

# Institute of European Democrats

Independent auditor's report on the financial year  
ended 31 December 2021

Grant Thornton Bedrijfsrevisoren SCRL

Registered Office  
Uitbreidingstraat 72/7  
2600 Anvers  
Belgium

[www.granthornton.be](http://www.granthornton.be)

## **Independent auditor's report with respect to the Annual Accounts of the Institute of European Democrats for the year ended 31 December 2021**

In accordance with our service contract dated 5 January 2021 with the European Union represented by the European Parliament, we report to you as independent auditor on the performance of our audit mandate which was entrusted to Grant Thornton Bedrijfsrevisoren CVBA. This report includes our opinion on the balance sheet as at 31 December 2021, the income statement for the year ended 31 December 2021 and the disclosures (all elements together the "Annual Accounts") using the abbreviated schedule and on the Final Statement of eligible expenditure actually incurred as well as on compliance with rules and regulations applicable to funding of European political parties and European political foundations and includes as well our report on regulatory requirements. These two reports are considered as one report and are inseparable.

We have been appointed as independent auditor by the European Parliament in our contract dated 5 January 2021. Our mandate expires after the delivery of our audit opinion for the year ended 31 December 2021.

### **Report on the Annual Accounts and the Final Statement of eligible expenditure actually incurred**

#### **Unqualified opinion**

We have audited the Annual Accounts of the Institute of European Democrats (the "Entity"), that comprise the balance sheet on 31 December 2021, as well as the income statement of the year and the disclosures, which show a balance sheet total of € 148.955,35 and of which the income statement shows a profit for the year of € 854,67.

In our opinion, the Annual Accounts give a true and fair view of the Entity's net equity and financial position as at 31 December 2021, and of its results for the year then ended, prepared in accordance with the financial reporting framework applicable in Belgium, using the abbreviated schedule.

We have also audited the Final Statement of eligible expenditure actually incurred for the year ended 31 December 2021, in accordance with rules and regulations applicable to funding of European political parties and European political foundations, of the Institute of European Democrats.

In our opinion, the Final Statement of eligible expenditure actually incurred of the Entity for the year ended 31 December 2021 is prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with rules and regulations applicable to funding of European political parties and European political foundations.

**Basis for the unqualified opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (“ISA”). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the “Our responsibilities for the audit of the Annual Accounts and the Final Statement of eligible expenditure actually incurred” section of our report.

We have complied with all ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit, including those with respect of independence.

We have obtained from the Members of the Board and the officials of the Entity the explanations and information necessary for the performance of our audit and we believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

**Emphasis of Matter - Basis of Accounting and Restriction on Distribution**

We draw attention to the Final Statement of eligible expenditure actually incurred. This schedule is prepared to assist the Entity to meet the requirements of the European Parliament. As a result, the schedule may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

**Responsibilities of the Members of the Board for the preparation of the Annual Accounts and the Final Statement of eligible expenditure actually incurred**

The Members of the Board are responsible for the preparation of the Annual Accounts that give a true and fair view in accordance with the reporting framework applicable in Belgium and the Final Statement of eligible expenditure actually incurred. This responsibility includes: designing, implementing and maintaining internal control which the Members of the Board determine to be necessary to enable the preparation of the Annual Accounts and the Final Statement of eligible expenditure actually incurred that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

The Members of the Board are responsible towards the European Parliament for the use of the grant awarded and must comply with the provisions of the Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014, Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 ('the Financial Regulation') and the underlying acts.

As part of the preparation of the Annual Accounts, the Members of the Board are responsible for assessing the Entity's ability to continue as a going concern, and provide, if applicable, information on matters impacting going concern. The Members of the Board should prepare the Annual Accounts using the going concern basis of accounting, unless the Members of the Board either intend to liquidate the Entity or to cease business operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

### **Our responsibilities for the audit of the Annual Accounts and the Final Statement of eligible expenditure actually incurred**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance whether the Annual Accounts and the Final Statement of eligible expenditure actually incurred are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to express an opinion on these Annual Accounts and Final Statement of eligible expenditure actually incurred based on our audit. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the ISA will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these Annual Accounts and the Final Statement of eligible expenditure actually incurred.

When performing our audit, we comply with the legal, regulatory and normative framework that applies to the audit of the financial statements in Belgium. However, a statutory audit does not provide assurance as to the future viability of the Entity nor as to the efficiency or effectiveness with which the governing body has conducted or will conduct the Entity's business. Our responsibilities regarding the assumption of going concern applied by the governing body are described below.

Furthermore, with respect to the Final Statement of eligible expenditure actually incurred, it is our responsibility to express an opinion on the compliance with rules and regulations applicable to funding of European political parties and European political foundations.

As part of an audit, in accordance with ISA, we exercise professional judgment and we maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also perform the following tasks:

- Identification and assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the Annual Accounts and the Final Statement of eligible expenditure actually incurred, whether due to fraud or error, the planning and execution of audit procedures to respond to these risks and obtain audit evidence which is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting material misstatements is larger when these misstatements are due to fraud, since fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control;
- Obtaining insight in the system of internal controls that are relevant for the audit and with the objective to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Entity's internal control;
- Evaluating the selected and applied accounting policies, and evaluating the reasonability of the accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Members of the Board as well as the underlying information given by the Members of the Board;
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Members of the Board's use of the going concern basis of accounting, and based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to event or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the Annual Accounts or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on audit evidence obtained up to the date of the auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Entity to cease to continue as a going-concern;

- Evaluating the overall presentation, structure and content of the Annual Accounts and the Final Statement of eligible expenditure actually incurred, and evaluating whether these Annual Accounts and the Final Statement of eligible expenditure actually incurred reflect a true and fair view of the underlying transactions and events.

We communicate with the Members of the Board regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

### **Report on regulatory requirements**

#### **Responsibilities of the Members of the Board**

The Members of the Board are responsible for the compliance by the Entity with the legal and regulatory requirements applicable in Belgium, its articles of association, the legal and regulatory requirements regarding bookkeeping and the provisions of the Grant Agreement between the European Parliament and the Entity ('the Funding Agreement'), Regulation (EU, Euratom) No. 1141/2014, Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 ('the Financial Regulation') and the underlying acts.

