

## ROUNDTABLE “Brexit and Citizens’ Rights: Where Do We Go From Here?”

20 June 2017

9.20am – 1pm

BOZAR, Centre for Fine Arts, Brussels



**ROUNDTABLE**  
“Brexit and Citizens’ Rights:  
Where Do We Go From Here?”

**#BestBrexit4U**

**20 June 2017, 9.15am – 1pm**  
*Followed by a networking lunch*  
Bozar, Centre for Fine Arts in Brussels  
Rotunda Bertouille Room  
Register at: [www.ecas.org/events](http://www.ecas.org/events)

In partnership with:



 **#BestBrexit4U**

**Wi-Fi**

**SSID: Prod@BOZAR**

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### Background information:

Almost a year on since the EU referendum in the UK, it is still unclear what will happen to the rights of the estimated 3.2 million Europeans living in the UK and the 1.2 million Britons living elsewhere in Europe. In her article triggering article 50 TEU on 29<sup>th</sup> of March, Theresa May put the interests of citizens as a first priority in the negotiation and called on an early agreement about their rights. Such was also the priority retained in the European Council guidelines for Brexit negotiations on 29 April, as well as in the European Parliament’s red lines on Brexit negotiations. However, none of the parties has elaborated yet on what this will mean or be done in practice.

### Aim of the event:

The aim of this roundtable is to bring together citizens’ representatives and decision-makers who are going to be involved in the Brexit negotiations to discuss these issues on an equal footing. Citizens’ representatives will be given the chance to voice the key concerns of the citizens they represent and expect a reaction from decision-makers. The specific aims of the roundtable will be:

- To identify the key issues of concern to citizens in the Brexit negotiations
- To identify possible solutions to ensure that in whichever deal that is reached the rights of citizens are upheld

## Roundtable on Brexit and Citizens' Rights: Where Do We Go From Here?

20 June 2017, 9.20am–1pm (followed by networking lunch)

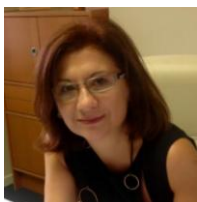
Venue: BOZAR – Centre for Fine Arts in Brussels  
Rue Ravenstein 23, Rotunda Bertouille Room

### *Agenda*

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|--------------|---|
| 8:50 – 9:20  | Welcome coffee and registration   |
| 9:20 - 9:30  | Keynote address – <b>Stefaan De Rynck</b> , Article 50 TEU Taskforce, European Commission   |
| 9:30 – 9:40  | Presentation of ECAS' survey on Brexit and citizens' concerns by <b>Assya Kavrakova</b> , ECAS' Director  |
| 9:40 – 9:45  | Presentation of the Citizen Brexit Observatory by <b>Dr Francesca Strumia</b> , Lecturer in Law, University of Sheffield  |
| 9:45-10:00   | Presentation of a citizens' manifesto by <b>Anthony Valcke</b> , EU Rights Clinic   |
| 10:00 -11:00 | Short interventions by civil society representatives (3-4 min each) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Catherine Naughton</b>, Director, European Disability Forum</li><li>- <b>Samia Badani</b>, Director, New Europeans</li><li>- <b>Katherine Heid</b>, Deputy Secretary General, Culture Action Europe</li><li>- <b>Olivier Sparagano</b>, Associate Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Coventry University (UK)</li><li>- <b>Eduardo Alvarado</b>, Organiser of ECI 'EU Citizenship for Europeans: United in Diversity in Spite of jus soli and jus sanguinis'</li><li>- <b>Piotr Sadowski</b>, Secretary General, Volonteuropa</li><li>- <b>Cécile Toubeau</b>, Director, Transport &amp; Environment</li><li>- <b>Professor Volker Roeben</b>, University of Swansea</li></ul> |
| 11:00-12:00  | Reactions from EU and UK decision-makers on Brexit<br><br>Moderator: <b>Niklaus Nuspliger</b> , <i>Neue Zürcher Zeitung</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Sophie in 't Veld</b>, MEP for ALDE, member of Citizens' Task Force, European Parliament</li><li>- <b>Richard Corbett</b>, MEP from S&amp;D, Labour Party</li><li>- <b>Jill Evans</b>, MEP for Greens/EFA, Plaid Cymru</li><li>- <b>Rosita Hickey</b>, Head of Strategic Inquiries, European Ombudsman</li><li>- <b>Michael Russell</b>, Member of Scottish Parliament, Minister for UK Negotiations on Scotland's Place in Europe</li><li>- <b>Sir Graham Watson</b>, EU Counsel, HM Government of Gibraltar</li></ul>  |
| 12:00-12:30  | Moderated Q&A session   |
| From 13:00   | Networking lunch  |



