

2026 PROGRAM

FRIDAY

23 October 2026 · Opening day

All times are Madrid time · See your local time at openeu.eu/assemblies/festival All times are Madrid time

Friday 23 & Saturday 24: CEST (UTC+2) · Sunday 25: CET (UTC+1), after the clocks change.

Want to see the times in your own time zone? The online agenda at openeu.eu/assemblies/festival converts every session to your local time.

 International Sign Language interpretation

LIVE SUBTITLES IN 6 LANGUAGES

Captions in English

Legendas em português

Subtítulos en español

Λεζάντες στα ελληνικά

Untertitel auf Deutsch

Ondertiteling in het Nederlands

15:30

16:00

PLENARY **Welcome to the OpenEU Festival — Presentation of the OpenEU Student Council**

Ólína Kjerúlf Þorvarðardóttir — President of Bifröst University · Anna-María Atanasova — President of the OpenEU Student Council

16:00

16:30

PLENARY **Nil Homedes — Decidim***Title to be confirmed*

16:30

17:00

PLENARY **Vlad Vexler***Title to be confirmed*

17:00

17:10

EVERYONE TOGETHER **Icebreaker**

17:10

17:40

PLENARY **Fernando Val Garijo***Title to be confirmed*

17:40

18:10

PLENARY **The Orbital Watchdog: How Space Policy and Satellite Data Drive Journalism, Transparency, and Public Welfare**

Atli Þór Fanndal Guðlaugsson

18:10

18:40

EVERYONE TOGETHER **Tufān Saadat**

Tufān Saadat — Poet

2026 PROGRAM

SATURDAY

24 October 2026 · Morning · Plenary

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10:30

11:30

CONVERSATION ISL

Francesc Xavier Collier Porta · Salvador Parrado Diez · Odón Elorza*Title to be confirmed*

11:30–11:35 Break

11:35

12:05

KEYNOTE ISL

Is Dependency Primarily a State of Mind in Today's Europe?

Loukas Tsoukalis

12:05–12:10 Break

12:10

12:40

PLENARY ISL

Sandra Márjá West — Chair of the Plenary, The Sámi Parliament in Norway*Title to be confirmed*

12:40–12:45 Break

12:45

13:15

PLENARY ISL

Paul Zoubkov*Title to be confirmed*

13:15

13:20

PLENARY ISL

Introduction to the afternoon sessions

Miguel Rodríguez

13:20

14:20

LUNCH BREAK ISL

Lunch time

Masato Sezawa — Documentary screening

2026 PROGRAM

SATURDAY

24 October 2026 · Afternoon · Breakout rooms · 14:20–16:40

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Room 1

Track 3 — Democracy in
Governance, Health & Society

Room 2

Track 4 — Digital Democracy,
Technology & Futures

Room 3

Track 5 — Democracy in
Education & Knowledge

Room 4

Track 6 — Language, Culture,
History & Democratic
Expression

14:20

14:20–15:20

ISL to be confirmed

**Restorative Justice
in University
Institutions**Elena Maculan · Mariano
Melendo

14:20–15:20

ISL to be confirmed

**Alek Tarkowski —
Open Future
Foundation**

Title to be confirmed

14:20–14:50

ISL to be confirmed

**Christopher
Worswick**

Title to be confirmed

14:20–14:50

ISL to be confirmed

**Science Fiction and
Imagined Futures:
Tools for Democratic
Activism**Giuseppe Porcaro —
Political Geographer

14:50

14:50–15:20

ISL to be confirmed

**We Learned to
Graduate. How Do
We Learn to Be
Citizens? From
Student to Lifelong
Learner to Active
Citizen**

Athina Skotara

14:50–15:20

ISL to be confirmed

**Culture in Society:
Participation,
Wellbeing and Work**

Erla Rún Guðmundsdóttir

15:20

Break · 15:20–15:30

15:30

15:30–16:30

ISL to be confirmed

**Disability,
Democracy, and
Accessibility:
Conversation**Spyros Ntantadis · Freyja
Haraldsdóttir · Verónica
Sierra · Tamara Diez
Otero

15:30–16:00

ISL to be confirmed

Athina Karatzogianni

Title to be confirmed

15:30–16:00

ISL to be confirmed

To be confirmed

15:30–16:00

ISL to be confirmed

**Democracy and
multilingualism: The
multicultural context
of Equatorial Guinea**Jeremías Micha Abaga
Mía

16:00

16:00–16:30

ISL to be confirmed

**Community
Technopolitical
Design**

Efraín Foglia

16:00–16:30

ISL to be confirmed

**Teaching Democracy
or Teaching
Democratically?
What Language
Classrooms Can
Teach Us About
Voice, Listening and
Participation**

