

**“The future of progressivism – the renewal of social democracy”**

Hosts: FEPS and Karl Renner Institut  
within the framework of the Next Left Research Programme

Time: Friday, 17<sup>th</sup> October 2025 at 14.25 – 15.25

Location: Berlage Zaal, Beurs van Berlage

**Description:**

This unique 60-minute session is organized with a bold ambition to connect diverse conversations about the future of progressivism in Europe. As such, it will offer a space for the presentations of the most intriguing, encouraging and possibly groundbreaking findings of the Next Left Research Programme (est. in 2009), as outlined within the newest, written especially for the occasion pamphlet “[Facing the Future – how to make social democracy a powerhouse again](#)”. It will be a moment to hear about programmatic proposals, such as the doctrine of *Ecosocialism*. And it will be an opportunity to become familiar and engaged with the strategy outlined by the S&D Group in its own mission, which is to seek to gather best practices from across the Union and offer a rich repository of them as input to the debate on the movement’s renewal. But while the organizers have been honored by a fantastic line-up of confirmed speakers, each of whom will refer respectively to the themes mentioned here, to match the challenge of providing something fresh, they decided on a rather unusual schedule for the event. The framing will ensure that those joining in the capacity of the audience will be guaranteed the primary attention and the right to help shape the debate. That is especially true because the session will feature some digital surprises that will help preserve the key insights and the valuable proposals formulated during the exchange for further inspiration.

**Schedule**

**14.25 Welcome by the Chair of the Session**

Dr Ania Skrzypek, FEPS Director for Research and Training

**14.30 Facing the Future – how to make social democracy a powerhouse again**

Presentation by Professor Patrick Diamond, pamphlet’s co-author



**14.35      The most inspiring progressive ideas and where to find them**

*This part of the session is focused on the comments from the audience, during which speakers will have 90 seconds to make their respective points. The colleagues, who are willing to take the floor and who have indicated so by emailing the organizers, will be given priority. The time allocated for those interventions is set on 25 minutes.*

*In parallel, the e-board will be activated, enabling the entire audience to post their ideas, as well as to cast votes on the proposed ones.*

**15.00      Panel: The future of progressivism – where do we hope to go from here**

Paul Magnette, President of PS Belgium

Kata Tutto, President of PES at CoR (tbc)

Raphaël Glucksmann, S&D Group Envoy for Social Democratic Renewal

Irja Vaatari, Secretary General of YES

**15.20      Closing**

Andreas Schieder, Chair of the Next Left Research Programme and Chair of the SPÖ Delegation in the EP