

Relazione conclusiva

**3. Progetto:**  
**“German-Italian Young Leaders Dialogue – Spinelli Forum II edizione”**

Progetto realizzato dall'ISPI insieme al DGAP tedesco e in collaborazione con i Ministeri degli Affari Esteri italiano e tedesco

PREMESSA

La **cooperazione tra Germania e Italia** è al centro del buon funzionamento del progetto europeo e al centro della sicurezza e della governance nel continente. È una cooperazione che trascende governi specifici e persino differenze specifiche su alcune politiche nel corso degli anni. Si potrebbe infatti sostenere che il dialogo sulla nostra cooperazione sia ancora più importante in un momento in cui i due Paesi sviluppano idee diverse su alcune delle sfide che necessitano di risposte a livello europeo. Le idee devono essere scambiate per trovare migliori soluzioni comuni.

In un **anno segnato da profonda crisi** per la coda della pandemia da Covid-19, l'aggressione russa all'Ucraina, la crisi energetica e l'inflazione galoppante, il dialogo italo-tedesco va rafforzato. La **crisi ucraina** ha mostrato la crescente necessità di iniziative di difesa comune, ma anche la possibilità di azioni di politica estera coordinate, comuni e forti che tengano conto di percezioni e sensibilità diverse. Tuttavia, i diversi punti di vista su come affrontare le sfide poste dalla guerra richiedono un dialogo italo-tedesco intensificato. Ne è un esempio la **politica energetica**, che a seguito della guerra in Ucraina e il deteriorarsi delle relazioni con Mosca, necessita di un fronte europeo compatto e azioni condivise per assicurare una transizione energetica comune. In quanto maggiori acquirenti di gas russo, Italia e Germania giocano un ruolo fondamentale in questo contesto.

Sul **fronte economico** le relazioni tra i due Paesi rimangono forti: La Germania è il principale partner commerciale dell'Italia a cui il nostro paese destina oltre il 12% delle esportazioni. I due sistemi produttivi sono inoltre molto complementari: alcuni settori di punta dell'economia italiana (dalla meccanica strumentale all'automotive, al chimico-farmaceutico) sono infatti alla base della filiera produttiva tedesca.

Il dialogo con la Germania è importante per l'Italia sia in chiave bilaterale che nel contesto comunitario, dove il fronte comune, basato sull'europeismo e l'atlantismo, è fondamentale per molti dossier aperti, non solo quelli economici.

Infine, l'Europa si trova di fronte alla necessità di accelerare la **transizione digitale** che permetta di colmare il divario tecnologico tra "abbienti" e "non abbienti" dell'era digitale, sviluppare un pool di talenti motivato ed incentivato a rimanere nei paesi europei e, infine, crei i presupposti per attirare investimenti da parte degli imprenditori, delle società esistenti e dei venture capitalist.

Anche in questo caso, un dialogo tra Italia e Germania è certamente un prerequisito per condividere le lezioni apprese e riflettere su come superare le sfide comuni che ancora limitano il potenziale tecnologico dell'Europa.

Ma perché la comunione di intenti tra i due paesi sia duratura nel tempo e meno permeabile ai cambi di vertice e ai terremoti politici, occorre costruire e rafforzare una condivisione di visione e di intenti a livello della società e dell'opinione pubblica.

In questo dialogo il **contributo dei giovani è fondamentale** per analizzare e proporre soluzioni su questioni cruciali per la ripresa dopo le sfide poste dalla pandemia in Europa prima e dalla guerra in Ucraina dopo.

Il progetto ha portato a creare gruppi di lavoro misti di giovani italiani e tedeschi, identificati, come per la prima edizione, attraverso un bando di concorso. I temi specifici su cui si sono concentrati i lavori dei 4 gruppi di lavoro sono i seguenti:

1. EU Foreign and Security Policy
2. New European stability and growth pact
3. Technology and Digitization in Europe
4. A European Green Deal and the challenges of the energy transition

#### MODALITÀ E TAPPE DEL PROGETTO

Il progetto ha portato alla selezione di **64 giovani leader tra i 25 e i 35 anni italiani e tedeschi**, impegnati in varie sfere della vita civile ed espressione di uno spaccato rappresentativo della società, per farli discutere e confrontare sui temi sopra menzionati in un'atmosfera aperta e informale che consentisse un ampio scambio di opinioni.

