democrat, conservative and like-minded political values.

For more information
please visit:
www.martenscentre.eu

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A word from our President, Mikuláš Dzurinda

Reflecting on the past year, it seems to me that the best word to describe 2023 is “turbulent”. While the war in Ukraine continued to cast a long shadow and question the very foundations of European security, other challenges, such as the energy crisis and rising inflation, tested the economic and social fabric of our Union.

Russia’s war against Ukraine looks to be transforming from a local aggression into a wider geopolitical struggle between the West and the East. Some analysts suggest that China could prolong the war by strategically supporting Russia, in order to weaken the West economically and politically while securing its gains.

October 7 brought another catastrophe to the world: an unprecedented terrorist attack by Hamas on Israel. No one can yet predict what the ultimate consequences of this attack will be on the countries of the Middle East and the wider international community.

The EU carries a tremendous weight of responsibility on its shoulders: helping Ukraine to defend its freedom, ensuring Israel’s continued presence on the world map and any diplomatic efforts aimed at achieving peace and stability in the region, cooperating with Taiwan, and upholding the democratic community and a global order based on commonly agreed rules. This development has direct implications for European politics and underlines the crucial need for strong and united democratic forces.

Yet, amidst these daunting developments, the EU’s focus also extends beyond security. The economic recovery since the COVID-19 pandemic, the green transition, the growing migration flows, the erosion of the rule of law, middle-class anxieties and societal polarisation all require our attention. A particularly important challenge for the EU is also to succeed in an increasingly competitive global environment, in which our nearest rival is China, whose long-term economic prospects outshine those of the EU, as recent reports indicate. Reversing such a trend is of critical importance.

In this turbulent year, the Martens Centre remained steadfast in its dedication to Wilfried Martens’ vision of a strong, united, and prosperous Europe. As we commemorated the 10th anniversary of his passing, his ideals of dialogue, understanding, and collaboration resonated more powerfully than ever. Throughout 2023, our activities reflected this commitment.

Therefore, I am glad that we, at the Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies, have reflected on these developments and served to be a platform for insightful debate on these pressing issues. We continued to advance our mission of strengthening the European project, culminating in the strategic document titled “7Ds”, outlining very concrete recommendations for seven critical policy areas in the next EU institutional period.

Through many of our activities, we strove to help shape EPP policy positions and European-level decision-making. Our publications were widely circulated and cited, fostering informed debate and contributing to practical solutions. Furthermore, our events attracted diverse audiences, generating valuable insights, and creating meaningful connections.

Looking ahead, we remain committed to providing accessible and relevant research, promoting constructive dialogue, and advocating for policies that advance freedom, prosperity, and a more united Europe. We believe in the power of collaboration and are therefore extremely grateful for the engagement of the Martens Centre’s network, particularly our member foundations and partners, our Academic Council, our Honorary Board and all our research associates. We will continue to play our part in the vital endeavour to shape a more sustainable future for all Europeans.

Mikuláš Dzurinda
President of the Wilfried Martens Centre
for European Studies



Publications

As the EPP's political foundation, the Martens Centre monitors, analyses and contributes to the debate on EU policy that is relevant for both experts and the broader European public. Taking six main research themes as its point of departure, covering a wide range of specific political issues, the Martens Centre produces research papers and policy briefs and organises events and conferences.



All of our publications are available at:
www.martenscentre.eu/publications

Publications

JAN.

IN FOCUS
Up, Up and Away? A Price Stability Guide for Policymakers
 By Jürgen Matthes, Michael Grömling, Markus Demary, Björn Kauder, Berthold Busch, Gero Kunath, and Thomas Obst
 Edited by Eoin Drea
 This paper, the first of a two-part project, discusses the unexpected rise of inflation and provides clear guidelines on how policymakers should respond.

POLICY BRIEF
Relations Between the EU and Switzerland: Too Much to Lose, Too Little to Negotiate?
 By Anastas Punev
 Edited by Dimitar Lilkov
 This brief explores the evolving diplomatic ties between the EU and Switzerland and offers insights on how the two partners could maintain a mutually beneficial relationship.



FEB.

IN BRIEF
Mistaking the Wood for the Trees: Five Ways the EU can Deliver a more Competitive Industrial Policy
 By Eoin Drea
 This short brief examines the EU's Green Deal Industrial Strategy, and offers concrete steps for the EU to revamp its industrial strategy and better meet contemporary challenges.

IN BRIEF
Cross-Border Movements Compared: Migration from and to Ukraine in Historical Comparison with Other Conflict-Induced Situations
 By Vít Novotný
 The Russian invasion of Ukraine on 24 February 2022 created massive cross-border movements out of Ukraine and back into the country. This short piece presents a historical comparison of the Ukraine post-invasion migration with other similar situations in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries.

MAR.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS
The War in Ukraine and the Way Forward
 By Mikuláš Dzurinda
 Published shortly after Russia's war in Ukraine reached its first year, we wrote this paper presenting a concrete action plan for the EU to help Ukraine reach its goals.



APR.

IN FOCUS
Culture Wars: How to stabilise liberal democracies and regain ground for the centre-right parties
 By Peter Hefele
 This paper discusses the so-called culture wars and their risk to democracy through polarisation, self-censorship, and a limit to public discourse, while offering strategies to fortify the ideological stance of centre-right parties.

MARTENS CENTRE PAPER
Youth of the EPP: 25 Years on the Right Side of History
 By Gareth Gregan
 Edited by Silva Mertsola and Steven Van Hecke
 Written in collaboration with YEPP, this paper traces the rich history of the EPP's youth organisation from 1998 to today.

IN BRIEF
Why There Cannot be Climate Refugees
 By Adam Reuben and Vít Novotný
 This short brief discusses efforts to widen the scope of the 1951 Refugee Convention to include climate change, arguing that this has a limited chance of success and even risks damaging the international protection regime.



MAY

POLICY BRIEF
Evaluating China's Energy Outlook: The Reds Are Far From Green
 By Dimitar Lilkov
 This study takes a substantive look at China's energy situation, between government boasts of clean energy rollout and a coal-based reality, providing recommendations to EU policymakers.

POLICY BRIEF
The Ukraine War and Its Implications for European Security
 By Jolyon Howorth
 This paper tackles questions about the resurgence of interstate war, EU-Russia relations, transatlantic security dynamics, and the future of military capacity linked to the war in Ukraine.



JUN.

MARTENS CENTRE PAPER
From Bad to Worse: The Continuing Effects of Sanctions on Russia
 By Vladimir Milov
 A sequel to the 2022 Martens Centre paper titled "Beyond the Headlines", this study uses a host of macroeconomic indicators to show that contrary to Kremlin propaganda, Western sanctions are hurting Russia's economy.

POLICY BRIEF
Reforming Economic and Monetary Union: Balancing Spending and Public Debt Sustainability
 By Jürgen Matthes, Björn Kauder, and Samina Sultan
 Edited by Eoin Drea
 This brief examines plans to reform the Stability and Growth Pact and offers plans to optimise said reform, underlining its importance in order to reconcile high expenditure needs with existing debt ratios.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS
The UN Sustainable Development Goals – Some Reflections from the Perspective of the European Economic and Social Committee

By Sandra Parthie and Hans-Peter Klös
 Edited by Peter Hefele
 This paper considers the importance of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals and argues that the European Social Market Economy provides a solid foundation to include the SDGs in our policymaking objectives.

