

▶ ▶ ▶ **2-6 JUNE 2025**

TEPSA **ACADEMY** ◀ ◀ ◀ **& SKILLS LAB**

DRAFT AGENDA

DAY 1

SETTING THE SCENE

2 June 2025

On Day 1, we will become acquainted with the EU's action on equality and anti-discrimination policy, look into its competencies in this realm vis-à-vis Member States and how it has engaged in ensuring fundamental rights for its citizens.



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| 14:30-15:30 | Session I: Welcome
<i>with Allegra Wirmer (TEPSA)</i> |
| 15:30-15:45 | Break |
| 15:45-17:00 | Session II: The EU's role in promoting equality and anti-discrimination
<i>with Delia Mensitieri (Ghent University)</i> |
| 17:00-17:15 | Break |
| 17:15-18:00 | Synthesis and reflection session |
| 18:15 | Welcome drinks |

DAY 2

LEVELS OF ACTION

3 June 2025

On Day 2, we will examine the different levels of government legislating about and enforcing EU laws on equality and fundamental rights, and learn how lobbying plays a crucial role in the context of EU policy-making.



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| 10:00-12:00 | Visit to the European Commission: Directorate-General for Justice & Consumers (DG JUST)
<i>with Emanuela Tassa and Tommaso Alberini (Directorate for Equality and Non-Discrimination, DG JUST)</i> |
| 12:00-13:30 | Lunch break |
| 13:30-14:45 | Session I: Bridging the gap with Member States: The work of equality bodies
<i>with Mattia Concas and Ilaria De Capitani (EQUINET - European Network of Equality Bodies)</i> |
| 14:45-15:00 | Break |
| 15:00-16:15 | Session II: The impact of lobbying on EU policy-making
<i>with Kelsey Beltz (The Good Lobby)</i> |
| 16:15-16:45 | Break |
| 16:45-17:30 | Synthesis and reflection session |

DAY 3 **FOCUS ON SPECIFICS**

4 June 2025

On Day 3, we will learn how equality and non-discrimination are protected and promoted in specific policy aspects both within the EU and as part of its external action, through meetings with civil society representatives and the European External Action Service.



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| 9:30-10:00 | Session I: Gender policy in the EU
<i>with Claire Robert (Renew Group, European Parliament)</i> |
| 10:00-10:50 | Internal discussion: Assessing EU policy impact vs. national realities
<i>with Allegra Wirmer (TEPSA)</i> |
| 10:50-11:15 | Break |
| 11:15-12:30 | Session II: Strengthening the empowerment of people with disabilities
<i>with Florian Sanden and Rita Crespo Fernandez (European Network on Independent Living)</i> |
| 12:30-13:30 | Lunch break |
| 13:30-15:00 | Session III: Promoting equality in the EU's external action
<i>with Julia Koch-de Biolley, Maja Stojanovska and Miguel Chambel (SG Gender and Diversity, European External Action Service)</i> |
| 15:00-15:30 | Break |
| 15:30-16:30 | Synthesis and reflection session |

DAY 4 FUTURE CHALLENGES

5 June 2025

On Day 4, we will continue our journey through specific aspects of equality policy and learn how youth can activate itself in the policy sphere to achieve change. As a conclusion, we will visit the European Parliament to see how citizens' voices are democratically represented at EU level.



09:30-10:45 **Session I: Youth activism and policy change**

with Valentin Dupouey (College of Europe)

10:45-11:05 **Break**

11:05-12:20 **Session II: Navigating LGBTQ+ rights protection in times of increased hostility**

with Bastiaan Redert (University of Antwerp)

12:20-12:35 **Short break**

12:35-13:35 **Final reflections and certificates**

13:35-15:00 **Lunch break**

15:00-17:00 **Visit to the European Parliament**

DAY 5

SKILLS LAB

6 June 2025

During the Skills Lab, we will enhance our advocacy skills through a tailored workshop aimed at strengthening practical skills and helping participants succeed in the academic and professional context!



09:30-12:45 **Skills Lab: Advocacy skills**
with Judit Lantai (Trainer)

In this hands-on practical training you will develop and practice the essential advocacy skills you need to achieve true impact in your area of focus. Learn how to identify, reach, and communicate with the key stakeholders you need to engage in order to affect change at the policy, societal, or academic levels.

With the guidance of a professional trainer, this skills training lab will help your messaging reach farther and wider than might otherwise be possible, giving you a solid grounding in advocacy that you can employ throughout your career.

12:45-13:15 **Certificates, feedback & closing remarks**

13:15 **Closing lunch**



MORE ABOUT TEPSA

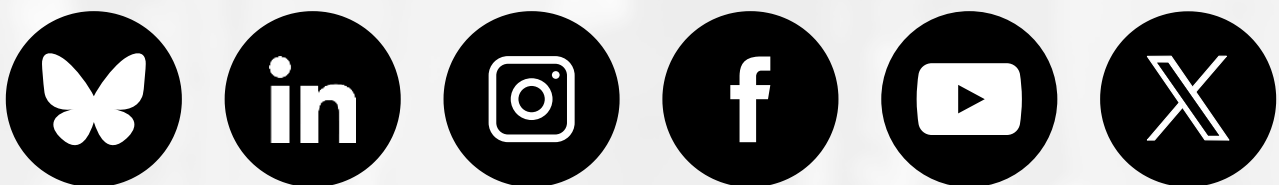


The Trans European Policy Studies Association (TEPSA) was established in 1974 as the first transnational research network in the field of EU affairs. Our network comprises 49 leading research institutes in 37 European countries, with an office in Brussels.

Our aim is to provide high-quality research on a number of European themes to stimulate discussion on policies and political options for Europe. This is achieved by the interaction between the European and national institutions as well as the academic and research community, and citizens.

TEPSA is active on a wide range of topics, focusing on differentiated integration, the EU's external relations, democratic participation and citizens' engagement.

More information on our activities can be found at www.tepsa.eu.



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