Lo scopo finale è stato quello di elaborare, attraverso un percorso guidato seguendo la metodologia del **design thinking** e partendo da *concept notes* appositamente redatte, alcune **raccomandazioni di policy** nei diversi ambiti di discussione, presentate ai rappresentanti dei due Ministeri degli Esteri in occasione dell'evento conclusivo tenutosi a **Milano il 17 dicembre** scorso.

Il percorso ha visto la realizzazione di tre **tappe preliminari in modalità virtuale** come momenti di avvicinamento ai lavori della conferenza conclusiva e che si sono svolti il 30 settembre, 14 ottobre e 11 novembre. Durante queste fasi di lavoro sono stati forniti ai partecipanti alcuni strumenti di base per elaborare le policy issues specifiche per ciascun gruppo tematico e giungere all'appuntamento finale in presenza pronti per affrontare la fase di elaborazione delle raccomandazioni di policy.

L'**evento conclusivo** si è articolato in un fitto programma con sessioni aperte al pubblico e momenti di lavori di gruppo in sessioni parallele per giungere alla elaborazione di **11 policy recommendations**. Durante la cerimonia conclusiva queste proposte sono state presentate pubblicamente ai rappresentanti dei due Ministeri degli Affari esteri italiano e tedesco, Alessandro Gaudiano e Maria Adebahr, e al presidente del Gruppo di Amicizia italo-tedesco del Bundestag, Axel Schaefer.

Alla conferenza è stata associata una **fitta campagna di promozione** attraverso Twitter che ha visto la realizzazione di "quote cards" dei partecipanti italiani e tedeschi nella settimana precedente l'evento, "quote cards" degli speakers prodotte durante l'evento in tempo reale e una newsletter riepilogativa successiva all'evento.

#### **Elenco degli allegati:**

1. Spinelli Forum 2022\_BANDO
2. Spinelli Forum 2022\_Virtual Kick-Off\_30 Sept
3. Participants Guidelines\_ Spinelli Workshops
4. Spinelli Forum\_2022\_Promo Conferenza
5. Schedule for Participants\_Spinelli Forum 2022
6. Spinelli Forum 2022\_Conference\_Agenda\_DEF
7. Articolo Bufacchi
8. Participants List\_Spinelli 2022\_20\_12
9. Policy\_recommendation 2022
10. [Link della Newsletter](#) post evento



## SPINELLI FORUM 2022: APPLICATIONS ARE NOW OPEN!



The **German Italian Young Leaders Dialogue – Spinelli Forum** is a joint initiative of the **German Federal Foreign Office** and the **Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation** in partnership with the **German Council on Foreign Relations (DGAP)** and the **Italian Institute for International Political Studies (ISPI)**.

We are looking for **Italian and German candidates** (25 to 35 years old) active in the fields of **politics, business, academia, civil society, media, and culture** to join the **Spinelli Forum** in Milan. Participants will have the unique opportunity to discuss **relevant issues concerning the future of the EU** and relations between the two countries in a stimulating environment, as well as to become members of a lasting network of **German and Italian young leaders**.

[Download the Call for Applications](#)

[Apply to the Forum](#)

You are kindly invited to read the **evaluation criteria** ([HERE](#)) and the **Call for Applications** carefully before applying. **THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION IS JUNE 17.**

### Spinelli Forum 2021



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[Learn about the last edition](#)

[#GIYLD](#) [#SpinelliForum](#)

**DGAP**  
Advancing foreign policy. Since 1955.

 **Auswärtiges Amt**

  
**Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
and International Cooperation**

**ISPI Secretariat**  
email: [segreteria.eventi@ispionline.it](mailto:segreteria.eventi@ispionline.it)  
web: [www.ispionline.it](http://www.ispionline.it)



