



Young  
Security  
Conference

## THE EU'S STRATEGIC AUTONOMY MOMENTUM FOR CHANGE?

**12 and 13 July 2021 – Munich, Germany**

The future of the European Union depends on public support, particularly in security and defence policies.

The Young Security Conference (YSC) is a long-term scientific, innovative and participatory project. It aims at connecting young thinkers with policy experts and academic scholars in a dialogue about the future of European security and defence. It combines a flagship conference with a strategic fellowship programme.

### CALL FOR PARTICIPATION

We cordially invite **Master Students, PhD candidates, post-docs** and **young professionals** from around the world to present their work and proposals at this second edition of the *Young Security Conference Programme*. Our seminar connects young innovative thinkers with experts from policy and research in a discussion on the future of European security and defence.

**The YSC 2021 takes place on the 12th and 13th of July in Munich** at the historic *Amerikahaus* in a *hybrid* format, meaning all sessions will be streamed live and workshops will be held online. The YSC is a unique initiative that stands out for its participatory and innovative character. The aim is to bring together young talents and experts for two days and to formulate concrete policy proposals on the future

of European security and defence policy. Through the submission of policy papers, workshops, panels, and innovative exchanges and techniques, the conference provides a perfect environment for sharing and discussing new ideas related to the new EU strategic autonomy at all levels. **This year, the YSC will host policy sessions with high-ranking policy makers & some of the best thinkers from all over Europe!**

Some of the **morning-session workshops** are dedicated to the YSC Fellows (selected through this call for participation), to critically discuss diverse topics and to foster political innovation. The **afternoon- and evening sessions** will be organised in close cooperation with the Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom and the Thomas-Dehler-Foundation and are open to the public.

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, we propose to incoming fellows and the entire YSC alumni community a **special training programme**: during the one-year YSC Fellowship, Fellows will have the occasion to present their ideas, works and proposals, to discuss and exchange with high ranked panellists and 'academic advisors'. The YSC Fellowship program will focus on many issues related to the future of Strategic autonomy and European Affairs.

In 2020, the first edition of the YSC invited 30 young professionals from 13 different European member states and the United States. The conference took place in Munich, Germany, for three consecutive days, while 22 high level speakers addressed a large and interdisciplinary audience. Two workshop days provided the framework for intense exchanges. The morning sessions were devoted to the fellows, who critically discussed and reflected on diverse topics related to the EU's security and defence roadmaps.

The report of the 2020 edition is accessible online ([YSC report 2020](#)).

## YSC Conference 2021 PROGRAMME

This year, the YSC takes place virtually through different channels via our new website [www.young-security-conference.de](http://www.young-security-conference.de)

**All workshops will be organized at the Amerikahaus and open to a very small group of moderators and speakers.**

**All sessions will be streamed live from the Amerikahaus in Munich: Bayerisches Amerikahaus, Bavarian Center for Transatlantic Relations, Karolinenplatz 3, 80333 München, Germany.**

During YSC webinars, fellows will have the opportunity to present ideas, projects and proposals, to discuss and exchange with high ranked panellists within the four thematic pillars. This year's four thematic fields are:

**Climate security & the Green Deal**  
**Neighbourhood security**  
**Health security**  
**Cyber security & Digital policies**

Monday, 12 July 2021

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**10h30 – 12h00: Morning Session I:  
Opening and introduction of the programme**

Prof. Dr. Stephan Stetter, Bundeswehr University Munich  
Prof. Dr. Frédéric Charillon, Université Clermont Auvergne & Coordinator, ENA

EuropaNova Germany & Friedrich Naumann Stiftung: For more innovation  
and intergenerational exchange in political affairs.

**12h30 – 13h30: Opening of the YSC: keynote speech**

**13h30 – 15h00 Session I: European sovereignty**

**Moderator:** Yana Humen, Policy Coordinator - Cybersecurity, Microsoft  
**Panellists:** Dr. Gustav Lindstrom, Director, European Union Institute for Security  
Studies  
Ulrich Lechte, Member of the Bundestag, Free Democratic Party  
Eve Roehrig, Contributor, Friedrich Naumann Foundation Defence Network

**15h30 – 17h30: Session II: Health Security**

**Moderator:** Ambika Varma, YSC Fellow  
**Panellists:** Dr. Anja Opitz, President, Global Health Security Alliance; Advisor,  
Akademie für Politische Bildung Tutzing  
Christine Strassmaier, Vice-chairwoman, Middle East and International Affairs  
Research Group

**18h00 – 20h00: Session III: The EU and its neighbourhood**

**Moderator:** Daniel Gheorghe, PhD candidate; YSC Fellow  
**Panellists:** Dr. Roderick Parkes, Research Director, German Council on Foreign  
Relations  
Prof. Dr. Patricia Daenhardt, Integrated Researcher, Portuguese Institute of  
International Relations, Universidade Nova de Lisboa

Tuesday 13 July 2021

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**09h30 – 11h00: Morning Session I: Fellow meeting**

*Exchange with Fellows*

**13h00 – 14h30: Afternoon Session II: Climate security & the Green Deal**

**Moderator:** Miriam Müller, PhD candidate; YSC Fellow

**Panellists:** Dr. Gabriele Köhler, Development economist; Board Member, Women Engage for a Common Future

Thomas Pellerin Carlin, Director, Jacques Delors Energy Centre; Research Fellow, Jacques Delors Institute

Dr. Louise van Schaik, Head of Unit EU & Global Affairs and Senior Research Fellow, Clingendael Institute

**15h30 – 17h30: Afternoon Session III: Cyber security & Digital policies**

**Moderator:** Moritz Floessler, Deputy Director, EuropaNova Germany

**Panellists:** Guillaume Klossa, Founder and Honorary President, EuropaNova

Dr. Marc-Oliver Pahl, Research Director and Professor, IMT Atlantique

Dr. André Barrinha, Senior Lecturer, University of Bath

Dr. Vira Ratsiborynska, Professor, Vesalius College Brussels

**17h30: Closing and wrapping up**

**Over the coming weeks, we will announce more speakers - so keep checking back for more updates !**

## Do you fit in?

### You do, if you...

- are a **Master student, PhD candidate, Post-Doc** or **young professional under 35**,
- are actively engaged **within EU security/defence matters**.

### Why should you join?

- be part of a unique programme, which is the first of its kind,
- join a high-level conference,
- give your own contribution to an international conference,
- take the opportunity of high-level networking,
- join the fellowship programme.

## Submission, grants & deadline

**Participants can apply for an accommodation and travel grant (maximum 300€)** for the physical event eventually happening at the end of the year. Travel and accommodation must be organised independently. However, the organizers have a limited number of rooms in a hotel. The rule: First Come, First Served. Travel grants will be available. If you wish to make use of this, please indicate this in your application. Travels will be reimbursed after the event.

### Documents to be attached to the application:

- a CV that highlights your professional interests and passions
- a policy proposal on one of the following topics:
  - Climate security & the Green Deal
  - Neighbourhood security
  - Health security
  - Cyber security & Digital policies

Word limit: 500 words

Languages: French, German or English

Every submission will be evaluated by our scientific board.

**Applications have to be submitted via e-mail, before Sunday 27th June 2021, midnight.** Send your application with the reference 'Application - YSC 2021' to [reihane.zitouni@europanova.eu](mailto:reihane.zitouni@europanova.eu)

**Contact and more information:**

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**The YSC would like to thank its many partners and supporters:**