POLICY BRIEF
European sovereignty between autonomy and dependence: A guide for EU policy
 By Angelos Chryssogelos
 Edited by Federico Ottavio Reho
 This project discusses the matter of European sovereignty and contends that while it remains vital, it must be redefined to avoid unrealistic expectations, including through the transatlantic relationship.

IN FOCUS
Ukraine as a Locus of Identity: Why History and Culture Matter
 By André P. Debattista
 Edited by Federico Ottavio Reho
 This paper uncovers the significance of history, culture, and identity, in the Russia-Ukraine conflict, shedding light on narratives from both sides and providing possible ways for the EU to navigate these complexities.

POLICY BRIEF
Brexit: Navigating the Politics of Discord
 By Michael O'Neill
 Edited by Eoin Drea
 This brief examines how Brexit's promise to rejuvenate Britain's economy and global standing fell short, prompting a reevaluation of UK-EU relations amidst unforeseen challenges and the search for a more constructive path forward.

JUL.

→ 2023

RESEARCH PAPER
Why Price Stability Matters
 By Jürgen Matthes, Michael Grömling, Markus Demary, Björn Kauder, Berthold Busch, Gero Kunath, and Thomas Obst
 Edited by Eoin Drea
 A follow-up study to the January In Focus on the same subject, this paper provides a deeper look at the potential risk of inflation and the critical importance of offering an adequate macroeconomic response.

SEP.

FUTURE OF EUROPE
Middle-Class Concerns and European Challenges: A Data-Driven Study from a Centre-Right Perspective
 By Federico Ottavio Reho, Martijn Lampert, and Panos Papadongonas
 This report highlights the economic insecurity and fear of social regression which poses a threat to political stability and erodes trust in public institutions, offering input on how the EU and its members should address this.

OCT.

POLICY BRIEF
The Power of Opacity: EU Responses to Weaponised Migration
 By Vladimír Šimoňák
 Edited by Vít Novotný
 This paper discusses the orchestrated migration which certain autocratic regimes seek to pressure the EU with, examines the EU's response to said pressure, and provides input on future efforts.

NOV.

POLICY BRIEF
Rural Europe: Our Contract with Rural Europe – A Five-Point Plan for Europe's Heartlands
 By Joseph Daul and Eoin Drea
 This short paper unveils the disconnect felt by rural communities from the political process, emphasising the need for a new approach in the form of a Contract with Rural Europe in order to better answer the needs of rural citizens.

POLICY BRIEF
Freedom Must Be Better Armed Than Tyranny: Boosting Research and Industrial Capacity for European Defence
 By Garvan Walshe
 This study discusses the development of a Defense Industrial and Technological Base (DITB) within the EU and outlines measures for financing and implementation, drawing insights from defence budgets and investments among member states to address critical gaps and enhance collective security.

DEC.

Special Publications

→ 2023

FUTURE OF EUROPE

SEP. 2023

Middle-Class Concerns and European Challenges: A Data-Driven Study from a Centre-Right Perspective

Edited by Federico Ottavio Reho, Martijn Lampert and Panos Papadongonas

This report studies the position, aspirations, expectations and fears of Europe's middle classes concerning some of the key challenges that the EU is facing. It is based on an extensive online survey carried out in all 27 EU member states. This study, conducted with global research agency Glocalities, reveals an acute economic insecurity and fear of falling behind among EU citizens, especially in the lower social strata. It also shows that this crisis of citizens' expectations and prospects is a threat to political stability, as it feeds into a dangerous crisis of legitimacy and trust in public institutions and political parties.

Concerns may be most strongly expressed in the economic field, but also extend to the possible consequences of the war in Ukraine and the broader geopolitical realignments it entails. In particular, the combination of middle-class insecurity and relatively high levels of trust in Russia in parts of Southern and Eastern Europe should be highlighted. However, citizens also think that most challenges can be tackled and reversed through adequate political and policy action. In particular, the centre-right's approaches to security, immigration and the economy retain great appeal among the European middle classes; there is a need to better connect with the lower middle classes though.

Citizens also have a high estimation of the problem-solving capacity of civil-society actors and a relatively high level of trust in the EU. An inclusive narrative addressing European challenges on the basis of safety, stability, justice, freedom and cooperation could help to reassure Europe's middle classes. Centre-right forces have a fundamental role to play in this process.



THE 7DS PROJECT

OCT. 2023

The 7Ds for Sustainability: 175 Proposals for the Next Legislature

Edited by Klaus Welle and Peter Hefele

The EPP is built on the beliefs of Christian Democratic and Conservative People's Parties. Conservatives know that not every reform is progress. They have shared scepticism towards ideologies, and prefer pragmatic solutions. They abhor the violence of revolutions and realise that existing institutions contain the wisdom of generations. Christian Democrats try to balance and reconcile the seemingly irreconcilable: the social market economy, pluralism, federalism, popular parties and centrism. They aim to be the force of reconciliation and moderation in society.

Both Christian Democrats and Conservatives engage in the defence of the order firmly established in the free part of the European continent after 1945: representative democracy, the rule of law, inviolable human rights and a firm stand against any attempts of illiberal democratic backsliding. The Conservative intent to preserve and the Christian Democrat willingness to balance converge in the principle of sustainability. If we wish to preserve, we must find a proper balance between present and future necessities and ensure fairness between generations. Sustainability, therefore, has to be the core guiding principle of Christian Democrat and Conservative action across all policy areas.

With the aim of providing concrete policy proposals for the elections and beyond, the Martens Centre came up with a series of overarching programmes and specific projects to be undertaken in 7 vital policy areas: Debt, Decarbonisation, Defence, Democracy, Demography, De-risking globalisation, and Digitalisation.



European View

→ 2023

The European View is the policy journal of the Martens Centre. An intellectual platform for politicians, opinion makers and academics. It tackles contemporary themes of European politics, focusing on one specific theme in each issue.

The journal contributes to the debate on the most important fields of European and international politics. What makes it unique is its hybrid nature: its capacity to involve esteemed academics and experts, on the other hand, and high-level politicians and decision-makers, on the other. Presidents and prime ministers regularly author articles for the journal.



VOL. 22 - ISSUE 1 SPRING, APR. 2023

Navigating through renewed economic uncertainty

Edited by Niklas Nováký

As our societies began recovering from the direct effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, we were faced with a separate but related threat in the form of substantial economic dislocation due to supply chain shortages and rising inflation, the latter being partially attributable to Russia's invasion of Ukraine. As our societies rapidly re-adjusted to this new reality, this issue of the European View aimed at providing guidelines on successful economic stewardship in an unforeseen climate.



VOL. 22 - ISSUE 2 AUTUMN, NOV. 2023

Sustainable Europe: Cross-cutting strategies for a future-proof Union

Edited by Sara Pini

More than ever, we need new ideas to strengthen our democracy, foster peace and stability in our neighbourhood, defend our European way of life and ensure our continent has a leading role on the global scene. Recognising this reality and acting as a partner to the 7Ds Project, this issue of the European View seeks to provide additional input on how to improve outcomes for Europe in the upcoming legislature and offer a true concept of sustainability.



