

## EU Youth Conference

23–26 March

Venue: Latvia, Bellevue Park Hotel Riga

### MEDIA PROGRAMME

Journalists are welcome to participate in all conference sessions on 24 March and 26 March.

Individual interviews can be arranged during the conference. Please schedule time slots in advance (until 23 March) by sending a request to Ms Ieva Nora Firere (ieva.firere@izm.gov.lv, telephone: +37129146366).

To participate, please fill out the accreditation form on <https://media.eu2015.lv/php/login.php>. Questions on media accreditation: [mediaaccreditation@es2015.lv](mailto:mediaaccreditation@es2015.lv)

Live stream from the official opening, the introductory session, panel discussions and closing of the Youth Conference available on [www.eu2015.lv](http://www.eu2015.lv).

TUESDAY, 24 March

#### 9:30–10:30 **Opening of the conference**

Ms Mārīte Seile, Latvian Minister for Education and Science

Mr Rihards Kols, Parliamentary Secretary to the Latvian Prime Minister

Mr Antonio Silva Mendes, Director for Youth and Sport, DG Education and Culture, European Commission

Mr Emīls Anškens, Vice-president of the National Youth Council of Latvia

Ms Johanna Nyman, President of the European Youth Forum

#### 10:30 –11:00 **Joint Press Conference**

*Venue: Hall Berlīne*

Participants:

Ms Mārīte Seile, Latvian Minister for Education and Science

Mr Antonio Silva Mendes, Director for Youth and Sport, DG Education and Culture, European Commission

Ms Johanna Nyman, President of the European Youth Forum

Ms Iveta Kažoka, researcher at the centre for public policy PROVIDUS

#### 11:00 –11:40 **Introductory session: EU Youth Conference 2015 objectives**

#### 11:40 –13:00 **Panel discussion**

Mr Michael Sani, founder of BiteTheBallot.uk, a not-for-profit movement that empowers young people to speak up, act, and make their votes and opinions count

Mrs Saskia Nauck, representative of Federal Agency for Civic Education, Germany

Mr Tomaž Deželan, Associate Professor of Political Science at the University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Social Sciences

Mr Didrik de Schaetzen, Head of Communication Unit for The Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE) Party – TBC

THURSDAY, 26 March

11:00 –12:00 **Closing of the conference**

Ms Ināra Mūrniece, Speaker of the Latvian Parliament

Ms Silvia Costa, Chair of the Committee on Culture and Education, European Parliament

Mr Jens Nymand-Christensen, Deputy Director-General, DG Education and Culture, European Commission

Mr Emīls Anškens, Vice-president of the National Youth Council of Latvia

Ms Johanna Nyman, President of the European Youth Forum

Themed **Empowering young people for political participation in democratic life of Europe**, the conference will bring together not only 250+ young people and policy makers from all across Europe, but also internationally acknowledged experts on **youth political participation**. As the main Latvian Presidency event in the youth field, the EU Youth Conference aims to produce joint recommendations to be brought on board for a political debate for the youth ministers at the Education, Youth, Culture and Sport Council meeting on 18–19 May, 2015.