#### **Responsibilities of the auditor**

Our audit work included specific procedures to gather sufficient and appropriate audit evidence to verify, in all material respects, that the financial provisions and obligations of the grant award agreement, Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014, Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 ('the Financial Regulation') and the underlying acts have been met.

#### **Independence matters**

We have not performed any other services that are not compatible with the audit of the Annual Accounts and the Final Statement of eligible expenditure actually incurred and we have remained independent of the Entity during the course of our mandate.

#### **Other communications**

- Without prejudice to certain formal aspects of minor importance, the accounting records were maintained in accordance with the legal and regulatory requirements applicable in Belgium;
- The costs declared were actually incurred;
- The statement of revenue is exhaustive;
- The financial documents submitted by the entity to the European Parliament are consistent with the financial provisions of the Funding Agreement;
- The obligations arising from Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014, in particular from Article 20 thereof, have been met;
- The obligations arising from the Funding Agreement, in particular from Article II.9 and Article II.19 thereof, have been met;
- Any surplus of Union funding is carried over to the next financial year and has been used in the first quarter of that financial year, pursuant to Article 222(7) of the Financial Regulation;
- Any surplus of own resources was transferred to the reserve;

- We were not yet provided with the financial statements prepared in accordance with the international accounting standards defined in article 2 of regulation (EC) No 1606/2002. The financial statements prepared in accordance with the international accounting standards will be subject to a separate audit opinion.

Vilvoorde, May 31, 2022

Grant Thornton Bedrijfsrevisoren SCRL  
Represented by

**Gunther Loits**  
(Signature)

Digitally signed by Gunther Loits  
(Signature)  
DN: cn=Gunther Loits (Signature),  
c=BE  
Date: 2022.05.31 22:09:23 +02'00'

Gunther Loits  
Registered auditor

## **Annex 1: Annual accounts**

**COMPTES ANNUELS ET AUTRES DOCUMENTS À  
DÉPOSER EN VERTU DU CODE DES SOCIÉTÉS  
ET DES ASSOCIATIONS**

DONNÉES D'IDENTIFICATION (à la date du dépôt)

DÉNOMINATION: Institut des Démocrates Européens

Forme juridique<sup>1</sup>: Association sans but lucratif

Adresse: Rue Montoyer

N°: 25

Code postal: 1000

Commune: Bruxelles 1

Pays: Belgique

Registre des personnes morales (RPM) – Tribunal de l'entreprise de Bruxelles, francophone

Adresse Internet:<sup>2</sup>

Adresse e-mail<sup>2</sup>:

Numéro d'entreprise 0892.377.234

DATE 26/01/2018 de dépôt du document le plus récent mentionnant la date de publication des actes constitutif et modificatif(s) des statuts.

COMPTES ANNUELS en EUROS (2 décimales)<sup>3</sup>

approuvés par l'assemblée générale<sup>4</sup> du

29/05/2022

et relatifs à l'exercice couvrant la période du

1/01/2021

au

31/12/2021

Exercice précédent du

1/01/2020

au

31/12/2020

Les montants relatifs à l'exercice précédent sont / ~~ne sont pas~~<sup>5</sup> identiques à ceux publiés antérieurement

Nombre total de pages déposées: 15  
objet: 6.1.3, 6.3, 6.5, 6.6, 7, 8

Numéros des sections du document normalisé non déposées parce que sans



Signature  
(nom et qualité)

Miguel Burzako Samper  
Administrateur Délégué

Signature  
(nom et qualité)

30/05/22

<sup>1</sup> Le cas échéant, la mention "en liquidation" est ajoutée à la forme juridique.

<sup>2</sup> Mention facultative.

<sup>3</sup> Au besoin, adapter la devise et l'unité dans lesquelles les montants sont exprimés.

<sup>4</sup> Par le conseil d'administration dans le cas d'une fondation / par l'organe général de direction dans le cas d'une association internationale sans but lucratif.

<sup>5</sup> Biffer la mention inutile.



**LISTE DES ADMINISTRATEURS ET COMMISSAIRES ET  
DÉCLARATION CONCERNANT UNE MISSION DE VÉRIFICATION  
OU DE REDRESSEMENT COMPLÉMENTAIRE****LISTE DES ADMINISTRATEURS ET COMMISSAIRES**

LISTE COMPLÈTE des nom, prénoms, profession, domicile (adresse, numéro, code postal et commune) et fonction au sein de l'association ou de la fondation

**Bader Luca**

Via A. Banfi 6, 20122 Milan, Italie

Mandat: Administrateur, début: 24/09/2007

**Deprez Gérard**

Royal 6, 7950 Chièvres, Belgique

Mandat: Administrateur, début: 21/11/2011

**Pauli François**

Avenue Molière 260, 1180 Uccle, Belgique

Mandat: Administrateur, début: 21/11/2011

**Rutelli Francesco**

Viale del Umanesimo 75, 00144 Rome, Italie

Mandat: Président du Conseil d'Administration, début: 29/11/2019

**Schmidt Gabriele**

Voggendorf 11, 91486 Uehlfeld, Allemagne

Mandat: Vice-président du Conseil d'Administration, début: 29/11/2019

**Burzako Samper Miguel**

Sopalacio 30, 01330 Labastida, Espagne

Mandat: Administrateur délégué, début: 29/11/2019

**El Hairy Sarah**

Avenue des Goelands 14, 44300 Nantes, France

Mandat: Administrateur, début: 29/11/2019

**Krosnicki Piotr**

Krassinskiego street 16, 65 01-5 Varsovie, Pologne

Mandat: Administrateur, début: 29/11/2019

**Leuliette Alexandra**

Rue Saint Nicolas 8, 75012 Paris, France

Mandat: Administrateur, début: 29/11/2019

**LISTE DES ADMINISTRATEURS ET COMMISSAIRES (suite de la page précédente)****Mandole Irene**

Odysseas Elitys 15, 4017 Limasol, Chypre

Mandat: Administrateur, début: 29/11/2019

**MISSION DE VÉRIFICATION OU DE REDRESSEMENT**

Mentions facultatives:

- dans le cas où des comptes annuels ont été vérifiés ou redressés par un expert-comptable externe ou par un réviseur d'entreprises qui n'est pas le commissaire, peuvent être mentionnés ci-après: les nom, prénoms, profession et domicile de chaque expert-comptable externe ou réviseur d'entreprises et son numéro de membre auprès de son Institut ainsi que la nature de sa mission:
  - A. La tenue des comptes de l'association ou de la fondation,
  - B. L'établissement des comptes annuels,
  - C. La vérification des comptes annuels et/ou
  - D. Le redressement des comptes annuels.
  