Events

As in the past, events were an essential part of our activities in 2023. Our offer of high-level events was mainly held in-person featuring a livestream, with the occasional webinar. We continued our event cooperation with renowned media outlets and organised yet another successful edition of our flagship event, the European Ideas Forum – perhaps our best one yet!



All of our events are available at:
www.martenscentre.eu/events

In-house Events



M

FEB.

01/02 ONLINE EVENT
The EU Artificial Intelligence Act: Racing to the Finish Line

In April 2021 the European Commission presented its long-awaited proposal to regulate the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI). Almost two years following the proposal, EU co-legislators were yet to reach an agreement. This panel of experts and politicians offered insights on recent developments and where the AI Act was headed.

23/02 BRUSSELS • HYBRID EVENT
Brothers in Arms – Joining Efforts to Secure Lasting Peace in Europe

As the war in Ukraine approached its one-year anniversary, the Martens Centre hosted an event to discuss EU and NATO assistance to Ukraine, and steps to secure a lasting peace in Europe.

28/02 BRUSSELS • HYBRID EVENT
NATO's Nordic expansion: What implications for the EU?

Following the outbreak of the war in Ukraine in February 2022, Finland and Sweden decided to apply for membership in the US-led NATO alliance. The two Nordic countries felt that Russia's increasingly aggressive behaviour towards its neighbours had fundamentally imperilled their long-cherished policies of military non-alignment. This discussion considered what these implications meant for the future of the EU and NATO.

MAR.

21/03 BRUSSELS • HYBRID EVENT
Making a splash in the Indo-Pacific – How can Europe strengthen its footprint in the region?

On 16 September 2021, the European Council, the Commission and the High Representative presented the EU's Indo-Pacific Strategy. The new strategy responds to the region's rising geopolitical and geoeconomic significance. This event reflected on the opportunities, challenges and limitations of Europe's engagement in the Indo-Pacific region.

22/03 BRUSSELS • HYBRID EVENT
Climate Change, Mobility and Migration: How Should Governments Respond?

Climate across the globe is changing faster than at any point in recent history. Variations in temperature, floods, fires, tornadoes and desertification are among the phenomena that increasingly affect people's lives. This event tackled important questions of how these changes would effect human mobility.

28/03 ONLINE EVENT WITH POLITICO
How the war in Ukraine changed Europe's thinking on defense

Russia's invasion of Ukraine rekindled Europe's discussions around how to best arm itself, with many countries scrambling to invest more in their militaries. Yet questions remain about whether Europe has the capacity — or will — to reach major military goals. And divisions remain within the EU and NATO over who should shoulder the Continent's security burden, how reliant Europe should be on U.S. military might, and where allies should focus their priorities in the coming years.



SEP.

07/09 BRUSSELS • HYBRID EVENT
Re-Thinking the Periphery: European Policy Towards Northern Africa

The importance of a new external EU policy towards Europe's neighbourhood is widely acknowledged. But there is a huge gap between ambitions, policy concepts and reality.

This discussion explored new approaches of bilateral relations and formulate policy recommendations for European policy makers in engaging with this region.



MAY

16/05 BRUSSELS • HYBRID EVENT
Fill the cracks or replace the foundation? How to address the EU asylum system's shortcomings

The EU's asylum system faces criticism for its dysfunctionality and burden on frontline states. Yet, its effectiveness in protecting the most vulnerable and addressing security concerns is often overlooked. The Martens Centre hosted a discussion to explore avenues for EU asylum system reform.

30/05 BRUSSELS • HYBRID EVENT
Extending the Green Deal: Reducing Moldovan energy dependencies on Russia

This event discussed how the EU can facilitate access to Green Deal opportunities for enlargement countries, with a special focus on Moldova, in a bid to improve energy security in the region.

NOV.

09/11 BRUSSELS • HYBRID EVENT
Publication Launch: Middle-Class Concerns and European Challenges

Based on an extensive online survey carried out in all 27 EU member states, a new Martens Centre paper studies the position, aspirations, expectations and fears of Europe's middle classes concerning some of the key challenges facing the EU.

14/11 BRUSSELS • HYBRID EVENT
Hostile Actors and Migration: Responding to Weaponised Population Flows

Orchestrating migration pressure has long been used as an instrument to pursue hostile intentions by a variety of actors. This Marten Centre event presented ideas for the EU to respond to instrumentalised population flows.

16/11 PRAGUE • IN-PERSON EVENT
Middle Class Concerns and European Challenges: Study Presentation in Czechia

Following the publication's launch in Brussels, the Martens Centre presented its Middle-Class study in Czechia with our partners IKDP and TOPAZ.

30/11 BRUSSELS • HYBRID EVENT
Shaping the Future Policy of Supply Chains: Resilience in Life Sciences

The resilience of essential supply chains remains among the priorities of the European Union and its member states. This Martens Centre event aimed to discuss the best policies and expert recommendations for achieving the smooth operations of these highly interconnected ecosystems.

DEC.

JUN.

06/06 BRUSSELS • HYBRID EVENT
Planning the "After-Party" – The Future of Political Parties in Europe

The endurance of mainstream political parties continues to be a focal point in the political landscape. This forum, hosted by the Martens Centre, sought to delve into the strategies and expert insights necessary for bolstering these foundational pillars of democracy.

21/06 ONLINE EVENT WITH FOREIGN POLICY

Tensions Beyond the Strait: How Taiwan's Security Is Impacting The Transatlantic Alliance

Foreign Policy and the Martens Centre jointly explored the escalating tensions between China and Taiwan and the implications for the transatlantic alliance. Policymakers, security officials, and experts came together for a thought-provoking event that went #BeyondtheStrait.

2023



06/12 BRUSSELS • IN-PERSON EVENT
The Future of the EU Green Deal: How to Achieve True Sustainability?

It has become apparent that parts of the current design of the EU's climate agenda are financially and socially unsustainable. This event will take stock of the progress made so far and also map out the main shortcomings of the European Green Deal. The Martens Centre will put forward suggestions about the future direction of the EU's decarbonisation agenda.

13th Transatlantic Think Tank Conference: An Alliance Unbroken

The 13th edition of our Transatlantic Think Tank Conference, co-organised with our partners at the Hudson Institute and the International Republican Institute, came at a critically important time for the transatlantic alliance. Participants discussed the shared geopolitical challenges of the West and the implications of the coming year for the alliance, with both the EU and the US holding elections in 2024.



WELCOMING REMARKS

The State of the Unions

SESSION 01

Road to Victory – Confronting Russia and Winning the War in Ukraine

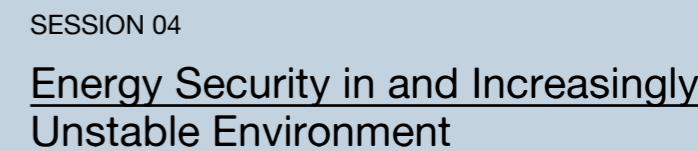


SESSION 02

The Threat of a Taiwan Invasion and Responding to an Emboldened China

LUNCHEON REMARKS

2024, A Year of Elections – Key Factors that will Shape the EU and US Elections



SESSION 03

Is it Time to Create a New Bretton Woods System?