ISPI | Via Clerici, 5, Milan, 20121 Italy



**30 September 2022 – 4:00-5:45 pm CEST**

Via **Zoom**: <https://ispionline-it.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAtfuuuqzwwqE9R8YbIXEUUIx31S6GmlTy-5>

**Roderick Parkes**, Research Director, DGAP (*tbc*)

## Q&A

**Lucia Ragazzi**, Research Fellow, ISPI

Working Group 4 - **Matteo Villa**, Research Fellow, ISPI







German Italian Young Leaders Dialogue – Spinelli Forum

## **WORKSHOP GUIDELINES**

This year the project gathers a total of **64 participants (32 Italians and 32 Germans)**, divided into the **4 thematic working groups**:

**- WG1: European Foreign and Security Policy**

*Facilitator:* Miriam Heß, Research Fellow, DGAP ([hess@dgap.org](mailto:hess@dgap.org))

1. Swaantje auf dem Keller, Personal Advisor to the district manager, Hochtaunuskreis
2. Luigi Daniele, Communication Manager, AHK Italien
3. Helge Dresen, Communication Officer, Project Officer - National Partner of UNHCR in Germany; Villa Vigoni
4. Alessandro De Cicco, Researcher, Vocal Europe
5. Justus Duhnkrack, Head of Legal & Human Resources, German Federal Cultural Foundation
6. Sophie Eichhorn, Lawyer, WAGNER Arbitration
7. Clara Föller, President, Junge Europäische Föderalisten (JEF) Deutschland e.V.
8. Mariasole Forlani, PhD candidate in EU and International Law, King's College London
9. Michelangelo Freyrie, Junior Researcher, Istituto Affari Internazionali
10. Catharina Haensel, PhD Researcher, Scuola Normale Superiore and University of Goettingen
11. Isabel Hernandez Pepe, PhD Candidate in Transnational Governance at Scuola Normale Superiore e Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna
12. Patrick Hoffmann, Head of Social Impact, Generali Deutschland
13. Katharina Hurka, Information and Communication Officer, European Commission
14. Florian Kommer, Chief of Staff Dr. Franziska Brantner, Deutscher Bundestag
15. Raphael Oidtmann, Parliamentary and Legal Advisor, State Parliament of Hesse
16. Alissa Pavia, Associate Director, Atlantic Council
17. Silvia Perino Vaiga, Consultant, APCO Worldwide
18. Thaila Poli, Senior Protection Assistant - Field Unit Coordinator, UNHCR
19. Mattia Serra, Research Trainee, ISPI
20. Mattia Luca Tarelli, Government Affairs and Public Policy Senior Analyst, Google
21. Cecilia Varuzza, PhD Student in History of International Relations, University of Essex
22. Vanessa Verena, Media officer Die Beauftragte der Bundesregierung für Kultur und Medien

**- WG2: New European stability and growth pact**

*Facilitator:* Christoph Erber, Chief of staff to the Director, DGAP ([erber@dgap.org](mailto:erber@dgap.org))

1. Benedetta Albano, Ph.D. researcher, FAU Erlangen-Nuremberg
2. Donato Boccardi, Relationship Director, Aviva Investors
3. Anna auf dem Brinke, Civil servant and Economist, German Federal Ministry of Finance
4. Olimpia Caetani, Attachée, Permanent Representation of Austria to the EU
5. Federico Colajanni, Regulatory Affairs Executive, Philip Morris Italy
6. Sebastian Enning, Bank Resolution Expert, Single Resolution Board
7. Tobias Hauck, Self-employed
8. Edoardo Segantini, Insurance Supervision, Central Bank of Ireland
9. Mark Skudlik, Executive Assistant to the CEO, R+V Versicherung AG
10. Markus Tiemann, Expert, European Central Bank



### - WG3: Technology and Digitalization in Europe

*Facilitator:* Alberto Guidi, Research Fellow, ISPI ([alberto.guidi@ispionline.it](mailto:alberto.guidi@ispionline.it))