- si des missions visées sous A. ou sous B. ont été accomplies par des comptables agréés ou par des comptables-fiscalistes agréés, peuvent être mentionnés ci-après: les nom, prénoms, profession et domicile de chaque comptable agréé ou comptable-fiscaliste agréé et son numéro de membre auprès de l'Institut Professionnel des Comptables et Fiscalistes agréés ainsi que la nature de sa mission.

Nom, prénoms, profession, domicile	Numéro de membre	Nature de la mission (A, B, C et/ou D)

## COMPTES ANNUELS

## BILAN APRÈS RÉPARTITION

	Ann.	Codes	Exercice	Exercice précédent
<b>ACTIF</b>				
FRAIS D'ÉTABLISSEMENT .....		20		
ACTIFS IMMOBILISÉS .....		21/28	<u>14.067,58</u>	<u>528,98</u>
Immobilisations incorporelles .....	6.1.1	21		
Immobilisations corporelles .....	6.1.2	22/27	14.067,58	528,98
Terrains et constructions .....		22		
Installations, machines et outillage .....		23		
Mobilier et matériel roulant .....		24	11.729,60	528,98
Location-financement et droits similaires .....		25		
Autres immobilisations corporelles .....		26	2.337,98	
Immobilisations en cours et acomptes versés .....		27		
Immobilisations financières .....	6.1.3	28		
ACTIFS CIRCULANTS .....		29/58	<u>134.887,77</u>	<u>101.405,54</u>
Créances à plus d'un an .....		29		
Créances commerciales .....		290		
Autres créances .....		291		
Stocks et commandes en cours d'exécution .....		3		
Stocks .....		30/36		
Commandes en cours d'exécution .....		37		
Créances à un an au plus .....		40/41		
Créances commerciales .....		40		
Autres créances .....		41		
Placements de trésorerie .....		50/53		
Valeurs disponibles .....		54/58	134.887,77	101.405,54
Comptes de régularisation .....		490/1		
<b>TOTAL DE L'ACTIF</b> .....		20/58	148.955,35	101.934,52

	Ann.	Codes	Exercice	Exercice précédent
<b>PASSIF</b>				
FONDS SOCIAL .....		10/15	14.875,74	14.021,07
Fonds de l'association ou de la fondation .....	6.2	10		
Plus-values de réévaluation .....		12		
Fonds affectés et autres réserves .....	6.2	13	14.875,74	14.021,07
Bénéfice (Perte) reporté(e) .....(+)/(-)		14		
Subsides en capital .....		15		
PROVISIONS ET IMPÔTS DIFFÉRÉS .....	6.2	16		
Provisions pour risques et charges .....		160/5		
Pensions et obligations similaires .....		160		
Charges fiscales .....		161		
Grosses réparations et gros entretien .....		162		
Obligations environnementales .....		163		
Autres risques et charges .....		164/5		
Provisions pour subsides et legs à rembourser et pour dons avec droit de reprise .....		167		
Impôts différés .....		168		
DETTES .....		17/49	134.079,61	87.913,45
Dettes à plus d'un an .....	6.3	17		
Dettes financières .....		170/4		
Etablissements de crédit, dettes de location-financement et dettes assimilées .....		172/3		
Autres emprunts .....		174/0		
Dettes commerciales .....		175		
Acomptes sur commandes .....		176		
Autres dettes .....		178/9		
Dettes à un an au plus .....	6.3	42/48	37.645,96	10.804,24
Dettes à plus d'un an échéant dans l'année .....		42		
Dettes financières .....		43		
Etablissements de crédit .....		430/8		
Autres emprunts .....		439		
Dettes commerciales .....		44	18.714,49	4.691,97
Fournisseurs .....		440/4	18.714,49	4.691,97
Effets à payer .....		441		
Acomptes sur commandes .....		46		
Dettes fiscales, salariales et sociales .....		45	18.931,47	6.112,27
Impôts .....		450/3		
Rémunérations et charges sociales .....		454/9	18.931,47	6.112,27
Autres dettes .....		48		
Comptes de régularisation .....		492/3	96.433,65	77.109,21
<b>TOTAL DU PASSIF</b> .....		10/49	148.955,35	101.934,52

## COMPTES DE RÉSULTATS

	Ann.	Codes	Exercice	Exercice précédent
<b>Produits et charges d'exploitation</b>				
Marge brute .....		9900	139.347,88	127.387,92
Dont: produits d'exploitation non récurrents .....		76A		
Chiffre d'affaires <sup>5</sup> .....		70		
Cotisations, dons, legs et subsides <sup>5</sup> .....		73	512.597,56	551.161,84
Approvisionnements, marchandises, services et biens divers <sup>5</sup> .....		60/61	374.241,33	424.800,61
Rémunérations, charges sociales et pensions .....		62	136.759,64	126.875,77
Amortissements et réductions de valeur sur frais d'établissement, sur immobilisations incorporelles et corporelles .....		630	1.373,61	264,50
Réductions de valeur sur stocks, sur commandes en cours d'exécution et sur créances commerciales: dotations (reprises) .....		631/4		
Provisions pour risques et charges: dotations (utilisations et reprises) .....		635/9		
Autres charges d'exploitation .....		640/8		
Charges d'exploitation portées à l'actif au titre de frais de restructuration .....		649		
Charges d'exploitation non récurrentes .....		66A		
<b>Bénéfice (Perte) d'exploitation .....</b>		9901	<u>1.214,63</u>	<u>247,65</u>
<b>Produits financiers .....</b>	6.4	75/76B	13,43	16,50
Produits financiers récurrents .....		75	13,43	16,50
Produits financiers non récurrents .....		76B		
<b>Charges financières .....</b>	6.4	65/66B	373,39	264,15
Charges financières récurrentes .....		65	373,39	264,15
Charges financières non récurrentes .....		66B		
<b>Bénéfice (Perte) de l'exercice avant impôts .....</b>		9903	<u>854,67</u>	
<b>Prélèvement sur les impôts différés .....</b>		780		
<b>Transfert aux impôts différés .....</b>		680		
<b>Impôts sur le résultat .....</b>		67/77		
<b>Bénéfice (Perte) de l'exercice .....</b>		9904	<u>854,67</u>	
<b>Prélèvement sur les réserves immunisées .....</b>		789		
<b>Transfert aux réserves immunisées .....</b>		689		
<b>Bénéfice (Perte) de l'exercice à affecter .....</b>		9905	<u>854,67</u>	

<sup>5</sup> Mention facultative.