DINNER DISCUSSION

The Transatlantic Alliance – The Power of Film to Promote Freedom and a Common Heritage, Defend the Civilisation of Their Peoples, and Support Democracy, Individual Liberty and the Rule of Law



The West vs the Rest – The Growing Alliance of Authoritarian Regimes in the G-77

CONCLUDING REMARKS





European Ideas Forum Brussels

→ 2023

The 2023 European Ideas Forum was the culmination of the experience gained over the past fourteen editions: we sought to provide a stimulating in-person experience for the audience members attending the panels live, while also offering a flawless online experience with the same TV studio-style broadcast as in years past. As always, the discussions and panels brought together policymakers, academics, current and former politicians and other experts to explore the key issues and challenges facing Europe.

The Forum featured opening remarks by Manfred Weber, EPP President, and a welcome video message by Ursula von der Leyen, President of the European Commission. The keynote address was delivered by Roberta Metsola, President of the European Parliament. Antonio López-Istúriz White, EPP Group MEP and Martens Centre Secretary-Treasurer, provided the closing remarks. In honour of ten years since the passing of our founder Wilfried Martens, EIF 2023 featured a tribute video to his memory on the morning of the second day.



Presentation of
the Forum

Mikuláš Dzurinda,
President, Martens Centre



Opening Remarks

Manfred Weber,
EPP President and
EPP Group Chairman



Video Message

Ursula von der Leyen,
President, European Commission

#EIF23 Day 01

→ 10 OCT. 2023

Day 1 included a panel on the future of the European Green Deal, a vital question in a world where climate risks are only set to worsen, but where action is often limited by fiscal capacities and inflationary threats. We then held a one-on-one conversation between the Martens Centre's Sara Pini and Alexander Stubb from the European University Institute on Europe's place in a changing world, followed by a panel on evolving geopolitical realities and the emergence of a new world order, where we sought to determine what role the EU could adopt in an increasingly uncertain global context. The second panel was organised in cooperation with Foreign Policy Magazine. Also featured were interviews with representatives from Apple and Vodafone.



PANEL 01

What Future for the European Green Deal?

Speakers Esther De Lange,
MEP, EPP Group, Member of the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety

Michel Barnier,
Former Vice President of the European Commission, Former French Minister for Foreign Affairs and Environment, Member of the Martens Centre Academic Council

Deborah Bergamini,
Vice Chairperson EPP Group, Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe

Ann Mettler,
Vice President, Breakthrough Energy

Moderator Peter Hefele,
Policy Director, Martens Centre



DISCUSSION

Europe's Place in a 'World of Disorder'

Speaker Alexander Stubb,
Former Prime Minister of Finland, Director of the School of Transnational Governance, European University Institute

Moderator Sara Pini,
Senior Research Officer, Martens Centre



PANEL 02

The Great Global Game - How Shifting Geopolitical Balances are Shaping a New World Order

(in cooperation with Foreign Policy Magazine)

Speakers Arnaud Danjean,
MEP, EPP Group, Member of the Committee on International Trade and the Subcommittee on Security and Defence

Julianne Smith,
US Permanent Representative to NATO

Karin von Hippel,
Director-General, Royal United Services Institute

Klaus Welle,
Chairman of the Martens Centre Academic Council

Moderator Jack Detsch
Pentagon and National Security Reporter, Foreign Policy Magazine



INTERVIEW

Connectivity as a Vector for Europe's Global Competitiveness

(in cooperation with Vodafone)

Speaker Ben Wreschner,
Group Chief Economist and Deputy Director of Public Affairs, Vodafone

Moderator Dimitar Lilkov,
Senior Research Officer, Martens Centre



INTERVIEW

Building Digital Trust: The Cybersecurity-Privacy Nexus

(in cooperation with Apple)

Speaker Gary Davis,
Global Senior Director of Privacy & Law Enforcement Requests, Apple

Moderator Dimitar Lilkov,
Senior Research Officer, Martens Centre

#EIF23 Day 02

→ 11 OCT. 2023

Day 2 opened with a video tribute to our founder Wilfried Martens on the tenth anniversary of his passing. This was followed by a policy debate which included Mikhail Kasyanov, former Prime Minister of Russia, and Anders Åslund, Senior Fellow at the Atlantic Council, exploring future perspectives for Russia once the war in Ukraine concludes. Panel 3 then explored the possibilities to improve innovation and competitiveness in Europe through education, where panellists discussed whether efforts should be focused on funding research grants or instead on early-stage education. Finally, Panel 4 explored the economic recovery outlook for Europe, aiming to balance between necessary prudence and cautious optimism. Day 2 also saw interviews with representatives from AT&T and Johnson & Johnson, before ending with a Keynote Address by Roberta Metsola and Closing Remarks by Antonio López-Istúriz White.



TRIBUTE to Wilfried Martens on the Tenth Anniversary of his Passing

POLICY DEBATE Is Russia Doomed? First-Hand Perspectives for Post-War Scenarios

Speakers Mikhail Kasyanov,
Former Prime Minister of Russia

Anders Åslund,
Senior Fellow at the Atlantic Council and Adjunct
Professor at Georgetown University

Moderator Anna Nalyvayko,
Senior Project Officer, Martens Centre



INTERVIEW The Healthcare of Tomorrow: Unlocking the Power of Data

(in cooperation with Johnson & Johnson)

Speaker Angel Martín,
Senior Director Digital Health & Taxation Advocacy EMEA,
WWGA&P, Johnson & Johnson

Moderator Federico Ottavio Reho, Strategic Coordinator and
Senior Research Officer, Martens Centre



INTERVIEW Meeting of Minds: Transatlantic Cooperation in the Age of AI

(in cooperation with AT&T)

Speaker Claudia Selli,
Vice President, International External and Regulatory
Affairs, AT&T

Moderator Anna Nalyvayko,
Senior Project Officer, Martens Centre

PANEL 04 Europe's Economic Outlook: A Road to Recovery?

Speakers Siegfried Muresan,
EPP Vice President, MEP, Member of the Committee on
Economic and Monetary Affairs

Óscar Arce,
Director General, DG Economics, European Central Bank

Maria Demertzis,
Senior Fellow, Bruegel, part-time Professor of
Economic Policy, School of Transnational Governance

Martin Larch,
Head of Secretariat European Fiscal Board,
European Commission

Moderator Federico Ottavio Reho,
Strategic Coordinator and Senior Research Officer,
Martens Centre



PANEL 03 Lost, but not Forgotten - Education, Innovation and Competitiveness for Europe

Speakers Eva Maydell,
MEP EPP Group, Member of the Committee on
Industry, Research and Energy

Anu Bradford,
Prof. of Law, Henry L. Moses Prof. of International Law
and Organizations at Columbia Law School

Peter Vesterbacka,
Chairman and Co-Founder, Finest Future

Moderator Tomi Huhtanen
Executive Director, Martens Centre



KEYNOTE Navigating Through Crises: A Defining Moment for Europe

Roberta Metsola,
President, European Parliament

CLOSING REMARKS

Antonio López-Istúriz White,
MEP, EPP Group, Secretary-Treasurer,
Martens Centre



03.