**Stefaan De Rynck** has been working in the European Commission for over 15 years and also teaches EU policy-making at postgraduate level. He has a Ph.D. in Political Sciences from the European University Institute in Florence, was a Yale University World Fellow in 2006-2007, has worked in academia on regional economic growth and local labour markets, and worked for a few years as a consultant on public sector management. He is currently Advisor for Outreach and Think Tanks for the European Union's Article 50 Task Force and Visiting Professor at the College of Europe.  
**@StefaanDeRynck**



**Assya Kavrakova** is the Director of the European Citizen Action Service (ECAS), and is also a member of the Stakeholder group of the REFIT Platform for Better Regulation. Before joining ECAS, Ms. Kavrakova served as the Director of European Policies Program at the Open Society Institute (OSI-S) in Sofia, Bulgaria, where she also led the analytical and research activity of the European Policies Initiative. She personally authored the paper: "The Unfinished Business of the Fifth Enlargement Countries". She has a Master's degree in Law and another Master's degree in European Studies. She has worked as a Public Policies and Outreach Director at the Democracy Network Program (DemNet) of the USAID. She was also the Executive Director of the Bulgarian branch of Transparency International. Assya Kavrakova is a German Marshall Memorial Fellow. **@AKavrakova**



**Francesca Strumia** is a Lecturer at the University of Sheffield School of Law, where she teaches in the areas of EU law and Public Law. She has also practiced law for several years in London and Milan, holds an SJD from Harvard Law School and a PhD from the University of Torino, and is a qualified lawyer in Italy and New York State. Her research focuses on EU free movement of persons, citizenship theory and nationality law, and comparative immigration law. She has published two books and several articles in this field. She is also actively involved in research and public engagement activities revolving around Brexit, and she has recently launched the Citizen Brexit Observatory, a public interest project in partnership between the University of Sheffield School of Law and the European Citizen Action Service in Brussels.



**Dr Anthony Valcke** has been advising on EU residence rights for over ten years. He directs the operations of the EU Rights Clinic, the first law clinic to specialise in EU law, which was set up by ECAS in collaboration with the University of Kent in Brussels. He is visiting lecturer at Kent and teaches courses on EU migration law and EU advocacy. He is also Adjunct Professor of Law at Vesalius College in Brussels where he teaches EU law relating to the single market. He is qualified as a solicitor in England and is also a member of the Brussels and Palermo bars. He received his PhD in Comparative Law from the Università di Palermo (Italy) and holds degrees in English and French law as well as a postgraduate qualification in EU law.



**Catherine Naughton** is the director of the European Disability Forum (EDF). She has formerly worked at the EDF member organisation, CBM at its EU liaison office as a Director of International Alliances and Advocacy Development, while she has also been the Chair of the International Disability and Development Consortium. Catherine Naughton has been long devoted to the disability movement and she has an extensive knowledge of international cooperation and the European Union. She also has a strong commitment to the promotion of the involvement of organisations of persons with disabilities in the decision-making process. **@CatherineNaugh @myedf**



**Samia Badani** leads New Europeans' monitoring on the situation of EU citizens in the UK and UK citizens in the EU, and also works as an independent social policy analyst and consultant. She has extensive experience of community based work and advocacy, and has been working in the voluntary sector for 10 years. She has been involved in both local and national campaigning to influence policy-makers and is a firm believer in empowering communities. She previously worked for 10 years at the Citizens Advice Bureau in London. **@SamiaBadani @NewEuropeans**



**Katherine Heid** has over 15 years' experience in the arts, intercultural exchange, and European politics. She began her career at the Franco-German Youth Office in Paris, where she focused on projects and events in film and music, and has since worked for the German Youth Ministry's Department for International Youth Policy, the International Youth Service of the Federal Republic of Germany and the Council of Europe. At the Council of Europe, Katherine was responsible for "all different – all equal" campaign activities, in addition to organising conferences and workshops on human rights, refugees, diversity and inter-religious dialogue. She then spent six years as co-director of the European Network for Opera and Dance Education. A former member of the Culture Action Europe board, Katherine joined the team two years ago as Head of political development and then Deputy Secretary General. **@Catoroc @ActforCulture**



**Olivier Sparagano** is Associate Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research) and Professor of Animal Health and Biotechnology at Coventry University. His own areas of research interest include vector-borne diseases, animal health, agriculture, vaccine development and molecular diagnostics. Since his arrival at Coventry University, Professor Sparagano has been elected as Chair of a European Cooperation in Science and Technology (COST) Action Grant (2015-2019), leading on research into poultry ectoparasites, which will see the University collaborating with over 28 European and worldwide countries.