**AFFECTATIONS ET PRÉLÈVEMENTS**

	Codes	Exercice	Exercice précédent
Bénéfice (Perte) à affecter .....(+)/(-)	9906	854,67	
Bénéfice (Perte) de l'exercice à affecter .....(+)/(-)	(9905)	854,67	
Bénéfice (Perte) reporté(e) de l'exercice précédent .....(+)/(-)	14P		
<b>Prélèvement sur les capitaux propres: fonds, fonds affectés et autres réserves .....</b>	791		
<b>Affectations aux fonds affectés et autres réserves.....</b>	691	854,67	
Bénéfice (Perte) à reporter .....(+)/(-)	(14)		

**ANNEXE****ETAT DES IMMOBILISATIONS****IMMOBILISATIONS INCORPORELLES**

Valeur d'acquisition au terme de l'exercice .....

Codes	Exercice	Exercice précédent
8059P	xxxxxxxxxxxxxxx	3.808,00
<b>Mutations de l'exercice</b>		
Acquisitions, y compris la production immobilisée .....	8029	
Cessions et désaffectations .....	8039	
Transferts d'une rubrique à une autre .....(+)/(-)	8049	
Valeur d'acquisition au terme de l'exercice .....	8059	3.808,00
<b>Amortissements et réductions de valeur au terme de l'exercice .....</b>		
8129P	xxxxxxxxxxxxxxx	3.808,00
<b>Mutations de l'exercice</b>		
Actés .....	8079	
Repris .....	8089	
Acquis de tiers .....	8099	
Annulés à la suite de cessions et désaffectations .....	8109	
Transférés d'une rubrique à une autre .....(+)/(-)	8119	
Amortissements et réductions de valeur au terme de l'exercice .....	8129	3.808,00
<b>VALEUR COMPTABLE NETTE AU TERME DE L'EXERCICE .....</b>	(21)	



	Codes	Exercice	Exercice précédent
<b>IMMOBILISATIONS CORPORELLES</b>			
Valeur d'acquisition au terme de l'exercice .....	8199P	xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx	4.533,18
<b>Mutations de l'exercice</b>			
Acquisitions, y compris la production immobilisée .....	8169	14.912,21	
Cessions et désaffectations .....	8179		
Transferts d'une rubrique à une autre .....(+)/(-)	8189		
Valeur d'acquisition au terme de l'exercice .....	8199	19.445,39	
<b>Plus-values au terme de l'exercice .....</b>			
<b>Mutations de l'exercice</b>			
Actées .....	8219		
Acquises de tiers .....	8229		
Annulées .....	8239		
Transférées d'une rubrique à une autre .....(+)/(-)	8249		
Plus-values au terme de l'exercice .....	8259		
<b>Amortissements et réductions de valeur au terme de l'exercice .....</b>			
<b>Mutations de l'exercice</b>			
Actés	8279	1.373,61	
Repris .....	8289		
Acquis de tiers .....	8299		
Annulés à la suite de cessions et désaffectations .....	8309		
Transférés d'une rubrique à une autre .....(+)/(-)	8319		
Amortissements et réductions de valeur au terme de l'exercice .....	8329	5.377,81	
<b>VALEUR COMPTABLE NETTE AU TERME DE L'EXERCICE .....</b>	<b>(22/27)</b>	<b>14.067,58</b>	
<b>DONT</b>			
Appartenant à l'association ou à la fondation en pleine propriété .....	8349		

**ETAT DES FONDS, FONDS AFFECTÉS ET PROVISIONS**

**FONDS**

Patrimoine de départ .....  
 Moyens permanents .....

Exercice	Exercice précédent

Modifications au cours de l'exercice

Montants

**FONDS AFFECTÉS**

Règles d'évaluation adoptées pour la détermination des montants affectés *(rubrique 13 du passif)*

Utiliser dans le but de promouvoir des initiatives pro-européennes dans les différents pays de l'UE.

**PROVISIONS**

Ventilation de la rubrique 167 du passif ("Provisions pour subsides et legs à rembourser et pour dons avec droit de reprise") si celle-ci représente un montant important

Exercice

**RÉSULTATS**

**PERSONNEL**

Travailleurs pour lesquels l'association ou la fondation a introduit une déclaration DIMONA ou qui sont inscrits au registre général du personnel

Effectif moyen du personnel calculé en équivalents temps plein ..

Codes	Exercice	Exercice précédent
9087	1,9	2,0
<b>PRODUITS ET CHARGES DE TAILLE OU D'INCIDENCE EXCEPTIONNELLE</b>		
Produits non récurrents .....	76	
Produits d'exploitation non récurrents .....	(76A)	
Produits financiers non récurrents .....	(76B)	
Charges non récurrentes .....	66	
Charges d'exploitation non récurrentes .....	(66A)	
Charges financières non récurrentes .....	(66B)	
<b>RÉSULTATS FINANCIERS</b>		
Intérêts portés à l'actif .....	6502	

**BILAN SOCIAL**

Numéros des commissions paritaires dont dépend l'association ou la fondation: 329.02

**TRAVAILLEURS POUR LESQUELS L'ASSOCIATION OU LA FONDATION A INTRODUIT UNE DÉCLARATION DIMONA OU QUI SONT INSCRITS AU REGISTRE GÉNÉRAL DU PERSONNEL**