Common Projects

2023 saw continued cooperation between the Martens Centre and its vast network of like-minded organisations, which brings together 32 member foundations and 21 partner members from all over Europe and beyond.



All of our Common Projects are available at
www.martenscentre.eu/type-of-event/common-projects/

Common Projects

JAN. 19/01 CONFERENCE, VIENNA The Role of Female Diplomacy WMCES/PolAk JAN. – APR. COLLABORATIVE PUBLICATION Security and Defense Days Conference Proceedings 2022 WMCES/FDG JAN. – DEC. AUDIO-VISUAL PUBLICATIONS, SLOVENIA Dished Out – Politics, taxes and other inconveniences WMCES/INAK	FEB. 16-19/02 CONFERENCE, HELSINKI Start-ups leading sustainable change in Europe WMCES/KAS Nordic Countries 24/02 CONFERENCE, VIENNA One Year After 24th of February WMCES/PolAk 28/02-02/03 CONFERENCE, STRUMICA Regional Security School 2023 WMCES/KAS Skopje FEB. – NOV. CLOSED BRIEFINGS EU Migration Policy Briefing WMCES/KAS European Office	MAR. 03-06/03 CONFERENCE, MIAMI The Russian Invasion of Ukraine and the Threat to World Security WMCES/JHS 6,13,20,27/03 CONFERENCE, VIENNA Understanding Africa WMCES/PolAk 21/03 CONFERENCE, BRUSSELS New EU Accession Perspectives for the Western Balkans WMCES/HSS Brussels MAR. – OCT. COLLABORATIVE PUBLICATION China's Influence on the Western Balkans' EU Accession Process: Synergies and Obstacles WMCES/KAS Skopje MAR. – DEC. COLLABORATIVE PUBLICATION Challenges of Belarusian Migration in the EU WMCES/KAS Belarus	APR. APR. – OCT. COLLABORATIVE PUBLICATION International Cooperation in A New Era: Latin America WMCES/HSS Brussels 	MAY 18/05 CONFERENCE, SKOPJE Europe's Day 2023 WMCES/KAS Skopje 19/05 CONFERENCE, KRŠKO Transition to a low-carbon society - How to keep lights on and carbon down WMCES/INAK 29-31/05 CONFERENCE, BRATISLAVA GLOBSEC Forum 2023 WMCES/KAS Prague	JUN. 01-02/06 CONFERENCE AND COLLABORATIVE PUBLICATION, SOFIA The State of the European Union - a Need for Unity and Solidarity WMCES/HSS Bulgaria 01-03/06 CONFERENCE, WARSAW Baltic Sea Cooperation in Post-War Europe WMCES/JHS 05/06 CONFERENCE, VIENNA Strengthening Social Cohesion WMCES/PolAk 09-11/06 CONFERENCE, NIS Annual Seminar: Regional Cooperation and the Western Balkans WMCES/HSS Belgrade 13-15/06 CONFERENCE, PRAGUE European Values Summit 2023 WMCES/European Values
JUL. 10-13/07 CONFERENCE, LEUVEN & BRUSSELS ESU Summer Senior's Academy WMCES/CEDER 20/07 CONFERENCE, BRUSSELS MERCOSUR and the EU Spanish Presidency WMCES/HSS Brussels JUL. – OCT. COLLABORATIVE PUBLICATION AND EVENT, SKOPJE AND BRUSSELS A Blueprint of Accelerated Integration and Phasing-In WMCES/KAS Skopje JUL. – DEC. SEMINARS, ROME Dialogues on the Future of Europe WMCES/ILS	SEP. 08/09 CONFERENCE, OXFORD IN2030-Autumn University WMCES/KAS London 13/09 CONFERENCE, ATHENS The EU Accession of the Western Balkans in light of Russia's Aggression WMCES/HSS Athens 10-14/09 CONFERENCE, VIENNA 17-19/09 CONFERENCE, BUDAPEST How Europe Works 2023 WMCES/PolAk 28-30/09 CONFERENCE, DOJRAN Cross Border Cooperation: Water Management and Solar Photovoltaic Technologies WMCES/KAS Skopje 29/09-01/10 CONFERENCE, VISBY Will Peace and Order Ever be Possible? WMCES/JHS	OCT. 03-04/10 CONFERENCE, WARSAW Warsaw Security Forum 2023 WMCES/Casimir Pulaski Foundation 06-10/10 CONFERENCE, ŞIMLEU SILVANIEI EU Academy – EU Camp WMCES/KKA 12-14/10 CONFERENCE, CADENABBIA Finance Expert Roundtable WMCES/KAS London 17-18/10 CONFERENCE, ROME Security and Defense Days 2023 WMCES/FDG 17-19/10 CONFERENCE, BITOLA AND SHTIP Cathedra Adenauer 2023 WMCES/KAS Skopje 18/10 CONFERENCE, WARSAW The strategic relevance of a European Perspective for Belarus and the EU WMCES/KAS Belarus 20-22/10 CONFERENCE, ZALAU Training Weekend for Students WMCES/KKA	NOV. 18/05 CONFERENCE, SKOPJE Europe's Day 2023 WMCES/KAS Skopje 19/05 CONFERENCE, KRŠKO Transition to a low-carbon society - How to keep lights on and carbon down WMCES/INAK 29-31/05 CONFERENCE, BRATISLAVA GLOBSEC Forum 2023 WMCES/KAS Prague	DEC. 01-02/06 CONFERENCE AND COLLABORATIVE PUBLICATION, SOFIA The State of the European Union - a Need for Unity and Solidarity WMCES/HSS Bulgaria 01-03/06 CONFERENCE, WARSAW Baltic Sea Cooperation in Post-War Europe WMCES/JHS 05/06 CONFERENCE, VIENNA Strengthening Social Cohesion WMCES/PolAk 09-11/06 CONFERENCE, NIS Annual Seminar: Regional Cooperation and the Western Balkans WMCES/HSS Belgrade 13-15/06 CONFERENCE, PRAGUE European Values Summit 2023 WMCES/European Values	

→ 2023

Held under the umbrella title “Defining Europe: Overcoming Divisions, Uniting in Democracy” Net@Work 2023 set the tone for the coming year; Europe faces many challenges, and it cannot defer its action, especially with the European elections approaching. As the largest gathering of European centre-right think-tanks, Net@Work sought to explore solutions to these challenges through the lens of national level actors, whose useful perspective is crucial to EU-level policymakers. Thanasis Bakolas, EPP Secretary General, opened the conference, and Mikuláš Dzurinda, President of the Martens Centre, provided the closing remarks.



Opening Remarks

Thanasis Bakolas,
Secretary General, EPP

Event Aims

- To promote and increase the cooperation within our organisation's network of political foundations and think-tanks;
- To bring national priority subjects to Brussels and discuss them at an EU level;
- To harmonise and find a common ground for discussion;
- To advocate centre-right political content.

NET@WORK

PANEL 01

European Democracy in the Age of Disinformation, Polarisation and AI

AZAD, Malta / FLD, Albania / PolAk, Austria

The rise of disinformation and political polarisation, specifically online, is a novel and substantial challenge for our democratic institutions. The rise of social media, digital communication platforms, and generative AI have all enabled the rapid spread of false information, which can undermine trust in democratic institutions and promote extremist views. This can undermine the legitimacy of democratic institutions and erode the values that underpin them; this panel sought to provide answers on how to counter this trend.

