



Online Expert Meeting

Transnational Dimensions of the European Far-Right: Actors, Narratives, and Breaking Its Discursive Hegemony

Tuesday, 15 July 2025, 09:30 – 11:30

@ online event via Zoom

Background and Rational

Over the past decade, Europe has seen the rise of a transnational far-right ecosystem—one that extends well beyond political parties and national borders. This online expert roundtable, organised by the Foundation for European Progressive Studies (FEPS) together with national partners, marks the launch of a new collaborative project investigating the cross-border dimensions of far-right influence in Europe.

At its core, the project explores a key question: *How do transnational ties among far-right actors contribute to their growing success and the mainstreaming of their narratives across EU member states?* While acknowledging that these links are just one factor among many, we will examine how they operate—and to what extent they matter. The ultimate aim is to generate actionable insights for progressive policymakers.

This initial online roundtable brings together a select group of experts and representatives from FEPS member foundations to help shape the project's direction. It is intended as a collective brainstorming session to identify key priorities for a series of three in-depth, full-day roundtables to be held in autumn 2025 with policy stakeholders and researchers. Our goal is to ensure these upcoming events address the most relevant and strategically important topics for progressive responses. In addition, we aim to leverage this project to build an expert network focused on this topic. Members of this network would be invited to participate in physical roundtable discussions.

The three autumn roundtables will build on one another and focus on:

1. **Mapping transnational far-right actors and networks**, including the physical and digital spaces where ideas and strategies circulate.
2. **Analyzing far-right narratives and frames**, tracing their origins, adaptation, and diffusion across contexts—and progressive counter strategies.
3. **Examining the far right in the European institutions**, with a focus on the European Parliament, to identify progressive counter-strategies informed by national experience and existing research.



Agenda

09:30-09:35

Opening remarks

- **Maria João Rodrigues**, President, FEPS

09:35 – 10:15

Session 1: Mapping Transnational Connections

Brief inputs by

- **Manuela Caiani**, Professor, Scuola Normale Superiore
- **Bharath Ganesh**, Assistant professor, University of Amsterdam

Discussion

- Mapping key transnational far-right actors, analyzing their networks, and identifying existing knowledge gaps

10:15 – 10:55

Session 2: Transnational Far-Right Narratives: From Progressive Responses to Proactive Counterstrategies

Brief inputs by

- **Thomas Greven**, Adjunct Professor of political science, Free University of Berlin
- **Teresa Völker**, post-doctoral research fellow at the Center for Civil Society Research Berlin

Discussion

- Identifying key narratives and counter narratives and identifying existing knowledge gaps

10:55 – 11:25

Session 3: Far Right in EU Institutions and Responses (in the current mandate)

Discussion

- Identifying key developments in the current EU institutional mandate, and implications for progressive strategies

11:25 – 11:30

Closing remarks

- **Maria João Rodrigues**, President, FEPS



This event is produced with the financial support of the European Parliament. It does not represent the views of the European Parliament.