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New Year's
Event **2023**

THE EU'S CAPACITY TO ACT: BUILDING OPEN STRATEGIC AUTONOMY

January 10 | 15:00 - 17:00
European Parliament JAN4Q1



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EVENT INFORMATION

Interpretation provided in English and French.

Renew Europe's New Year Seminar on "**The EU's capacity to act: building open strategic autonomy**", hosted by **Stéphane Séjourné**, President of the Renew Europe Group in the European Parliament, will take place on Tuesday **10th January 2023** from **15-17h** in the European Parliament, with the participation of:

Alexander De Croo (Prime Minister of Belgium)

Micheál Martin (Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ireland)

Ilham Kadri (CEO and President of the Executive Committee at Solvay)

Caroline de Gruyter (Europe correspondent and columnist for NRC and Foreign Policy)

With conclusions by **Charles Michel** (President of the European Council)

Moderated by **Shona Murray** (Euronews) and **Maria Tadeo** (Bloomberg).

Ongoing crises - the invasion of Ukraine, energy shortages and climate change - provide an unprecedented impetus for urgent action. The Renew Europe New Year Seminar will provide an opportunity to discuss with key opinion leaders what strategy is needed to enhance the EU's capacity to act on the global stage.

PROGRAMME

15.00	Introduction by Shona Murray (Euronews)
15.05	Welcome words: Stéphane Séjourné , President Renew Europe Group in the European Parliament
15.15	Alexander De Croo , Prime Minister of Belgium
15.30	Caroline de Gruyter , Europe correspondent and columnist for NRC and Foreign Policy
15.40	Q&A session moderated by Shona Murray , Euronews
16.05	PANEL DISCUSSION - moderator Maria Tadeo , Bloomberg The EU's capacity to act and to build open strategic autonomy
16.10	Ilham Kadri , CEO and President of the Executive Committee at Solvay
16.20	Micheál Martin , Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ireland
16.30	Q & A session moderated by Maria Tadeo , Bloomberg
16.50	Concluding remarks: Charles Michel , President of the European Council

SPEAKERS



Alexander De Croo

Prime Minister of Belgium

Alexander De Croo is the Prime Minister of Belgium since October 2020. Between 2019 and 2020 he served as Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance in charge of the Fight against Tax Fraud, when together with the Eurogroup, he set out a framework for a major European recovery package. Mr De Croo also served as Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Development Cooperation, Digital Agenda, Telecom and Postal Services from 2014 and 2019.



Micheál Martin

Tánaiste (Vice Prime Minister) and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ireland

Micheál Martin is the leader of Fianna Fáil and Tánaiste (Vice Prime Minister) and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ireland since December 2022. Previously, he has served as Taoiseach (Prime Minister) of Ireland from 2020–2022, Lord Mayor of Cork in 1992–93, and on the Fianna Fáil front bench and in four cabinet posts as Minister for Foreign Affairs (2008–2011); Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment (2004–2008); Minister for Health (2000–04) and Minister for Education (1997–2000).



Ilham Kadri

CEO and President of the Executive Committee at Solvay

Dr. Ilham Kadri is the CEO and President of the Executive Committee of Solvay. In her 22 years of professional experience, Kadri has held a variety of global roles in research and development, marketing and strategy, business and digital leadership, and mergers and acquisitions in both public and private companies, such as Shell-Basell, Rohm Haas-Dow Chemical and Sealed Air.

Under her leadership at Solvay, and previously at Diversey (USA), she delivered purpose led transformations leading to sustainable and profitable businesses. Her Solvay One Planet and Solvay One Dignity roadmaps are leading to carbon neutrality before 2050, reducing inequalities at work and making diversity, equity and inclusion a business imperative.

Kadri was decorated with the Légion d'honneur, and received a Golden Award for the Woman of the year in 2019. She is a Doctor Honoris Causa of the University of Namur (BE) and EWha University (KR). Kadri is a board member at L'Oréal and at AO Smith, serves as a Chair of the World Business Council for Sustainable Development. She is the Vice-President of CEFIC and a member of the Belgium Royal Academy of Sciences, of the European Round table of Industrialists, and the IBC's World Economic Forum.

Kadri holds a degree in chemical engineering and a PhD in physics and chemistry from Strasbourg University.



Caroline de Gruyter

Europe correspondent and columnist for NRC and Foreign Policy

Caroline de Gruyter is a Europe correspondent and columnist for the Dutch newspaper NRC.

Caroline has covered European politics for over twenty years, both from the 'bubble' in Brussels and elsewhere in Europe. Her voice and expertise on Europe are well-known in the Netherlands and beyond.

She is also a columnist for Foreign Policy, EUobserver and De Standaard, and a member of the European Council on Foreign Relations. She was previously based in the Gaza strip, Jerusalem, Brussels, Geneva, Vienna and Oslo. She has written five books including, most recently, a best-selling comparison between the Habsburg Empire and the European Union which has been translated into German, French and other languages.



Charles Michel

President of the European Council

Charles Michel was elected by EU leaders as President of the European Council in 2019 and re-elected for the position for a second term in 2022. In domestic politics, Michel served as a member of the federal parliament of Belgium in 1999. A year later, he became the Walloon Minister for Interior Affairs and Civil Service, and in 2007, Federal Minister for Development Cooperation. He played an important role in his political party, MR (Reformist Movement), as spokesperson (2004-2011) and finally leader of the party (2011-2014). Following the federal elections in June 2014, he became the Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Belgium in October 2014.



Shona Murray

European correspondent for Euronews

Shona Murray is a journalist with extensive reporting experience covering European and Irish current affairs, as well as international politics and various international humanitarian crises across the globe. She is currently based in Brussels covering EU affairs for Euronews.

Murray has reported from dozens of countries, including the Middle East and US, where she covered the US election of 2016 and Guantanamo Bay prison facility. Prior to Euronews, Shona was political correspondent with the Irish Independent.

She holds an LL.M in International Law and an M.Phil. in International Peace from Trinity College in Dublin, Ireland. She is an alumna of the U.S. State Department's Edward R. Murrow scholarship program for journalists.



Maria Tadeo

European correspondent for Bloomberg

Maria Tadeo is the European correspondent for Bloomberg Television based in Brussels, where she covers European politics, economics and NATO.

She has interviewed numerous European leaders and attended high-level summits and conferences as part of her reporting.

She graduated with a First Class in Journalism from City University London and completed a Master's Degree in Financial Journalism. Maria speaks English, Spanish, Italian and French.



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