Speakers Peter Agius, former Head of the Office of the EU Parliament in Malta, Senior EU Official

Eline Chivot, Senior Adviser on Digital Policy and Economic Affairs, EPP

Kreshnik Çollaku, MP, DP – Albania, Deputy Head of the Parliament's Foreign Affairs Committee

Moderator Margherita Movarelli, Head of Communications and Marketing, Martens Centre



PANEL 02

The European Defence Pillar and NATO's Transatlantic Umbrella: A Roadmap for Synergies

KKID, Greece / ILS, Italy / KAS, Germany

Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine revived the conversation on defending Europe from foreign aggression. President Biden demonstrated strong support to Europe, making his commitment to NATO a central part of his foreign policy. However, such American commitment may not always be taken for granted in the future, and our panelists aimed to determine how a structured European response to this reality might look.

Speakers Kostas Ifantis, Professor of International Relations, Panteion University of Athens, Scientific Director of the Center for Foreign Policy Planning, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Greece

Alessandro Minuto-Rizzo, President, NATO Defence College Foundation, former Deputy Secretary General of NATO

Severin Pleyer, Doctoral Research Associate, HSU – University of the Federal Armed Forces Hamburg

Moderator Sandra Pasarić, Project Officer, Martens Centre



FIRESIDE CHAT

Can a Heterogeneous Europe Remain a Strong Actor?

In a world where Europe must deal with challenges on multiple fronts, the ability of the EU to offer a collected and targeted response is the foundation of its ability to remain relevant. When considering the variety of interests at play, it can be hard to imagine a system where Europe acts as one, but this discussion was the opportunity to sketch out how such a system might behave.

Speakers Camino Mortera-Martinez, Head of Brussels Office, Centre for European Reform

Dalibor Roháč, Research Fellow, American Enterprise Institute, Research Associate, Martens Centre

Klaus Welle, former Secretary General, European Parliament, Member of Academic Council, Martens Centre

Moderator Federico Ottavio Reho, Strategic Coordinator and Senior Research Officer, Martens Centre



CLOSING REMARKS

Mikulás Dzurinda, President, Martens Centre

Outreach

Central to our efforts of developing centre-right thought in Europe is our coordinated outreach strategy. We make use of traditional and emerging media and produce a variety of audiovisual and written content in order to increase the visibility of our activites and our researchers, promote our content to a wider audience, and continue to be parts of the discussion on the European Union in Brussels and beyond.



All of our Outreach content can be found at
www.martenscentre.eu/news/

Our Formats

Our structure as a pan-European platform for centre-right ideas means we are always involved in discussions in a variety of policy areas and seek to diversify our content in order to attract as wide an audience as possible.

This is consistent with our overarching goal to bring the European debate closer to those to whom it matters most: the European public. Some of the formats we used to achieve this in 2023 were:



7Debates NEW

The 7Debates are a partner product to the larger 7Ds Research Project. These video panels enable us to present the importance of each of the 7 policy areas explored by the research. We opened the series with a conversation on the topic of Democracy between Klaus Welle, Martens Centre Academic Council Chair, and European Parliament President Roberta Metsola and Tom Vandenkendelaere MEP.



Video Op-Eds NEW

Realising that many people consume information on the go nowadays, we devised a way to bring our insights to a larger audience in today's fast-paced world: Video Op-eds! These combine the bite-size, incisive nature of the op-ed with the convenience of the video podcast!



All of our audiovisual content is available online
Scan the QR code to start enjoying it now!

EDITORIAL



Vital Questions

Our short written interview format, where we bring together key actors of certain spheres, such as members of our Honorary Board or experts in a policy field, to answer specific questions and offer their unique insights on the matters at hand.



"I say Europe, you say...?"

A series of entertaining and informative interviews with centre-right politicians aiming to present their perspectives and ideas on the European common project and its future. This interview series aims to reveal the everyday and down-to-earth side of the EU and national policymakers. This year, we featured an interview with the Warsaw Mayor, Rafał Trzaskowski.



Migration Update

The Migration Update is a monthly compilation of relevant news stories created by the Martens Centre's migration expert, Vit Novotný. It is sent to our subscribers and relevant contacts in this policy field, and exists to provide a factual base for migration debates within the European centre-right.

VIDEOS



Bridge the Channel

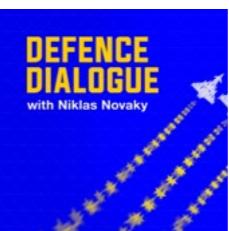
Starring Angelos Chrysogelos, Bridge the Channel is the spiritual successor to our Brexitometer series. It keeps our viewers informed about the latest political developments in the Anglosphere and their impact on political decisions made in the EU.



Thinking Talks

Our principal video interview format aimed at discussing a variety of issues with important guests across the EU sphere and beyond. This year, we held conversations with guests such as Brexit negotiator Michel Barnier, Radosław Sikorski MEP, and Russian Opposition Leader and Martens Centre Research Associate Vladimir Milov.

PODCASTS



Defence Dialogues

A podcast series hosted by Niklas Novák. It engages key policymakers and opinion leaders working on European security and defence policy in a conversation on contemporary issues and challenges in the area. The podcast series aims to discuss these issues and challenges in this vital, but complex policy area in a way that is accessible to everyone interested in them.



Europe Out Loud

A podcast series by Federico Ottavio Reho on salient issues facing Europe. Federico discusses a plethora of topics, in a tour de force through European history, culture and civilisation. He redefines political correctness with the help of razor-sharp arguments and beautifully drawn historical parallels. In September 2018, the podcast won a Digital Communication Award as the Best Digital Channel of the year.



Her and EU

Starring Loredana Teodorescu, Martens Centre Academic Council Member, Her and EU discusses gender equality in the EU. This year, the podcast has featured Eva Maydell MEP, and Belarusian Opposition Leader Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya, among others.



Brussels Bytes

A podcast series hosted by Dimitar Lilkov. It tackles novel issues of digital policy, online privacy, and FinTech, featuring a balance of academics, policymakers and private sector actors, reflecting the multi-layered nature of digital policy.

Martens Centre in numbers:

Throughout the year, we have consistently monitored the Martens Centre website to ensure its visual modernity and technical advancement, aiming to enhance the experience for our visitors. Specifically, we focused on improving loading times and ensuring all our content was accessible and up to date, truly making our website a one-stop shop for anything Martens Centre our audience might be after.

