

A YOUNG AND FRESH LOOK AT THE EU FISCAL FUTURE

7 SEPT
WEDNESDAY
12:30 - 13:30

FEPS
FOUNDATION FOR EUROPEAN
PROGRESSIVE STUDIES



**FISCAL
FUTURE**

AN ECONOMIC GOVERNANCE FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS A YOUNG AND FRESH LOOK AT THE EU FISCAL FUTURE

Roundtable Discussion

7 September 2022

12:30 - 13:40

FEPS Office

Avenue des Arts 46, Brussels

CONTEXT

What kind of reform of the European fiscal rules are in the interest of younger people and future generations? A focus on debt reduction and fiscal sustainability, or an emphasis on enabling green investments?

The European fiscal rules are still suspended due to the multiple crisis, but may be reactivated in 2024. These rules need to be reformed in order to prevent the risk of returning to austerity. In the euro crises, austerity has led to social hardship, favoured the rise of populism, and even exacerbated the debt burden by stalling the economy. Therefore, a reform is urgently needed. But how can the European fiscal rules be reformed? And how can we create sufficient fiscal

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capacity to finance the just transition that is urgently needed for younger people and future generations?

AGENDA

11:50-12:30 Light lunch

12:30-12:40 Welcoming remarks and moderation

- **David Rinaldi**, Director of Studies and Policy at FEPS and Lecturer at the Institute for European Studies, Université Libre de Bruxelles

12:40-13:00 5-minute inputs by:

- **Katharina Wiese**, Policy Officer for Economic Transition and Gender Equality at European Environmental Bureau
- **Thomas Desdouits**, Fiscal Policy Campaigning Officer at the European Youth Forum
- **Ludovic Suttor-Sorel**, Research and Advocacy Officer at Finance Watch
- **Carl Muehlbach**, Founder at FiscalFuture

13:00-13:30 Interactions with all participants

13:30-13:40 Wrap-up and action points

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GUIDING QUESTIONS

FOCUS 1 / WHAT CAN BE REFORMED

- What are the areas in which more significant changes are to be expected?
- Which new policy solutions and corrections to the current framework would be able to ensure room for future-proof investment and countercyclical measures for resilience?
- What should be revised in terms of governance to ensure more accountability and transparency?

FOCUS 2 / HOW TO GET THERE

- How to attain the trust and climax needed for EU leaders to reach a bold agreement?
- How to change public opinion perceptions around important matters such as debt and moral hazard?
- What actions can be put forward by civil society to foster a common understanding among different 'blocks' in Europe and overcome regional divergences? i.e. frugals vs Mediterraneans, core vs periphery, net contributors vs net recipients.