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Date: Monday, July 20, 2026, 9:35 AM
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Subject: FW: Invitation, draft agenda and registration to the European Public Diplomacy Days – 30 September – 1 October 2026, Brussels

Attachments:

EPDD 2026_Draft Programme.pdf
 Invitation VP Verheyen to National Parliaments.pdf

Van: 5.1.2.e <5.1.2.e@natparl.ep.europa.eu>
Verzonden: vrijdag 17 juli 2026 13:30
Aan: 5.1.2.e <5.1.2.e@eerstekamer.nl>
Onderwerp: Fwd: Invitation, draft agenda and registration to the European Public Diplomacy Days – 30 September – 1 October 2026, Brussels

Verstuurd vanaf mijn iPhone

Begin doorgestuurd bericht:

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Onderwerp: Invitation, draft agenda and registration to the European Public Diplomacy Days - 30 September - 1 October 2026, Brussels
Antwoord aan: BECCA 5.1.2.e <5.1.2.e@europarl.europa.eu>

Dear Colleagues,

I am pleased to share the invitation to your parliament to take part in the **European Public Diplomacy Days**, which will be held on **30 September and 1 October 2026** in Brussels.

Building on the first edition organised online in 2025, the European Public Diplomacy Days (EPDD) will take place on the premises of the European Parliament and the Committee of the

Regions. They will bring together EU institutions working on public diplomacy and international people-to-people engagement, civil society, cultural and academic networks, and practitioners from across the world. The event will provide a platform to exchange best practices, strengthen cooperation, and reflect on how public diplomacy can respond to an increasingly fragmented geopolitical environment.

The participation of members of EU national parliaments will bring a valuable parliamentary perspective to the discussions, enriching exchanges with the public diplomacy community. Holding the event back to back with the EU Parliamentary Democracy Forum further enhances opportunities for dialogue between the two communities.

Please find attached the draft agenda, which includes brief descriptions of each session. In cooperation with the European External Action Service, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions, this year's discussions will focus on **democratic resilience and information integrity, including the engagement of younger audiences, global health resilience and the importance of building global solidarity, and the role of women leaders and gender equality in advancing EU public diplomacy.**

Invitations

Please find enclosed the non-nominative invitation letter from Sabine Verheyen, first Vice-President of the European Parliament. We count on your support to facilitate and coordinate your parliament's participation.

Registration and further information

For the event taking place on **30 September at the European Parliament**, registration is now open [here](#).

Registration for the events taking place on **1 October at the Committee of the Regions** will be made available on the European Public Diplomacy Days dedicated webpage, which will be launched shortly and will provide further information and regular updates.

The deadline for registration is **11 September**. Please note that there is no specific limit to the number of registered participants from EU national parliaments.

Contacts

5.1.2.e [BECCA](#) (tel: +32 2 28 44197) will be happy to assist you in the preparation of this event.

The active engagement of national parliaments in this process is highly valued.

We look forward to welcoming your parliament to Brussels for this important exchange on the future of public diplomacy and democratic cooperation.

Kind regards,

5.1.2.e

Director-General
Directorate-General for Parliamentary Democracy Partnerships



EUROPEAN PUBLIC DIPLOMACY DAYS

Brussels | 30 September – 1 October 2026

Draft Programme

DAY I – 30 September 2026

European Parliament

14:30 – 15:30 | **Welcome coffee**

15:30 – 16:00 | **Opening session**

Opening addresses:

- ❖ **Roberta Metsola**, President of the European Parliament (tbc)
- ❖ **Member of the Commission**
- ❖ **Séamus Boland**, EESC President
- ❖ **Gillian Coughlan**, CoR Vice-President (tbc)

Session I: Building trust in a digital world

In an increasingly connected and fast-moving information environment, public diplomacy is evolving beyond traditional communication towards sustained engagement, dialogue and relationship-building. This session will explore how the EU and its partners can strengthen democratic engagement in the digital age, navigate an increasingly complex information environment, and connect more meaningfully with global audiences.

Attention will also be given to younger generations, whose expectations, media habits and forms of civic participation are reshaping the future of public diplomacy. The discussion will examine how institutions, elected representatives, civil society, educators, creators and digital platforms can foster trust, encourage democratic participation and communicate Europe's values in ways that resonate with the next generation around the world.

16:00 – 17:15 | **Democracy, public diplomacy and information integrity**

17:15 – 18:30 | **The next generation: engaging global youth in Europe's story**

DAY II – 1 October 2026

Economic and Social Committee

Session II: Civil society, health and peace – together for global solidarity

The objective of the session will be to underline the link between civil society, health and peace, and the way they interact to reinforce global solidarity. Each panel will focus on one specific contribution of civil society: civil society as a partner in health diplomacy, civil society in preventing the instrumentalisation of health and in promoting health as a driver of peace, and civil society as a bridge between poverty reduction and health improvement.



09:30 – 10: 45 | Opening remarks and high-level panel

10:45 – 11:30 | Civil society as a partner in health diplomacy: how can we ensure health resilience and fight health disinformation

11:15 – 12:00 | Preventing the instrumentalisation of health in armed conflicts and promoting health as a driver of peace: the role of civil society

12:00 – 12:45 | No health without equity: civil society as a bridge between poverty reduction and health improvement

DAY II – 1 October 2026
Committee of the Regions

Session III: Local women leaders, catalysts for the EU Public Diplomacy

The objective of the session will be to showcase how local female elected officials are indispensable to the EU's foreign policy and public diplomacy. Local women leaders' engagement in public diplomacy initiatives - such as city-to-city cooperation, local dialogues, and participation in EU-funded projects - ensures that gender equality is not only a policy objective but a lived reality for communities across Europe and beyond. Empowering and supporting these leaders is fundamental to the successful implementation of GAP III EU action plan on gender equality in EU external action and to the EU's global standing as a promoter of equality, peace, and prosperity.

14:30 – 15:00 | Opening remarks

15:00 – 16:00 | Locally elected women leaders: an asset for the EU public diplomacy

16:15 – 17:30 | The role of local leaders in contributing to GAP III EU action plan on gender equality in EU external action

Sabine VERHEYEN
Vice-President

Dear Colleague,

I would like to cordially invite you to the European Public Diplomacy Days, taking place on 30 September and 1 October 2026 in Brussels.

Building on the first edition organised in 2025, this year's European Public Diplomacy Days will bring together Members of the European Parliament, representatives of national parliaments, EU institutions, civil society, cultural and academic organisations, and public diplomacy practitioners from across the world. The event will provide an opportunity to exchange experiences, strengthen partnerships, and discuss how public diplomacy can contribute to reinforcing democratic resilience and international cooperation in an increasingly fragmented geopolitical environment.

Discussions will focus on key political priorities, including democratic resilience and information integrity, the engagement of younger generations, global health resilience and international solidarity, and the role of women leaders and gender equality in advancing the European Union's public diplomacy.

A preliminary draft agenda is enclosed for your reference. The final programme and practical information will be forwarded in due course to your parliament's services responsible for relations with the European Parliament.

I hope that your parliament will be represented at this important event. We look forward to welcoming you to Brussels for an exchange on the future of European public diplomacy and democratic cooperation.

Yours sincerely,

5.1.2.e



Sabine VERHEYEN