

NPE Follow-Up 2016-2017

Background

The New Pact for Europe initiative from 2013-2015 with more than 80 events in 17 EU countries has become a brand name for EU reform debates not only in Brussels but also in the Member States (MS) with a high level of recognition in the policy-maker, stakeholder & expert community. The new initiative presented in this paper will build upon the main achievements of the past years, while at the same time entering new avenues

Goal

The main goal is to present a New Pact for Europe to policy and decision makers, thought leaders and other stakeholders all over Europe. The project aims to help break up the current deadlock through a fostering of national debates, an intensification of transnational exchanges and linking key policy areas to see the big picture aiming to identify and promote the largest possible common denominator in Europe's response to the numerous challenges facing the continent. In line with the findings from previous phases, the New Pact for Europe does not necessarily mean greater European integration, but rather seeks ambitious and realistic responses to the many crises that are confronting the EU and its members.

Content and Strategic Elements of the Initiative

Each phase will further develop the following aspects, which will structure all of the reports (national & European). The different phases will assess where participants agree/disagree and seek to find common ground and innovative mechanisms for the way the EU meets challenges and possible policy options:

- State of the union, state of affairs regarding the (national) European narrative, key challenges
- Solutions for the EU, using the three identified key topical issue areas (migration, economy and security) to come to broader results on “What EU do we want?”

These three topical issues (migration, economy and security) have been identified in the pre-study as the most relevant policy areas for countries with potential controversy and agreement regarding their views on the EU's role in tackling them. Other issues of importance for the NRGs will be recorded, but not discussed at depth. The debates use the three issues to establish participants' overriding views on the EU's future role. They also provide concrete substance for the transnational debates, where countries can deepen their understanding for the situation in other Member States and establish where they have expectations on each other and on the EU – or not.

NPE 2016-2017 – Process Overview (1-4)

Overall goals:

- A) Suggestions on how the EU should move forward (mechanisms)
- B) Options on tackling the issues of refugees, economy and security (solutions)

Each stage of the process further develops the following aspects, which will form the basis for the national reports and the New Pact for Europe itself:

- 1) State of the Union, challenges and European narrative
- 2) Solutions for the future mechanisms of the EU and for the 3 issues (refugees, economy and security)

Process Stages:

1) National Reflection Groups (NRG)

(May/June 16): develop the open basis for transnational bargaining

2) Transnational Events (Autumn 2016): 10 syntheses of bilateral agreement/disagreement and of potential solutions

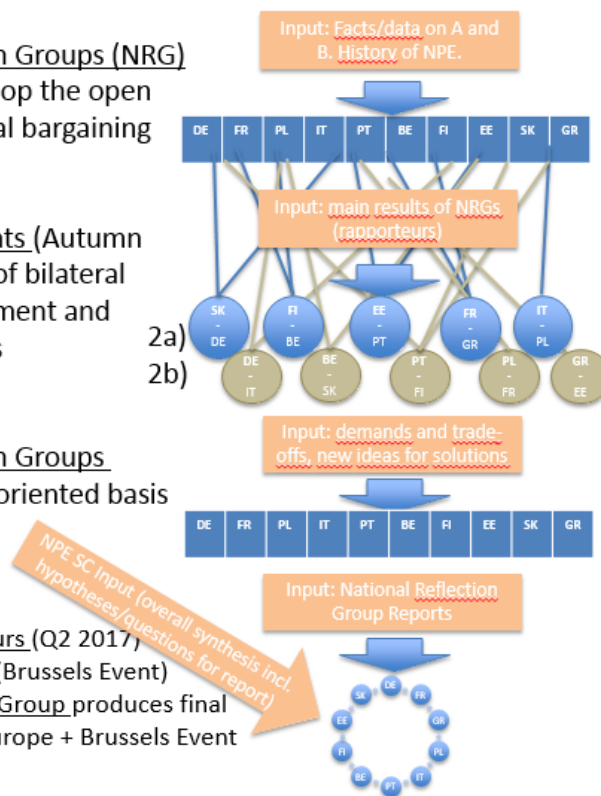
3) National Reflection Groups

(Early 2017): output oriented basis for NRG reports

4) Meeting of rapporteurs (Q2 2017)

incl. pre-pact outreach (Brussels Event)

5) European Reflection Group produces final Report: New Pact for Europe + Brussels Event



Agenda for the Transnational Debate between the German and Italian National Reflection Groups on 23 and 24 January 2017 in Berlin.

23 January 2017

When	What, who
Getting started	
13:30	Buffet-Lunch
14:00	Welcome and introduction, <i>BMW Foundation, Bertelsmann Foundation and Jacques Delors Institut</i>
14:15	Orientation and getting on board, <i>moderator</i>
State of the Union – national perspectives	
14:45	State of the Union, the national European narratives and key challenges – input and discussion to understand similarities and differences
16:00	Break
Resolving current crises – how the EU and Member States should deal with migration, security and the economy!	
16:30	The position(s) developed during the NRGs in dealing with migration , <i>all</i>
17:30	The position(s) developed during the NRGs in dealing with economy , <i>all</i>
18:30	End of day 1
19:00	Walk to dinner “above Berlin's rooftops!”, <i>all</i>

24 January 2017

When	What, who
9:00	Getting back on board, <i>all</i>
9:15	The position(s) developed during the NRGs in dealing with security , <i>all</i>
10:15	Break
Which EU are we willing to realise in order to tackle current and future crises?	
10:30	Summary of similarities and differences in how the 2 countries view (longterm) crisis management at EU level, <i>all</i>
11:00	Open Panel debate: “What EU do we want?”, <i>plenary</i>
12:30	Closing round, <i>all</i>
13:00	End