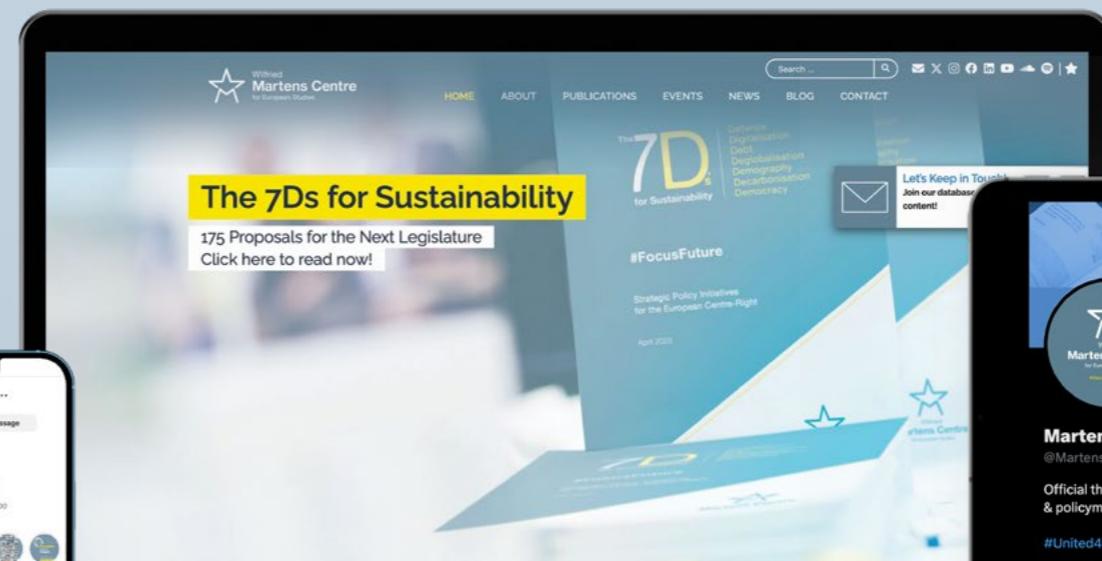
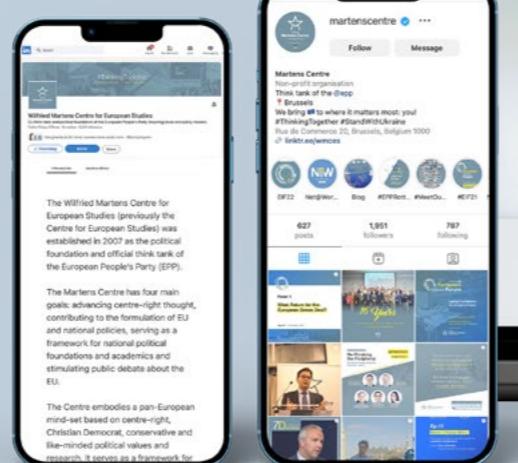
Website visitor trends:

In 2023, pages on the Martens Centre website were viewed a total of 196,943 times!

In 2023, here's where our audience from around the world logged in from:

1.	Belgium	14.68%
2.	United States	12.16%
3.	Germany	11.69%
4.	China	10.23%
5.	United Kingdom	6.59%
6.	Slovakia	3.08%
7.	France	2.72%
8.	Italy	2.71%
9.	Netherlands	2.24%
10.	Spain	1.77%
	Rest of the World	32.13%

Visit us at
www.martenscentre.eu

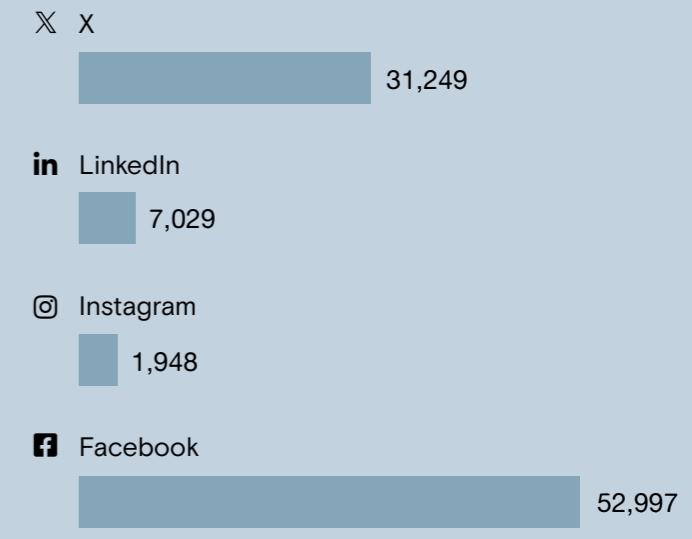


Latest publications



Social media

Social media Follower Count:



- X @MartensCentre
- in @MartensCentre
- @martenscentre
- f Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies
- yt CESThinkingEurope

In the Media

Martens Centre experts have been regularly invited to contribute to various media outlets reporting on topics relating to our work. Our researchers have also been extensively quoted by media discussing their areas of expertise. This demonstrates the Centre's relevance in public discussion at the very highest level, and is a testament to our strong presence in the European media landscape.

As part of our commitment to help inform the public debate as much as possible, we've also developed media partnerships to expand our reach and bring together new members of our audience with our established contacts. This also allows us to promote our wide offer of products, from policy papers to podcasts, to the relevant audiences across the EU.

A selection of our media output in 2023:



As the war in Ukraine neared its first anniversary, Klaus Welle wrote for Le Point on how the EU could start preparing for what will inevitably come next.



After a successful collaboration between Foreign Policy and the Martens Centre at EIF, Mikuláš Dzurinda wrote for FP about the emerging geopolitical relationship between Russia and China.



Back in June of last year, Eoin Drea discussed the importance of trust between farmers and the EU for Politico.



Our Executive Director Tomi Huhtanen was invited to participate in Euronews' Brussels, my love?



Our Policy Director Peter Hefele wrote for Euractiv on international development policy.

In 2023, several Martens Centre experts were invited to be interviewed and comment on current events.



In 2023, here are some of the media outlets that featured Martens Centre experts:





About us

The Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies (formerly the Centre for European Studies) was established in 2007 as the political foundation and official think tank of the EPP.

It embodies a pan-European mindset based on centre-right, Christian Democrat, conservative and like-minded political values and research. It serves as a framework for national political foundations linked to member parties of the EPP.

The Martens Centre helps prepare EPP programmes and policy documents. It organises seminars and training on EU policies and on the process of European integration. The Centre also contributes to formulating EU and national public policies. It produces research papers and books, policy briefs and the twice-yearly European View journal. Its research activities are divided into six clusters: party structures and EU institutions, economic and social policies, EU foreign policy, environment and energy, values and religion, and new societal challenges. Through its papers, publication launches, conferences and online activities, the Martens Centre offers a platform for discussion among experts, politicians, policymakers and the European public.

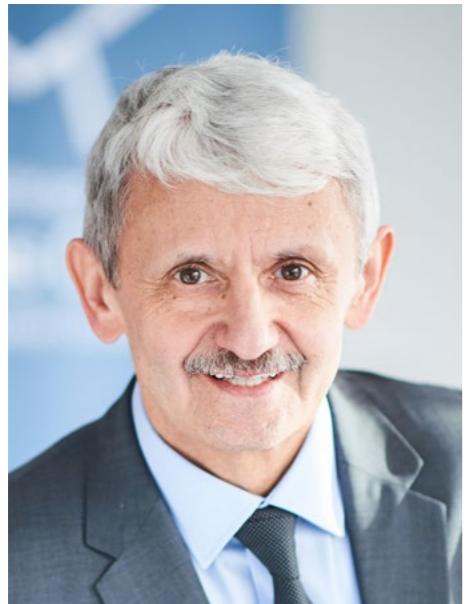
At the beginning of 2014, the Centre was renamed in honour of its late president and founder, Wilfried Martens, the EPP's long-standing president and a former prime minister of Belgium.



