Resolution on The Conference of the Future of Europe

The Conference on the Future of Europe aims to send a clear commitment to representative democracy and its institutions on European and national level. In addition, it aims to create a space for discussion for all citizens and enable them to play a more active role in deciding the future of the European Union and its political priorities. The Conference on the Future of Europe is set to be organised by Parliament, Council and Commission and was expected to start in May 2020 and run for two years. Due to the pandemic, the start had to be postponed. The aim of the project is to make the voice of Europeans better heard in the actions of the European Union. The conference is to build on previous experiences, for example with citizens' dialogues. The Commission is also proposing new elements, such as a multilingual online platform, in order to increase the range and give people better opportunities to participate. In terms of content, the debates should be based on the political priorities of the EU such as climate change, social justice, European values, fundamental rights and freedoms, democratic and institutional aspects of the EU, ecological challenges, economic and employment issues including taxation, the digital change, the security and role of the EU in the world.

The IDC-CDI:

1. Welcomes that EU member states gave the 'green light' to a format proposed by the Portuguese presidency for the Conference on the Future of Europe, which is due to start on the 09.05.2021 in Strasbourg,

2. Welcomes that the Conference should be under the authority of the presidents of the three institutions – Council, European Commission and European Parliament – with the 'assistance' of an Executive Committee,

3. Calls on the EU to define the tasks for a new convention,

4. Highlights the importance of giving more democratic legitimacy to the EU, and in this context to highlight the need to strengthen the *Spitzenkandidat* process,

5. Remembers that the number of significant crises that the EU has undergone, demonstrate that institutional and political reforms are needed on multiple governance areas.