

# A critical vision to European integration and EU foreign policy

## *DigiDem-EU WP3: Democracy, Participation and Europeanisation*

**Barcelona, 15 March, 2024**

ESADE Law School, Av. de Pedralbes, 60-62, 08034 Barcelona

Organised by: CIDOB and EsadeGeo with the support of the Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values Programme (CERV) of the European Commission

A critical vision to European integration and EU foreign policy is a side-event to CIDOB'S flagship initiative *War and Peace in the XXI<sup>st</sup> Century*. This year's edition is entitled *The EU ahead of a new political cycle and a new geopolitical era*. Its aim is to tackle the internal and external challenge that the EU will face after the elections that will inaugurate a new political cycle. The side-event is organized under the framework of the DigiDem-EU project, funded by the Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values programme from the European Commission; and the objective is to bring the debate about European integration and the future of the EU, and EU foreign policy challenges to new publics from a more critical perspective.

This side event has three objectives:

- Identifying what the EU could have been done different in the past.
- Discussing present alternatives.
- Imagining potential futures.

This initiative aims to foster a space for reflection and critical thinking. The opportunity to have a say on the different scenarios of change and challenges should bring perspective and preparedness into the future. Listening and exchanging with younger audiences is a way of looking for innovative solutions to the old and upcoming challenges of European integration, its enlargement and its foreign and security policies.

In order to create this space, the questions asked are important but so is the setting and the participants. This is why the target audience of the event will be students. The speakers will give a short introduction responding to the three objectives of the event in order to create a space to debate with the audience.

18.00 – 18.05 **Welcome and presentation of the initiative**  
**Héctor Sánchez Margalef**, Researcher, CIDOB

18.05 – 18.45 **A critical vision of European integration and EU Foreign Policy**  
*Initial keynotes* **Loukas Tsoukalis**, President, Hellenic Foundation for European and Foreign Policy (ELIAMEP)  
**Natalie Nougayrède**, Member of the Council, European Council on Foreign Relations  
**Júlia Manresa**, EU Media Advisor  
*Moderator* **Jordi Molina**, Senior Fellow, EsadeGeo

18.45 – 19.30 **Debate among the participants**



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