Find out more about us at
www.martenscentre.eu/who-we-are/

Executive Board

This board is composed of a maximum of eight members, including the President and the Secretary Treasurer, all of whom are elected by the General Assembly of the Centre. Its roles range from drafting the annual programme based on agreed research priorities and ensuring the legal representation and financial supervision of the activities of the Centre, to steering the expansion of the Centre's network of member organisations.



Mikuláš Dzurinda
President



Antonio López-Istúriz White
Secretary Treasurer



Joseph Daul



Roberta Metsola



Hans-Gert Pöttering



Peter Egardt



Arjen Siegmann



Maria da Graça Carvalho

Honorary Board

The Honorary Board aims to reinforce the expertise of the Centre, not only for enhancing the think-tank's expert profile, but also in order to boost its intellectual capacity, enabling our experts to address the EU's current and future challenges. The members of the board are all former prime ministers or former heads of EU institutions belonging to the EPP family, with a successful track record of country and institutional reforms.



Mikuláš Dzurinda
President



José María Aznar



Jan Peter Balkenende



Jan Krzysztof Bielecki



Carl Bildt



John Bruton



Lawrence Gonzi



Jyrki Katainen



Andrius Kubilius



Herman Van Rompuy



Antonis Samaras



Jacques Santer

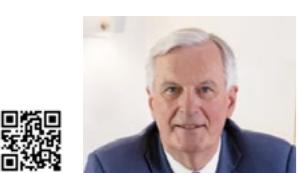


Wolfgang Schüssel

Academic Council

To increase the academic scope of the Martens Centre and to ensure its research, studies and activities meet the highest scholarly standards, the Executive Board nominates esteemed academics and researchers as members of the Academic Council.

2023 was a turning point in the Council's history; after helping establish the body and serving as its Chairman for 16 years, Werner Fasslabend passed the torch to its new Chairman, Klaus Welle, staying on as a member of the Council. Werner Fasslabend was presented with a special award in June to honour his dedication and drive to assemble and lead such an impressive collection of European minds over the years.



Michel Barnier



Ignacio Cosido



Franck Debié



Olof Ehrenkrona



Werner Fasslabend



Anthony Gooch



Jacob Kirkegaard



Antonis Klapsis



Giovanni Maddalena



Salome Samadashvili



Marina Skordeli



Loredana Teodorescu



Lucie Tungul



Žiga Turk

Individual Members



Jori Arvonen



Klaus Welle
Chairman



Mikolaj Dowgielewicz



John Bruton



Geir Flikke



IN MEMORIAM



Charles-Ferdinand
Nothomb (1936-2023)



Timothy Beyer Helm



Filippo Terruso



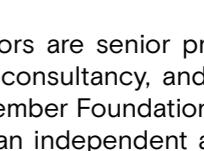
Jacob Lund Nielsen



Nicolas Pascual
De La Parte



Antti Timonen



Marianne Thyssen

Political Auditors



Peter D.P. Noordhoek



Peter Fischer-Bollin



José Herrera



Pantelis Sklias

Our Political Auditors are senior professionals from the worlds of politics, consultancy, and academia, who are affiliated with our Member Foundations. They are responsible for conducting an independent appraisal of the Centre's financial activities and provide assurance to the General Assembly and the Executive Board on financial aspects of the Centre.

Research Associates

Research associates and senior research associates are politically like-minded academics who contribute research papers, short analyses and blogs, and give advice on current affairs.



Angelos Chryssogelos



Edward Hunter Christie



André P. Debattista, Malta



SENIOR
Jolyon Howorth



SENIOR
Constantine
Arvanitopoulos



SENIOR
Rainer Münz



Hans Geeroms



Jürgen Matthes



Vladimir Milov



SENIOR
Jamie Shea



SENIOR
Michał Boni



SENIOR
Bruno Maçães



Magnus Norell



Michael O'Neill



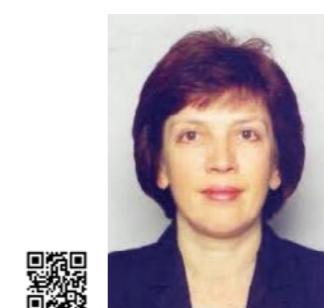
Jarosław Pietras



SENIOR
Lars Jonung



Dalibor Roháč



Rumiana Stoilova



Nikolaos Tzifakis



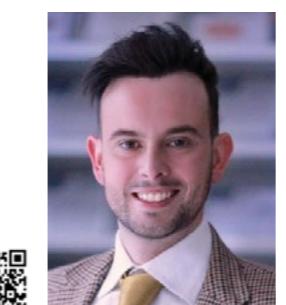
Michael Benhamou



Giselle Bosse



Luigi Crema



Tommaso Virgili



Garvan Walshe



Michael Wohlgemuth

Staff 2023



Tomi Huhtanen
Executive Director



Peter Hefele
Policy Director



Margherita Movarelli
Head of Communications and Marketing



Federico Ottavio Reho
Strategic Coordinator and Senior Research Officer



Viktória Jančošeková
Manager of the President's Office



Panos Tasiopoulos
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Sara Pini
Senior Research Officer



Dimitar Lilkov
Senior Research Officer



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Anna Nalyvayko
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Eoin Drea
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Vít Novotný
Senior Research Officer



Gavin Synnott
Project Officer



Gëzim Lezha
Visual Communications Officer



Anna Rožniatowska-Fidos
Financial & EU Grants Officer



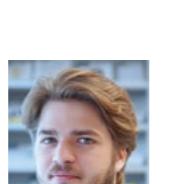
Julian Bonnici
Communications and New Media Officer



Eleftheria Katsi
Communications and Press Officer



Ionela Ciolan
Research Officer



Theo Larue
Editorial and Publications Officer



Sandra Pasarić
Project Officer



Stéphanie Honorez
Receptionist & Office Manager



Djamel Kitouni
Senior IT Officer



Niklas Nováky
Alumni

Internships

The Martens Centre offers internships of three to six months to university graduates and young researchers from Europe and the rest of the world. The internship programme is intended to provide the trainees with the opportunity to deepen their knowledge of European affairs and to gain close insight into the daily work of the European institutions in Brussels.



Ailbhe McNamara
Ireland



Alejandro Puigrefagut Pla
Spain



Alessandra De Martini
Italy



Karlo Curis
Croatia



Rick Slootweg
the Netherlands



Kristina Lazebna
Ukraine



Petar Tanev
Bulgaria



George Dimakos
Greece



Francois Barbeaux
Belgium



Liza Kutllovcí
Bulgaria



Samuel Crooks
Northern Ireland



Niccolò Mazzocchetti
Italy



Are you interested in an internship with the Martens Centre? Apply now!

Please visit
www.martenscentre.eu/join-team
for more information.



Member Foundations

With over 50 partner organisations and numerous yearly events organised across Europe and beyond, we are continuously expanding our network and expertise to better discuss and analyse issues of relevance to the EU.



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