	Codes	1. Temps plein (exercice)	2. Temps partiel (exercice)	3. Total (T) ou total en équivalents temps plein (ETP) (exercice)	3P. Total (T) ou total en équivalents temps plein (ETP) (exercice précédent)
<b>Au cours de l'exercice et de l'exercice précédent</b>					
Nombre moyen de travailleurs .....	100	1,9		1,9 (ETP)	2,0 (ETP)
Nombre d'heures effectivement prestées .....	101	3.426		3.426 (T)	3.668 (T)
Frais de personnel .....	102	136.759,64		136.759,64 (T)	126.875,77 (T)

	Codes	1. Temps plein	2. Temps partiel	3. Total en équivalents temps plein
<b>A la date de clôture de l'exercice</b>				
Nombre de travailleurs .....	105	2		2,0
<b>Par type de contrat de travail</b>				
Contrat à durée indéterminée .....	110	1		1,0
Contrat à durée déterminée .....	111	1		1,0
Contrat pour l'exécution d'un travail nettement défini .....	112			
Contrat de remplacement .....	113			
<b>Par sexe et niveau d'études</b>				
Hommes .....	120	1		1,0
de niveau primaire .....	1200	1		1,0
de niveau secondaire .....	1201			
de niveau supérieur non universitaire .....	1202			
de niveau universitaire .....	1203			
Femmes .....	121	1		1,0
de niveau primaire .....	1210	1		1,0
de niveau secondaire .....	1211			
de niveau supérieur non universitaire .....	1212			
de niveau universitaire .....	1213			
<b>Par catégorie professionnelle</b>				
Personnel de direction .....	130			
Employés .....	134	2		2,0
Ouvriers .....	132			
Autres .....	133			

## TABLEAU DES MOUVEMENTS DU PERSONNEL AU COURS DE L'EXERCICE

	Codes	1. Temps plein	2. Temps partiel	3. Total en équivalents temps plein
<b>ENTRÉES</b>				
Nombre de travailleurs pour lesquels l'association ou la fondation a introduit une déclaration DIMONA ou qui ont été inscrits au registre général du personnel au cours de l'exercice .....				
	205	1		1,0
<b>SORTIES</b>				
Nombre de travailleurs dont la date de fin de contrat a été inscrite dans une déclaration DIMONA ou au registre général du personnel au cours de l'exercice .....				
	305	1		1,0

## RENSEIGNEMENTS SUR LES FORMATIONS POUR LES TRAVAILLEURS AU COURS DE L'EXERCICE

	Codes	Hommes	Codes	Femmes
<b>Initiatives en matière de formation professionnelle continue à caractère formel à charge de l'employeur</b>				
Nombre de travailleurs concernés .....	5801		5811	
Nombre d'heures de formation suivies .....	5802		5812	
Coût net pour l'association ou la fondation .....	5803		5813	
dont coût brut directement lié aux formations .....	58031		58131	
dont cotisations payées et versements à des fonds collectifs .....	58032		58132	
dont subventions et autres avantages financiers reçus (à déduire) .....	58033		58133	
<b>Initiatives en matière de formation professionnelle continue à caractère moins formel ou informel à charge de l'employeur</b>				
Nombre de travailleurs concernés .....	5821		5831	
Nombre d'heures de formation suivies .....	5822		5832	
Coût net pour l'association ou la fondation .....	5823		5833	
<b>Initiatives en matière de formation professionnelle initiale à charge de l'employeur</b>				
Nombre de travailleurs concernés .....	5841		5851	
Nombre d'heures de formation suivies .....	5842		5852	
Coût net pour l'association ou la fondation .....	5843		5853	

**RÈGLES D'ÉVALUATION**

Les règles d'évaluation sont déterminées selon les dispositions imposées par le Parlement européen.  
Convention de subvention de fonctionnement numéro: FINS-2010-4.


## **Annex 2: Final Statement of eligible expenditure actually incurred**

## ESTIMATED BUDGET

Costs		
Eligible costs	Budget	Actual
<b>A.1: Personnel costs</b>	<b>114 000,00</b>	<b>138 152,51</b>
1. Salaries	95 000,00	112 868,93
2. Contributions	17 000,00	22 899,08
3. Professional training		
4. Staff missions expenses		205,66
5. Other personnel costs	2 000,00	2 177,86
<b>A.2: Infrastructure and operating costs</b>	<b>34 500,00</b>	<b>19 463,09</b>
1. Rent, charges and maintenance costs	16 000,00	12 171,69
2. Costs relating to installation, operation and maintenance of equipment	2 000,00	1 200,00
3. Depreciation of movable and immovable property	500,00	1 373,61
4. Stationery and office supplies	5 000,00	248,69
5. Postal and telecommunications charges	3 000,00	948,14
6. Printing, translation and reproduction costs	8 000,00	3 520,96
7. Other infrastructure costs		
<b>A.3: Administrative costs</b>	<b>108 000,00</b>	<b>109 009,87</b>
1. Documentation costs (newspapers, press agencies, databases)	2 000,00	
2. Costs of studies and research	90 000,00	84 880,00
3. Legal costs	2 000,00	6 378,53
4. Accounting and audit costs	14 000,00	17 575,11
5. Miscellaneous administrative costs		176,21
6. Support to third parties		
<b>A.4: Meetings and representation costs</b>	<b>227 000,00</b>	<b>190 664,54</b>
1. Costs of meetings	185 000,00	190 664,54
2. Participation in seminars and conferences	10 000,00	
3. Representation costs	32 000,00	
4. Costs of invitations		
5. Other meeting-related costs		
<b>A.5: Information and publication costs</b>	<b>47 208,00</b>	<b>54 092,90</b>
1. Publication costs	20 000,00	4 680,00
2. Creation and operation of internet sites	6 000,00	21 070,60
3. Publicity costs	2 000,00	476,00
4. Communications equipment (gadgets)	1 000,00	
5. Seminar and exhibitions		
6. Other information-related costs	18 208,00	
7. Autres frais d'informations		27 866,30
<b>A.6: Allocation to "Provision to cover eligible costs of the first quarter of year N+1"</b>		<b>96 433,64</b>
<b>A. TOTAL ELIGIBLE COSTS</b>	<b>530 708,00</b>	<b>607 816,58</b>
<b>Ineligible costs</b>		
1. Allocation to other provisions		
2. Financial charges		373,30
3. Exchange losses		
4. Doubtful claims on third parties		
5. Others (to be specified)		
6. Contributions in kind		
<b>B. TOTAL INELIGIBLE COSTS</b>	<b>0,00</b>	<b>373,30</b>
<b>C. TOTAL COSTS</b>	<b>530 708,00</b>	<b>608 189,87</b>

