

Friday, November 6

Allianz Forum, Pariser Platz 6, 10117 Berlin (next to Brandenburger Tor)



Doors open at 8:00 am

9.00 am Musical Opening

9.15 am Words of Welcome

Michelle Schmitz (Head of the Allianz Representative Office Berlin, Allianz SE, tbc) & **Dr. Dr. h.c. Markus Dröge** (Spokesperson of the Board Stiftung Zukunft Berlin);
Nele Hertling (Founder A Soul for Europe) & **Christophe Knoch** (Stiftung Zukunft Berlin)

9.30 am Keynote Speech

10.00 am Musical Interlude

10.15 am Panel: Performing Europe – The Art of Belonging

- **James Kilcourse** (Deputy Head of Mission, Embassy of Ireland in Berlin)
- **Sabrina Repp** (Member of the European Parliament, Committee on Culture and Education)
- **Heike Raab** (Chair of SEDEC, European Committee of the Regions)
- **Vitali Alekseenok** (Chief Conductor of the Deutsche Oper am Rhein)

With Questions from the Audience

Moderation: **Natalie Giorgadze** (General Director, Culture Action Europe)

Executive organisation:

STIFTUNG
ZUKUNFTBERLIN

Project and conference partner:



Funding partner:



We thank the following partner for their support:



Berlin Conference 2026 – Europe: The Art of Belonging

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11.30 am Coffee Break

12.00 pm Get Together

Participants can choose from a variety of conversation formats, meet-ups, and workshops taking place in different spaces throughout the venue.

Workshop by Nela Riehl (MEP, Chair of the Committee on Culture and Education)

A Europe for all or only for some? Why cultural freedom decides

Workshop by Sabrina Repp (MEP, Committee on Culture and Education)

The Right to Stay: Shaping the Future of Rural Europe

Workshop by Iris Jugo (representative of Cáceres 2031, Candidate City for the European Capital of Culture)

The Role of Arts and Culture in Creating Belonging

Workshop by Dr. Rarița Zbranca (Programme Director, Cluj Cultural Centre) & **Mahir Namur** (Cultural Manager)

Europe, Belonging and Care

Workshop by Leila Weber & Andreas Knapp (Co-Founder & Co-Director, HANGARMUSIK)

Experience the first day at HANGARMUSIK

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12.00 pm

Get Together

Workshop by Bengisu Berispek (Founder Sustain.ALL Transformation HUB, Lecturer, Project Lead Researcher - TU Berlin)

Sustain.ALL Co-Creation Lab: Belonging by Design – Co-Creating Europe's Shared Future

Workshop by Simon Strauss (Writer and Journalist)

Subject on tour: Europe as a project of continuous negotiation

Presentation by Christine Heemsoth (IGBK, touring artists),
Malin Nagel & Sebastian Hoffmann (ITI Germany, touring artists)

About touring artists – Information and advice for international cultural mobility

Presentation by Benjamin Sibille (Collectif pour un Service Civique Européen)

Europe in Action: Unlocking EU Cohesion Funds for Culture, Arts & Tourism

MeetUp by Nele Hertling, Miguel Ángel Martín Ramos, Nicolas Bertrand (A Soul for Europe)

Meet Up A Soul for Europe

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2.00 pm

Lunch Break

3.15 pm

Long Table Conversation: From Belonging to Action. What does it take?

With impulses from:

- **Nela Riehl** (Member of the European Parliament, Chair of the Committee on Culture and Education)
- **Sabrina Repp** (Member of the European Parliament, Committee on Culture and Education, tbc)
- **H.E. Giedrius Puodžiūnas** (Ambassador of the Republic of Lithuania to Germany)
- **Neyko Genchev** (Deputy Mayor for Culture and Cultural Heritage, Veliko Tarnovo, Bulgaria)
- **Aissatou Binger** (Co-Director, Carnival of Cultures Berlin)
- **Dr Constanze Itzel** (Director, House of European History, European Parliament)

Moderation: **Christine Dietrich** (Deputy Managing Director, Charlemagne Prize Foundation) & **Amb. (ret.) Dr Peter Schoof** (Former German Ambassador to Greece, Indonesia and ASEAN)

All audience members are invited to take a seat at the table and participate in the conversation.

5.15 pm

Outlook

5.30 pm

Reception

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