

ECAS DAY 2025



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STRENGTHENING EUROPEAN RIGHTS AND
DEMOCRACY IN THE POST-ELECTION ERA:

What Can Citizens Do?

ECAS is happy to invite you to the first edition of the **ECAS Day 2025**, which will be held on **June 24th**, at the **NH EU Berlaymont Hotel**. This event will focus on opportunities to strengthen European Rights and Democracy in the Post-Election Era, under the theme **"Ask not what the EU can do for You, ask what You can do for Our European Union."**

ECAS Day 2025 will bring together ECAS key audiences – members, partners, collaborators, funders and constituencies – to take stock of current policy developments, challenges and achievements in the EU Rights and European Democracy domains and discuss in a **forward-looking manner potential future initiatives for a stronger and resilient citizen-centric EU in the post elections' era.**

JUNE 24TH, 2025
9.45 – 16.00 CET

NH EU
BERLAYMONT HOTEL
Bd Charlemagne 11/19,
1000 Brussels

AGENDA

9.15

WELCOME COFFEE

9.45 – 11.00

High-level Debate (Q&A format) on the
Opportunities to Strengthen European Rights and Democracy in the Post-Election Era



MODERATOR

Assya Kavrakova
Executive Director, ECAS

SPEAKERS



Oliver Röpke
President of the European Economic and Social Committee



Marie-Hélène Boulanger
Head of Unit, DG JUST, European Commission



Teresa Anjinho
European Ombudswoman



Daniel Freund
Member of the European Parliament

11.00 – 11.15

Launch of the ECAS Rights Information Centre 'ERIC'



Elisa Lironi
Deputy Executive Director, ECAS



Claire Damilano
Project Manager YEA and Senior Legal Expert, ECAS

11.15 – 11.30

COFFEE BREAK

11.30 – 13.00

Parallel thematic sessions on Freedom of Movement,
Countering Disinformation and Digital Transformation

THEMATIC SESSION 1:

**Safeguarding Freedom of Movement:
Addressing Emerging Challenges in the EU**

This session will focus on emerging threats to freedom of movement within the EU and their impact on the Single Market. Through examples of misapplied free movement laws and the rise of temporary Schengen border reintroductions, we will highlight key legal, administrative, and policy challenges. Participants will engage in a forward-looking discussion on effective solutions to strengthen freedom of movement in support of the Single Market.

MODERATOR



Claire Morot-Sir
*EU Rights – Programme Director,
ECAS*

SPEAKERS



David de Groot
*Policy Analyst,
European Parliamentary
Research Service*



Mariana Baptista
*Legal Coordinator,
ECAS*



Sebastian Hoffmann
*Advisor for "Touring
artists", International
Theatre Institute Germany*

THEMATIC SESSION 2:

**Collaborating for Impact:
A Joint Approach to Counter Disinformation**

This session will consider the impact of multi-stakeholder efforts against disinformation and explore stronger CSO–EU collaboration. Perspectives from Central and Eastern Europe will provide insight into whether region-specific strategies are needed to address disinformation in CEE.

MODERATOR



Desislava Ivanova
*Programme Director for Central
and Eastern Europe, ECAS*

SPEAKERS



Alexandre Alaphilippe
*Executive Director,
EU DisinfoLab*



Martyna Bildziukiewicz
*Deputy Head of Division,
European External Action Service*



Petko Georgiev
*Journalist,
ProInfo Foundation*

Following the panel discussion, participants will engage in a Disinformation Response Simulation, applying key takeaways to develop a multi-stakeholder response plan for a disinformation crisis.

THEMATIC SESSION 3:

Ensuring digital transformation that leaves no one behind

This workshop aims to foster forward-looking, collaborative civil society initiatives that shape a digital future where no one is left behind, leveraging European innovation and inclusive policy making including citizen perspectives and needs.

MODERATOR



Giulia Sandri

Research and Development Manager, ECAS

SPEAKERS



Elisa Lironi

Deputy Executive Director, ECAS



Valentina Parziale

Head of Sector, DG CNECT, European Commission



Anna Colom

Research and Policy Lead, Data Tank



Andy Piper

Head of Communications, Mastodon

Following the panel discussion, participants will engage in a World Café session on three topics (Bridging the Digital Skills Gap, Addressing the Gender Gap in Tech and Supporting Solidarity and Inclusion) facilitated by Elisa Lironi, Nicolò Triacca, and Giulia Sandri, ECAS.

13.00 – 14.00

LUNCH

14.00 – 15.00

Unlocking Synergies: Interactive session to foster collaboration



Vasiliki Mustakis

Participatory Democracy Manager, ECAS



Kristina Velimirovic

Project Coordinator, ECAS

15.00 – 16.00

Final remarks



Assya Kavrakova

Executive Director, ECAS



ECAS is a Brussels-based non-profit organisation with a pan-European membership of about 173 members and over 30 years of experience in empowering citizens to exercise their EU rights. Founded in 1991, ECAS was the first civil society organisation to monitor the development of EU citizenship since its naissance under the Maastricht Treaty in 1992.

ECAS has been one of the most dedicated promoters of European Union (EU) citizenship and is actively involved in supporting EU citizens to exercise their freedom of movement and related rights, which are at the core of European citizenship. ECAS provides legal advice to about 20,000 European citizens annually in the framework of Your Europe Advice Service, delivers training to civil servants and rights' advice organisations throughout the EU, develops learning materials, assists organisers of European Citizens' Initiatives (ECI) and promotes digital transformation that leaves no one behind, including the use of ICT to strengthen and increase citizen engagement with the EU.



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