Revenue		
	Budget	Actual
D.1. Dissolution of "Provision to cover eligible costs of the first quarter of year N"	n/a	77 109,21
D.2. European Parliament funding awarded for year N	504 172,00	504 172,00
<b>D.3. Member contributions</b>	<b>26 536,00</b>	<b>27 750,00</b>
3.1 from member organisations		27 750,00
3.2 from individual members		
D.4. Donations	0,00	0,00
<b>D.5. Other own resources</b>	<b>0,00</b>	<b>13,43</b>
(to be listed)		
franc banque		13,43
D.6. Interest from pre-financing		
D.7. Contributions in kind		
<b>D. TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>530 708,00</b>	<b>609 044,64</b>
<b>E. profit/loss (D-C)</b>	<b>0,00</b>	<b>854,67</b>

F. Allocation of own resources to the reserve account		854,67
G. Profit/loss for verifying compliance with the no-profit rule (E-F)	0,00	0,00

  
12/07/2022



The Institute of European Democrats (IED), a European political foundation formally affiliated to the European Democratic Party (EDP), was founded with the aim to promote a better understanding of the core aspects of the European integration process, to bridge the gap between citizens and EU institutions and to play an active role in strengthening the confidence of European citizens in the European project.

To carry out its mission, the IED focuses on two key pillars: the organization of conferences and seminars and the coordination of research activities. In particular, the IED organizes international conferences, seminars and webinars where politicians, experts, EU and national officials, academics and civil society representatives share ideas and discuss concrete problems affecting citizens. Such events are mainly organised in the EU Member States, but also virtually, in order to discuss concrete issues closer to EU citizens and member organisations and to contribute to the national discussion with a European perspective ensured by the international dimension of the events. At the same time, the Institute carries out research activities and publishes political documents and studies produced by associated researchers and external projects. The IED promotes also a discussion on the situation of democracy in Europe, through its Podcast “the European Democracy Lab Podcast” launched in 2020.

The IED works in close collaboration with both European and national institutions, universities, research centers and international foundations. Through a broad range of activities, the IED aims to play an active role in restoring and strengthening citizens' confidence in the European Union, and beyond this, in promoting a united and sovereign Europe.

### ***Remarks on the programme:***

When drafting the Programme of activities 2021, the IED went through an internal consultation process, as usual. It was designed according to the priorities of the new EU Commission whilst taking into account the concrete thematic proposals suggested by the IED member organisations. Four thematic priorities were settled with the intention to have them translated mainly into Conferences, webinars and Studies.

Priorities 2021:

**1-The EU Green Deal: Promoting a sustainable economy that works for people.**

*In 2021, the EU Commission intends to reinforce the building blocks of the European Green Deal and raising EU ambitions.*

**2-A stronger Europe in the world: promoting Europe's interests and values**

*President von der Leyen announced the EU would need to respond more assertively to global events and deepen its relations with its closest neighbours and global partners.*

**3-Promoting our European way of life: Protecting citizens and freedoms**

*The EU Commission will remain vigilant on the rule of law and intends to build a union where racism and discrimination have no place.*

**4-A Europe fit for the digital age**

*In 2021, the EU intends to lead the digital transformation, particularly on data, technology and infrastructure.*

Despite the Covid 19 Pandemic, the IED managed to implement most of its programme of activities in 2021, notably by adapting to the pandemic context through the continuation of conferences in virtual or hybrid format. The IED has also continued the dissemination of its podcasts and the development of its research activities. We are proud to present the results of these in this annual report.

In addition to the range of initiatives achieved, the IED complied with the holding of the meetings of the ruling bodies, ensuring the effectiveness of the control on the programme implementation.

The Programme submitted with the request of grant 2021 did foresee:

### **Meetings of the governing bodies**

1. A meeting of the Board of Directors on the 10 June 2021 by electronic means (exchange of emails) aimed at the adoption of the 2020 financial statements prepared by BPO Accountancy and Grant Thornton Bedrijfsrevisoren CVBA. The meeting decided the 2021 membership fees and fixed the date of the following General Assembly.
2. A meeting of the General Assembly held by video-conference on the 18 June 2021, aimed at the approval of the 2020 financial documents provided by BPO accountants and Grant Thornton auditors and the discussion on the priorities for the activities 2021 and their implementation.
3. A meeting of the Board of Directors on the 26 October 2021, in Brussels, aimed at the Convocation of the next meeting of the General Assembly, adoption of the 2022 provisional budget and working programme, as submitted to the EP for the 2022 year grant and the termination of the appointment of Flaminia Baffigo as secretary responsible for the secretariat of the board of directors and the general assembly and appointment of a new secretary responsible for the secretariat of board of directors and the general assembly.
4. A meeting of the General Assembly on the 5 November 2021, in Brussels, aimed at the renewal or revocation of the mandate of the administrators, the adoption of the amendments to the Statutes to make them compatible with the entry into force of legislative changes in Belgium concerning non-profit organisations, the acceptance of the resignation of Citizens Alliance as a member of the IED and the discussion on the priorities for the activities 2022 and their implementation.

Therefore, the IED complied with the meetings of the ruling bodies scheduled, ensuring the effectiveness of all activities in contributing to the political debate being close to the European citizens:

### 1st Semester 2020

A meeting of the Board of Directors

A meeting of the General Assembly

### 2nd Semester 2020

A meeting of the Board of Directors

A meeting of the General Assembly

## **Activities**

### **Conferences and events**

1. A webinar which was conducted on 12 February 2021 under the title 'Are Turkey's aspirations aligned with European interests?'
2. A Webinar, which took place in an Aula of Deusto University in Bilbao, Spain, on 24 March 2021 under the title "One Humanity: An Opportunity for Europe in the New Multilateralism". The webinar was broadcast live in Spanish and English, brought together high-level panelists and involved students and academics via live streaming.
3. A webinar under the title "Big data in Europe: Are Privacy and Freedom under threat?". The webinar was broadcast live in English and French.
4. The premiere of the film "Hydrogen - Re-connecting Europe" and a panel discussion took place on 13 July 2021 in Brussels under the title "Hydrogen - Taking the leadership. How can the EU find its green energy sovereignty?'
5. A Conference in Venice, on the 30 August 2021, on the issue of "The EU Green Deal – Decisive for the economy, jobs and the EU's Soft Power".
6. A conference in San Marino on 14 October 2021 under the title "Future Needs - Biodiversity, the natural response to a necessary change".
7. A conference in Brussels on 5 November 2021 under the title "Digital democracy - No apps no say? How do we ensure that everyone can participate in a digital democracy?"

