

TEPSA and Sciences Po CEE organise a Conference on The 2022 French Presidency of the Council of the European Union

The Pre-Presidency Conference will bring experts, policy-makers, civil society and the wider public together to discuss the priorities of the upcoming French Presidency of the Council of the European Union

PARIS, 07/12/2021: On 09-10 December, the Centre for European Studies and Comparative Politics of Sciences Po Paris and TEPSA will host policy-makers from the upcoming French Presidency of the Council of the European Union to meet with key stakeholders and the wider public to discuss their priorities for the French Presidency during the first half of 2022.

Before every Council Presidency, the Trans European Policy Studies Association (TEPSA) joins with its Member Institute in the relevant country to organise the Pre-Presidency Conference (PPC). PPCs have become a staple of the European political year ever since the first one, hosted to preview the Irish presidency of January-June 1975. Ahead of the conference, TEPSA will also present and discuss the recommendations for the French Presidency, which have been drafted by TEPSA researchers.

TEPSA Secretary-General Jim Cloos, until recently a senior official at the General Secretariat of the Council and looking back on a European career of 35 years, describes the value of Pre-Presidency Conferences as **“a perfect opportunity to bring together representatives of the TEPSA network and political decision-makers. This cross-fertilization is essential for a vibrant debate about Europe in the run-up to each Presidency. It allows our TEPSA members to make a difference”**.

For the French Pre-Presidency Conference, otherwise known as PPC Paris, highlighted discussions will take place on the European Green Deal, democratic backsliding, post-COVID recovery and the Next Generation EU package, the EU's role in the world and the concept of Strategic Autonomy, and more. The role of differentiated integration in the future of Europe will also be discussed, in the context of the Horizon 2020 funded 'InDivEU' project in which TEPSA takes part. During the course of the conference, **David Cvach, Director for EU Affairs at the French Ministry of European and Foreign Affairs**, will lay out the priorities of the French Presidency.

Sciences Po CEE and TEPSA will host French officials, European experts in various fields, national stakeholders, and the wider public to take part in the latest Pre-Presidency Conference and shape the future of Europe together.

The event will take place **in person** on **09-10 December**.

-ENDS-

Press inquiries to: hugh.evans@tepsa.eu