Stavroula Bagia

16:00–16:30

ISL to be confirmed

Jorge Moreno

Title to be confirmed

16:30

Break · 16:30–16:40

2026 PROGRAM

SATURDAY

24 October 2026 · Afternoon · Breakout rooms · 16:40–19:10

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16:40

16:40–17:10

ISL to be confirmed

**From Unanimity to
Multi-Tier Europe:
Can a More Flexible
Union Remain
Democratic?**

Piro Baxerri

16:40–17:10

ISL to be confirmed

**Repair Café:
Democracy You Can
Hold in Your Hands**

Masato Sezawa

16:40–17:10

ISL to be confirmed

**Whose Questions
Count? Open
Hardware and the
Public Research
Agenda**

Julieta Arancio

16:40–17:10

ISL to be confirmed

**Two decades of
deliberative
democracy in
European politics.
What have we
learned and where
are we going?**

Yves Dejaeghere

17:10

17:10–17:40

ISL to be confirmed

**When the City
Speaks Without
Permission: Public
Space, Participation,
and Democracy in
Thessaloniki**

Thanos Pappas

17:10–17:40

ISL to be confirmed

**The Right to Repair:
Democracy in the
Age of Technological
Dependence**

Evangelos Tsavalopoulos

17:10–17:40

ISL to be confirmed

**“It’s Complicated”:
Inside the Political
Mind of Generation Z
and Understanding
Its Relationship with
Democracy**

Anna-Maria Atanasova

17:10–17:40

ISL to be confirmed

**No Permission
Needed: Art,
Empathy and
Activism**

Kosta Karakashyan

17:40

17:40–18:10 · EVERYONE TOGETHER ISL

Helgi Steinar

Helgi Steinar — Comedian

18:10

18:10–19:10

ISL to be confirmed

**How Can Governance
Foster Well-Being
and Social Trust?**Ana Brochado · André
Pereira Matos · Angela
Machado · Patrícia Palma
· Séfora Silva

18:10–18:40

ISL to be confirmed

**Citizen participation,
AI, and the crisis of
representative
politics.**

Sævar Ari Finnbogason

18:10–18:40

ISL to be confirmed

**Group Coaching
Session: Finding Your
Voice in a World of
Many Truths**

Margarita Kaleynska

18:10–18:40

ISL to be confirmed

**Julius E. O.
Fintelmann — The
European
Correspondent**

Title to be confirmed

18:40

18:40–19:10

ISL to be confirmed

**From Digital Promise
to Digital Lag: Can
Europe's South Catch
Up — and Who
Decides?**

Antonio Koronios

18:40–19:10

ISL to be confirmed

**19th Century: The
Beginnings of
Contemporary
Democracy —
Defining Citizenship,
Inclusion and Equal
Access to Education**

Ifigeneia Xaidara

18:40–19:10

ISL to be confirmed

Nina Paley

Title to be confirmed

2026 PROGRAM

SUNDAY

25 October 2026 · Workshops and closing

All times are Madrid time · See your local time at openeu.eu/assemblies/festival

11:00–12:00 · Four parallel workshops — choose the one you would like to join

11:00

12:00

ROOM 1 · PARALLEL WORKSHOP

Track 3

ISL to be confirmed

Democracy in the City: How Data, Participation and Public Health Can Rebuild Trust

Ioannis Kalantzakis

11:00

12:00

ROOM 2 · PARALLEL WORKSHOP

Track 5

ISL to be confirmed

Can Universities Learn to Change? Exploring Dialogue, Participation, and Institutional Transformation

Nadja Gmelch · Sara Maria Münnich-Schlotter

11:00

12:00

ROOM 3 · PARALLEL WORKSHOP

Track 6

ISL to be confirmed

Who Gets to Speak? Creating Democratic Folktales in Practice

Anastasia Floraki — Philologist, PhD candidate in Folklore, Democritus University of Thrace

11:00

12:00

ROOM 4 · PARALLEL WORKSHOP

ISL to be confirmed

Careers That Change the World: Your Career in Human Rights

Vicki Prais

12:00

12:30

EVERYONE TOGETHER

ISL

Entertainment (DJ) + The Harvest

Dafni — DJ