As well as for the previous years, through the abovementioned activities achieved in 2020, the Institute of European Democrats has underpinned and complemented the objectives of the European Democratic Party to which the IED is affiliated. Through many of its initiatives, the IED has given a solid and cultural basis to EDP activity.

### **Podcasts**

*1-Gender inequality on the labour market during COVID-19*

**European Democracy Lab Podcast, Season 1, No. 7 / 15.02.2021**

The impact of COVID19 on gender violence is already well known. But people are less aware of the consequences of the pandemic on gender equality in the Labour market. The COVID19 crisis is unravelling the progress that had been made over the past decades in fostering gender equality. The EU and the Member States have to act in order to reverse the trend. Listen to our discussion with the sociologist Jutta Allmendinger and with the MEP Ulrike Müller.

*2-What if hydrogen were to become the main energy source in Europe in 2050?*

**European Democracy Lab Podcast, Season 1, No. 8 / 30.03.2021**

The EU Commission recently published a strategy to develop hydrogen energy. The aim is to encourage the production of "clean" hydrogen from the electricity of renewable origin and to make this clean hydrogen a viable solution to decarbonize various sectors of the economy, in line with the objectives of the Paris agreements. Are the EU Member States already producing or using hydrogen? And can it become the energy of the future for Europe? This podcast offers crossed perspectives from Belfort (France) with MEP Christophe Grudler, who, in his region, fights for the development of this energy, and from Rome (Italy) with Francesco Rutelli, President of IED, who will tell us why hydrogen is so important for Democrats and for the EU as a whole.

*3-What if we put local banks at the heart of Europe's sustainable growth?*

**European Democracy Lab Podcast, Season 2, No. 1 / 31.03.2021**

What if the world of finance wasn't all about the big financial players of our times? What if, by focusing on the big financial institutions, European leaders overlooked the "real" elephant in the room? This podcast is exploring the role played by Local and cooperative banks to boost

the investments for SMEs in Europe's regions. SME's employ around 100 million people and account for more than 50% of Europe's GDP. A discussion with Prof Bernhard Herz, professor in Economics at the University of Bayreuth (Germany), and with Susanna Andres, Commercial director of Laboral Kutxa, a Basque credit union located in Mondragón.

*4-What if we immunised citizens from fake news?*

**European Democracy Lab Podcast, Season2, No. 2 / 04.06.2021**

Disinformation campaigns in Europe, whether driven by domestic or external actors, bring about harmful effects on the public debate, by disseminating distrust towards institutions and science. And with a massive vaccination campaign being currently rolled out, disinformation could be the Achilles heel of Europe. As the end of the Covid-19 pandemic is still surrounded by uncertainty and the capacity of European governments to effectively deal with the health crisis is put under strain by anti-vax movements, we must ask ourselves, what if... we immunised citizens from fake news? A conversation with Andrzej Potocki, Vice President of the Polish party Stronnictwo Demokratyczne and Peter Kréko, a social psychologist and Director of the "Political Capital Institute", in Budapest.

*5-What if we used culture to prevent conflicts?*

**European Democracy Lab Podcast, Season2, No. 3 / 07.09.2021**

Throughout history, culture, ethnic and religious identity have been at the very heart of armed hostilities, uprisings and wars. Cultural differences and conflicting identities seem to be primarily divisive. But in many other instances, culture has proven to be the exact opposite: a means to bridge gaps between different societies. If the promotion of cultural diversity can foster mutual understanding, can the European Union promote culture as a tool to actually prevent conflicts? Let's find out with our two guest speakers: Juan Antonio March, former Ambassador to the Russian Federation and the WTO, and Prof. Damien Helly, international cultural advisor specialised in EU external cultural action.

*6-Is it too late to save biodiversity?*

**European Democracy Lab Podcast, Season 2, No. 4 / 09.11.2021**

Why is preserving biodiversity so relevant to our lives? Would living in a world without bumblebees be so critical? The basic idea behind biodiversity is interdependence: every element of the system is interconnected. We must act now to preserve biodiversity, because

our children probably won't have the same opportunity. Find out more about the Biodiversity Strategy 2030 of the European Union; Listen to the lively discussion with Marco Gualtieri, the founder of Seeds & Chips, and Florence Wijsbroek, the president of the Balkans Sustainable Development Institute, on the occasion of the IED Conference on Biodiversity in San Marino (October 2021).

*7-What if the EU achieves digital sovereignty?*

**European Democracy Lab Podcast, Season 2, No. 5 / 15.12.2021**

Regulating the chaotic digital world is a tough job, but the EU's got to do it. With their solid political capital and advanced legislative tools, the EU institutions are today at the forefront of the global campaign to rein in the Big Tech, the influential companies that have come to dominate the digital world. Enough to achieve a European digital sovereignty? Listen to our discussion with Daniel Innerarity, professor at the School of Transnational Governance at the European University Institute, and Sandro Gozi, MEP for Renew Europe and Secretary General of the European Democratic Party (EDP).

*8-What if digital citizen participatory practices were the key to restore trust in political processes?*

**European Democracy Lab Podcast, Season 2, No. 6 / 11.01.2022**

Representative democracy is in crisis. Public confidence in the accountability of democratic representation has experienced a steady decline, both within and outside the EU. For many citizens, political actors are distant figures and legislative processes appear too complex to follow and control. However, grassroots participatory democracy initiatives have mushroomed across Europe. This phenomenon speaks to a more promising reality. We have discussed it with a Researcher from Croatia, Iva Paska, a sociologist and lecturer at the University of the North in Croatia and Vincent Chauvet, Mayor of Autun, in central France and member of the European Committee of the Regions.

