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Shaping the Future of Europe

In view of the upcoming “Conference on the future of Europe”, to be launched on Europe Day - 9 May 2020, the European Public Law Organization (EPLO) has decided to establish a “Working Group on the future of Europe”.

Its mandate will be to gather views and positions of the EPLO Member States, generate a dialogue within the Organization and prepare position papers on selected themes related to the key challenges the EU is facing and to the further steps of European Integration.

The Conference will run for two years; the framework of its works is defined by the European Council conclusions of 12 December 2019, the European Parliament Resolution of 15 January 2020 and the European Commission Communication of 22 January 2020, COM(2020) 27 final, within which the Working Group will be operating.

The Working Group will provide a contribution with the view to the Joint Declaration of the three Institutions on the scope, format, structure and objectives of the Conference and will follow closely the steps of the process. In doing so, it will organize workshops, conferences and an electronic platform with a questionnaire to exchange views among the Members of the Organization, which can lead to position papers and other publications.

Several findings and recommendations which will come out of the Conference will most likely be implemented through EU secondary legislation. Others, the most important, such as a Defence Union, a genuine Energy Union, a Banking Union, an EU Migration policy, will require amending the Treaties and thus an Intergovernmental Conference. The Working Group of the EPLO will be active in all these successive stages and will provide inputs and position papers, as appropriate, that will be communicated to the three Institutions and as the case may be to their members depending on their portfolios and competencies.