



Bénédicte Feuger, Valérie Drezet-Humez and Salomé Limery

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The question of enlargement makes it possible to renew the importance of the democratic fundamentals of the EU

Valérie Drezet-Humez

Global Strategy. The strategy sees 'peace and security as holistic concepts' and therefore includes eleven main criteria: 'Violent conflict, terrorism, crime, cybersecurity, state fragility, energy insecurity, economic crises, the democratic process, weapons of mass destruction, disinformation and global warming.' These elements are evaluated in 136 countries in addition to the EU (counted alone) 'every year and available to all online.'

Asked about the position of the EU – 7th in 2023, while it was in 11th place in previous years – the European researcher noted that 'it isn't just a question of war, as the improvement is explained by the positive trend among European States on

energy, climate and cybersecurity issues among others'. In response to the public's surprise at this improvement in light of the rise of the far right on the Old Continent, Branislav Staniček pointed out that 'the index doesn't look at political trends, but rather at fundamental freedoms and economic and social reforms.' The European researcher also noted that 'the top 5, robust democracies and economies, and the flop 5, unfortunately, remain static in the rankings.'

Branislav Staniček then looked back at the trends of the indices for Russia and Ukraine since the tool was created in 2019. He noted 'slight improvements at the beginning. Russia had stabilised its budget with the increase in the price of raw materials, while Ukraine, with the election of Zelensky, promised to manage the situation in the East of the country.' Both countries have 'obviously fallen sharply, especially Ukraine, which has lost 38% of its GDP, 20% of its territory and nearly 7 million inhabitants as a result of the mass exodus that followed the invasion.'

When asked about the apparent contradiction of a Europe at peace but actively supporting the Ukrainian war effort, Valérie Drezet-Humez explained that 'the Russian invasion is a violation of international law and the EU is responding within the legal framework of that law by helping to rebuild peace through this unprecedented strategic aid.' Faced with the 'myth of European disunity', the international diplomat recalls 'the eleven unanimous votes of the 27 to impose economic sanctions on Russia', before emphasising that 'the question of enlargement makes it possible to renew the importance of the democratic fundamentals of the EU' and to call on the young people in the room 'to inform themselves so they can have all the facts in mind as the 2024 European elections approach.'



Watch the full debate on YouTube

YOUTH SEQUENCE

THE COMMITMENT OF WOMEN TO A MORE INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE SOCIETY

28 September 10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m. – Nacre Room



Zoé De Mones et Ludivine Delaite

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Women must decide for themselves

To open the debate, moderator Lauriane Clément asked Nicole Ameline, President of the International Institute for Human Rights and Peace, to take stock of the inequalities suffered by women around the world. She pointed out that only 25% of the world's parliamentarians are women. This means that they have little say in the decisions that affect them, and yet women are among the main people affected by climate change. Nicole Ameline explained that her role at the UN is precisely to drive this change and create a requirement for parity everywhere. 'Women must be able to decide for themselves, that's the first freedom', she explained.

MODERATOR:

Lauriane Clément, head of the news section for Phosphore magazine

SPEAKERS:

Nicole Ameline, President of the International Institute for Human Rights and Peace, member of the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

Zoé De Mones, high school student, participant in the ecHo programme

Ludivine Delaite, former member of the Conseil Régional des Jeunes de Normandie who helped formulate the project on training eco-delegates

Delphine O, ambassador, Secretary General of the Forum génération égalité.



We defend what is already recognised, so much so that we are unable to fight for new rights

Delphine O

whether or not she was optimistic about women's rights. Like the audience invited to answer the same question, she expressed perplexity. In France, women's rights are recent and we still have to fight to preserve them. The Secretary General of the Forum, *génération égalité*, pointed out that we need to protect these rights, which are often under attack all over the world. Her job as a diplomat, she explained, is to promote these advances internationally. *'I also negotiate and coordinate with other countries to remove discriminatory laws and help women gain access to education and entrepreneurship'*, she maintained. She explained that in recent years, all the *'no defeats'* on this issue have been victories. *'We defend what is already recognised, so much so that we are unable to fight for new rights'*, she laments.

The debate ended with contributions from Zoé De Mones, a secondary school pupil and participant in the EcHo programme, which aims to raise young people's awareness of sustainable development objectives, and Ludivine Delaite, a former member of the Normandy Regional Youth Council (CRJ). They presented their work and their commitment before stressing the importance of young people taking up all issues relating to gender equality.



Watch
the full
debate on
YouTube

Delphine O, the youngest ambassador in French history, then joined the panel. Moderator, Lauriane Clément, asked her

MUSIC AND RESISTANCE

28 September 2023 | 2:00 p.m. – 3:30 pm -| Auditorium



When music becomes a saviour

Accompanied by the musical ensemble, Les Lunaisiens, Déborah Livet, a researcher in music history, presented a set of texts and songs from resistance fighters now preserved in various museums and municipal archives, in order to raise public awareness of the use of art and music as a means of free expression in times of war.

Déborah Livet introduced her talk by recalling that when Germany invaded Poland on 3 September 1939, the French had only one weapon: satire. Thanks to the meticulous work of composers like Paul Arma, more than 1,300 songs and poems from the Second World War have come down to us, bearing the scars of resistance under the occupation. Arma, a Hungarian Jew, managed to flee the Nazi regime on 16 March 1933, first to Switzerland and then to France. With his wife Edmée, he collected songs, now preserved in the archives of the town of Thionville. *'Because we sang during those tragic years, and we wrote, to*

mock, to wait, to evoke, to explain, to forget' explained Déborah Livet. In this way, folklore was born out of fear and human effort, misery and love, pain and hope. The Doctor of Music History was accompanied by two musicians, Arnaud Marzorati and Anthony Millet, who gave a poignant performance of songs by members of the Resistance, accompanied by an accordion. Déborah Livet then evoked the title of a poster preserved at the Hauts de France Coupole Museum, entitled *'L'homme libre'* with this inscription: *'We are against dictatorship and make no distinction between that of Berlin and that of Vichy, that of*