**Eduardo Alvarado** was born in Mexico and lived in Kansas (USA) from age 12 to 25 before relocating to Vienna (Austria). He spent a semester at the Università di Bologna (Italy) and holds Bachelor's degrees in Economics and Philosophy from Kansas State University as well as a Master's in Advanced International Studies from the Diplomatic Academy of Vienna. His motivation for the ECI "EU citizenship for Europeans" grew out of his life experiences with nationality and his Master's thesis on EU Citizenship. **@FlockBrexit**



**Piotr Sadowski** has been the Secretary General of Volonteurope and Volunteering Matters' Head of European Affairs since 2008. Since 1 April 2017 he has also been in charge of developing Full Time Volunteering strategy at Volunteering Matters. He is Polish and British but considers himself a European Citizen. His education is in Economics and MBA in Business Management, while his personal involvement with volunteering dates back to when he was a teenager as a volunteer for the Royal National Lifeboat Institution. While studying at LSE, he volunteered with a charity providing education to terminally-ill children and, after completing his degree, he began working in the non-profit sector. **@Volonteurope**



At Transport & Environment, **Cécile Toubeau** leads the T&E better trade and regulation team monitoring the 'better regulation' agenda of the Juncker Commission, and the development of multiple EU trade agreements: Canada, US, Singapore, Indonesia, Mercosur, Mexico and the future relationship between the UK and Europe. **@Cecile\_Toubeau @TransEnv**



**Professor Volker Roeben** is Professor of Public International Law at the University of Swansea and Adjunct Professor at the University of Turku, specialising in (public) international law, European Union law and comparative public law. He was previously Senior Research Fellow at the Max Planck Institute for International Law and has worked at the German Federal Constitutional Court and served on several parliamentary advisory boards.



**Sophie in 't Veld** is a Dutch politician and has been a Member of the European Parliament since 20 July 2004, for Democrats 66 as part of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE) parliamentary group. She has been Vice-President of the ALDE group since 2014. Since 2004, she has been serving on the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs on the Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality and has been a member of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs. Between 2009 and 2014, she served as the committee's deputy chairwoman. In addition, she founded and currently chairs the European Parliament Platform for Secularism in Politics and has also been Chair of the European Parliament Working Group on Reproductive Health, HIV/AIDS and Development since 2009 and is Vice-President of the European Parliament Intergroup on LGBT Rights. She studied history at Leiden University and completed a master's degree in medieval studies. **@SophieintVeld**



**Richard Corbett** was first elected as an MEP in 1996 and is the Deputy Leader of the Labour Members of the European Parliament, Vice Chair of the UK European Movement and Chair of the Labour Movement for Europe. He is currently a member of the Constitutional Affairs and Fisheries committees. Besides being an MEP, he served as an advisor to Council President Herman Van Rompuy and has lectured on European matters at universities and elsewhere. **@RCorbettMEP**



**Jill Evans**, MEP, is the Vice-President of the EFA Group, and is presently a member of the Committee on Culture and Education. She deputises on the Transport and Tourism Committee and is also a member of the Delegation for relations with Switzerland and Norway and to the EU-Iceland Joint Parliamentary Committee and the European Economic Area (EEA) Joint Parliamentary Committee. Jill is former President of Plaid Cymru, the current party spokesperson for European and International issues and former chair of CND Cymru. **@JillEvansMEP**



**Rosita Hickey** is Head of the Strategic Inquiries Unit with the European Ombudsman. She has worked with the Ombudsman since 2001, previously as Head of the Communications Sector, Legal Officer and Press Officer. She has also worked in the European Commission and as a journalist. She is an International Commerce graduate of University College Dublin and holds a European Law Masters from King's College London and a Masters in European Political and Administrative Studies from the College of Europe, Bruges. **@EUOmbudsman**



**Michael Russell** was brought up in Troon in Ayrshire and educated at Edinburgh University, he has lived in Argyll for over 20 years. He was appointed Minister for UK Negotiations on Scotland's Place in Europe in September 2016, and has previously served as Minister for Environment, 2007-2009, Minister for Culture, External Affairs and the Constitution and Cabinet Secretary for Education, which he held until 2014. He is the Constituency Member of the Scottish Parliament for Argyll & Bute. **@Feorlean**



**Sir Graham Watson** was born in Rothesay, Scotland, in 1956, and heads the EU Representation of HM Government of Gibraltar. He is also a Member of the European Economic and Social Committee and a co-founder and Honorary Chairman of the Climate Parliament, a global network of legislators working to accelerate the transition to a low-carbon economy. The company he founded in 2014, Bagehot, offers consultancy and professional conference moderating services. Sir Graham was an MEP for South West England and Gibraltar from 1994-2014. His most widely read book is 'Building a Liberal Europe', published in 2010. **@SirGrahamWatson**