

PRESS RELEASE

Europe after the crisis: changed power, defiant people?

21 November 2013, 18h15, Jean Monnet Conference Centre (M6) in Luxembourg

Luuk van Middelaar, author of the book "The Passage to Europe. How a Continent Became a Union" (Yale University Press 2013; www.passage-to-europe.eu); speechwriter and advisor to the President of the European Council, Herman Van Rompuy.

In the shadow of the global financial crisis and of the internal problems that the European Union has faced in recent years, to look back at its history is a way to shed light on Europe's recent political dynamic. What are the prospects for the Union in the crucial election year 2014 and beyond?

Luuk van Middelaar will offer his political and academic insights in a lecture entitled "Europe after the crisis: changed power, defiant people?" held on 21 November in Luxembourg.

He will examine how the crisis has affected relations between the institutions, between member states and also – perhaps more importantly – between the Union and the citizens. After decades during which most people looked at it with polite indifference, the post-crisis 'Europe' is today central to national political debates in many countries. But it seems this new proximity comes at the price of an equally unprecedented unpopularity... Is this a foreboding of more anti-European populism, or a sign of the Union's political maturity? How to judge it, and what to do about it?

The conference is co-organised by the Luxembourg Institute for European and International Studies (www.ieis.lu), and the Representation of the European Commission in Luxembourg (ec.europa.eu/luxembourg/index_fr.htm). The conference will be held in English with simultaneous translation in French.

Learn more about the co-organisers at their respective webpages.

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