## **Research activities**

1-*“Digital Citizen Participatory Practices. How to facilitate democratic processes and foster citizen engagement in the European Union?”* 30 September 2021.

In recent years, the political processes both within the European Union and outside of it have faced a crisis in trust of the process of democratic representation. An increasingly low level of trust in both political actors and legislative processes is being documented in advanced democracies. Simultaneously, as we progress into the digital age and increasingly live within the contexts of the digital environments, the development of digital technologies has provided a space for digital practices which allow citizens to take part in the governance process to some extent.

2-*“Current challenges for SMEs and regional banks in the European Union”* 18 October 2021.

This research shows that for a successful fight against the Covid-19 pandemic and the climate crisis, better working conditions for SMEs and local banks, their main funding partners, are indispensable.

## **Call for Papers 2021 addressed to under 35**

“The European Green Deal: moving to action. Opportunities and challenges for the European citizens”

The IED intended to award in the course of 2021 several contracts for "Research Fellowships" to researchers and/or Students/PhD. In all, 20 Research Papers have been selected in the frame of this Call for Papers, which is a yearly initiative. The young selected authors originate from Greece, France, Czech republic, Ireland, Italy, Romania, Spain and Lithuania. The selected research papers brought new ideas and proposals to identify the opportunities and challenges for the European citizens brought by the European Green Deal.



## **Annual Report**

IED Annual Report 2020, 09 April 2021

Through this report, the IED wishes to share the topics and findings of the activities conducted in 2020

### **1. Personnel**

From 1 September to 31 December 2021, Inigo Etxebarria has been confirmed as Coordinator of the IED, with a Belgian contract (contrat de travail à durée déterminée). The IED also employs Johanna Touzel as Responsable du secrétariat with a Belgian contract (contrat de travail à durée indéterminée).

### **2. Infrastructure and general operations**

The Institute of European Democrats rents an office room from the EDP office at rue Montoyer 25, paying the sublet and some shared services, such as printing and reproduction costs.

### **3. Meetings and representation costs**

As already specified in the introductory remarks the events have been submitted to some change.

Seven events have been organized during the year. When the organization has involved the contribution of a specific service provider, it has been stated by a written agreement. When a national organization has been involved, only the use of the logo has been authorized in the agreement. In the face of this opportunity, it has been asked to the national organization to contribute to the financing of the event through some services. These services have been specified in the agreement.

A list follows with the number of participants and the indication of the date and the place where the events have been organized.

IED Webinar, 12.02.2021

Are Turkey's aspirations aligned with European interests?

Participants: 2,7000 participants through the Facebook live.

IED Webinar, 24 March 2021

One Humanity: An Opportunity for Europe in the New Multilateralism

Participants: 75

IED Webinar, 29 March 2021

Big data in Europe: Are Privacy and Freedom under threat?

Participants: 493 participants throughout the platforms

IED Film Premiere & Panel Discussion, 13 July 2021 in Brussels

Hydrogen – Taking the leadership. How can the EU find its green energy sovereignty?

Participants: 55

IED Conference Fondazione Cini, Venice, Italy, 30 August 2021

The EU Green Deal – Decisive for the economy, jobs and the EU's Soft Power

Participants: 50 participants and was simultaneously broadcasted live on the IED Website

IED Conference, San Marino, 14 October 2021

Future Needs – Biodiversity, the natural response to a necessary change

Participants: 50 participants. It was simultaneously broadcasted live on the IED Website.

IED Conference. Residence Palace Brussels, 5 November 2021,

Digital democracy – No apps no say? How do we ensure that everyone can participate in a digital democracy?

Participants: 66

#### **4. Information and publication activities**

The costs of this section concerned as usual the website ([www.iedonline.eu](http://www.iedonline.eu)) that has been regularly updated with the details of the activities, comprehensive of the documentation and the pictures or videos when available. The yearly accounts have been published too, as requested.

## **5. Initiatives carried out within the Carry-over**

As the Institute of European Democrats was allowed to use the unspent funding awarded for the financial year 2021 and integrated by the own resources carrying it to the first quarter of 2022, it has been spent to implement a part of activity 2021 that couldn't be accomplished in due time. That is:

A research paper by Tsvetelina Tsvetanova/Wijsbroek (17/01) under the title " From measuring impact to the creation of a European sustainability label". In a constantly changing world, economic, biodiversity and climate issues require a constant assessment of the impact of our lifestyles, production and consumption. Changing behaviour and thus acting on these consequences is a difficult task. Therefore, it seems necessary to pay more attention to the sustainability labels that surround us in order to better understand them. This study will thus set out a framework for analysis that will allow for a comprehensive consideration of the main environmental and socio-economic issues, their interactions and above all their measurement.

The "IED Strategic Research Papers - EU: a sovereign power for the XXI Century?" is completed with two contributions that were pending. The paper by Ivo Kaplan (10/01) entitled "Sovereignty of the EU, it's Energy Policy and the Strategic Compass Process" and the paper by Asier Areitio (28/01) entitled " European multilevel governance: a system to ensure the European Sovereignty".

A Research Paper Project is published (28/02) under the title "The Future of Democracy in the European Context". The aim of this research project is to reflect on the future of democracy in the European context and to analyse the characteristics of the political culture that emerge in some spaces of public opinion in the context of the crisis of liberal democracy and in post-co-vid-19 societies; a crisis that is manifested in the disaffection of citizens with respect to actors, institutions and the political system of liberal democracies and also in the weakening of the political structures of representation and management of public policies. Through this research, the IED intends to deepen our knowledge of the factors that are influencing the transformation of the democratic political culture of citizens in post-co-vid-19 societies and the impact of this political culture on the democratic system. We will also explore the alternative of Collaborative Governance and civil initiative with the aim of strengthening democratic systems.

Finally, a seminar was held in Kotor, Montenegro (26/03) under the title “EU – Western Balkans: a future in common?”. This seminar seeks to take a look from the viewpoint of institutionalised Europe at the rich, varied reality of the Europe of the Western Balkans (Serbia, Montenegro, Albania, North Macedonia, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Kosovo) and to investigate on the ground what this region of south-eastern Europe thinks about the EU in the current geopolitical context, and about future membership of the Community.