

ETT^G-EP Public debate

17 October 2018

Innovation in development: The future of EU international cooperation

BACKGROUND

As the EU moves into a year of political transition, with European Parliament elections and the appointment of a new European Commission, it faces new challenges both globally and in its own neighbourhood. The increasing contestation of the current global order, rising inequalities associated with globalisation, conflict beyond the EU borders, and continuing migration flows, all conspire to create a growing perception of insecurity among EU citizens. Will these deep tendencies cause more conflict, and further destabilisation of current economic and political models? Or can they be managed in ways which secure progress and sustainability for all? Perhaps change can be managed following a path between the extremes of neo-liberalism and populism – but leadership will be essential, from national governments and collaborative regional and international institutions.

The EU is currently one of the key actors promoting global development and 'effective multilateralism' as spelled out in the 2016 EU Global Strategy and the 2017 European Consensus on Development. Ambitious plans have been laid out in the proposals for the new Multi-Annual Financial Framework to 2027. All these reflect a renewed commitment to the goals of the UN's 2030 Agenda. The goals unite developed and developing countries behind the overall aim of securing progress on international development, in its social, economic and environmental aspects.

Against this background, the conference revolves around the issue of **innovation in a challenging global context**. What must be done differently to face new challenges? And how can change be managed? Specifically, what new approaches must the EU adopt?

The Conference is organised by the ETTG. The first day is hosted by the European Parliament Committee on Development (DEVE).

OBJECTIVES

To encourage a future-oriented debate on innovation in development; to review and assess the EU contribution to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda at the global level and to set an agenda on EU external action in the run up to the European Parliamentary elections and the formation of the next College of Commissioners in 2019.

VENUE

The event will take place on **Wednesday 17 October 2018** at the European Parliament, room JAN 2Q2.

PROGRAMME

Wednesday 17 October 2018

Venue: European Parliament, room JAN 2Q2, rue Wiertz 60, 1047 Brussels

13.30-14:15 Badge pickup at JAN - József Antall building (Esplanade Solidarnosc)

14:30-16:00 *Development priorities for the next Commission and Parliament from 2019*

- Chairperson: Simon Maxwell, ETG Chairperson
- Town Hall debate with panel responding to points from the floor
 - Anne-Birgitte Albrechtsen (PLAN International)
 - Adebayo Olukoshi, ECDPM Chairperson and Director for Africa and West Asia, International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA)
 - Alex Thier, Executive Director of ODI (member of ETG)
 - Nathalie Tocci, Director IAI (member of ETG)
 - EP DEVE Rapporteur

16:00-17:00 *High-level debate: Europe's role in International Development*

- Chairperson: Simon Maxwell, ETG Chairperson
- Panel discussion with
 - Federica Mogherini, EU HRVP
 - Bill Gates, Co-Chair, BMG Foundation
- Discussant: Imme Scholz, Director DIE (member of ETG)
- Q&A from the floor

17:00-17:30 *Conclusions*

- ETG Rapporteurs
 - James Mackie, Director ECDPM (member of ETG),
 - Sébastien Treyer, director of programmes IDDRI (member of ETG)
- Linda McAvan, MEP Chair of DEVE

The members of the European Think Tanks Group (ETG)