Climate Unfiltered: The Narratives that Shape our World

Expert Roundtable Workshop

<u>Stanhope Hotel Brussels, Rue du Commerce 9, 1000 Brussels,</u>

9th October 2023, 16:00-19:00

PROGRAMME

Climate change is not just reshaping our planet but the very fabric of our conversations, calling for an urgent societal and economic overhaul. Even as the tangible consequences of climate change intensify, an alarming surge in climate denialism and scepticism is on the rise.

The very topic which demands unison and innovative solutions has been victimized, weaponized, and polarized, with disinformation campaigns gaining momentum. In this age of flux, narratives – the frameworks that dictate our perception and interpretation of reality – emerge as pivotal. They aren't merely stories; they are powerful tools that elicit emotions, convey meaning, and more importantly, shape the way we understand the world.

Recognizing the power and influence of narratives in shaping public understanding, the Narratives Observatory combatting Disinformation in Europe Systemically (NODES) was founded earlier this year. Co-funded by the European Commission and led by Re-Imagine Europa, NODES brings together leading institutions such as Agence France-Presse (AFP), the French National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS), PlusValue, Sotrender, Science Feedback, and Università Ca' Foscari Venezia. The initiative seeks to delve deep into the dynamics of narratives, aiming to discern trends and develop tools that address disinformation effectively.

In the light of the upcoming European Elections and the growing political polarisation around issues relating to climate change, NODES will convene this expert roundtable, co-hosted by MEP Nils Torvalds, to bring together leading thinkers, practitioners, policymakers and experts from institutions, CSOs and NGOs working in the fields of climate change, disinformation and polarisation. The focus will be on providing an analytical overview of the evolution and shifts in climate change narratives, examining their implications and trajectory.

16:00 Introduction

Erika Staël von Holstein, Chief Executive of Re-Imagine Europa

16:10 Welcome Address

Nils Torvalds MEP Othmar Karas MEP

Krisztina Stump EC, Head of the Media Convergence and Social Media (CNECT.I.4)

16:25 State-of-the Art

Professor Andrzej Nowak, Chief Narrative Scientist of Re-Imagine Europa Professor David Chavalarias, Research Director at CNRS and Director of the Complex Systems Institute of Paris IdF

17:20 Expert discussion and workshop

moderated by: Anthony Gooch

Including inputs from:

Professor Maria João Rodrigues, Chairperson of RIE's Advisory Board, President at FEPS, former MEP Professor Antonios Nestoras, Deputy Executive Director of the European Liberal Forum - ELF Professor Guido Caldarelli, Professor of Physics at Università Ca' Foscari Venezia, LIMS Fellow Karen Boers, social entrepreneur, FARI - AI for the Common Good Institute

19:00 Drink reception, cocktail dinatoire