1. Simona Autolitano, Policy Officer, Federal Office for Information Security (BSI)
2. Lorenzo Maria Boldorini, Manager in ICT Consulting Firm, Softlab S.p.A.
3. Giulia Carsaniga, Public sector consultant - EU team, Capgemini
4. Victoria Citterio-Sölle, Head of Partnerships, Feedel Ventures
5. Andreas Daum, Lawyer, Noerr Partgmbb
6. Gianluca Errico, Managing Consultant, IBM
7. Rosanna Fanni, Associate Researcher and Trade and Technology Dialogue Coordinator, Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS)
8. Matteo Foti, Business Continuity Manager, Atlas Copco
9. Ludovica Gabrielli, Cyber Security Consultant, Deloitte
10. Hannah Herzig, Policy Coordinator, European Commission
11. Franziska Link, Senior Consultant Digital & Data Ramboll Management Consulting
12. Lucrezia Menoncello, Strategy and Business Development Lead, Bitpanda Pro
13. Claudia Schettini, PhD Student, Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies
14. Natalie Schnelle, Director Government Affairs Business Development, SAP SE
15. Kai Utzinger, CEO, KRF KinderRechteForum gGmbH
16. Felix Wagner, Finance Team Lead FCAS, Airbus Defence & Space

### - WG4: A European Green Deal and the challenges of the energy transition

*Facilitator:* Lucia Ragazzi, Research Fellow, ISPI ([lucia.ragazzi@ispionline.it](mailto:lucia.ragazzi@ispionline.it))

1. Martin Adler, Financial Risk Expert, European Central Bank
2. Philipp Aepler, Head of Fossil Fuel Phase-out Diplomacy, COP26 UN Climate Change Conference, COP26 Unit, UK Cabinet Office
3. Edoardo Casarotto, Policy Officer - Healthy Ocean and Seas, European Commission
4. Valeria Cerasani, CEO officer - International Institutional Affairs, Enel
5. Andrea Colombo, Economist, European Commission
6. Simon Grange-Piras, Business Analyst, Uniper
7. Raffael Hanschmann, Practice Group Lead Climate and Energy, Bernstein Group
8. Stefano Ingallina, Youth Section National Coordinator, Movimento Europeo Italia
9. Giacomo Migliore, Policy Officer, European Commission (DG MOVE)
10. Mariachiara Polisenà, Seconded at International Energy Agency International Energy Agency
11. Riccardo Rao, PhD student, Universities of Trieste and Udine
12. Gero Roser, Analyst, Aurora Energy Research
13. Anna Rother, Legal Trainee/Assistant, District Court Düsseldorf
14. David Sailer, Consultant and project manager, Business Location Advocacy, Chamber of Commerce and Industry Vienna
15. Tamara Ritter, Specialist for Microsimulation Models ifo, Institute for Economic Research
16. Julia Walschbaur, Political assistant to the Deputy Director General, Directorate General for Energy, European Commission

The project employs the **DESIGN THINKING METHOD**, divided into the following phases: **Analyze** (1 & 2 – during the workshops), **Ideate and Focus**, **Develop**, and **Present** (during the final conference).



## FIRST WORKSHOP – Sept. 30

*Introduction, presentation of the topics and expected results (policy recommendations)*

## SECOND WORKSHOP – Oct. 14

*Phase ‘Analyze’ (part 1) of the **DESIGN THINKING METHOD***

*Identifying the policy problems within one field, understanding the context and EU priorities. By the end of the workshop, participants agree on a number of main policy issues within the respective field.*

### WORKING PHASES

- 1) **Brainstorming on policy issues:** with the help of the facilitator and technical assistant, participants will be divided into subgroups and enter the **zoom breakout rooms**. Subgroups at this stage are intended to ease the discussion and allow speaking time to everyone.

*To work together participants will use a collaboration tool, the ‘MURAL’, which is a shared digital canvas. MURAL allows participants to create virtual **sticky notes** and add them to a specific area of the canvas ([you can preview your group’s MURAL](#) via the link at the end of this document). You can preview your WG’s MURAL at the end of this document.*

- 2) **Organize and cluster ideas:** your facilitator will help cluster the policy issues with regard to topic or scope.
- 3) **Vote:** each participant has two 🗳️ icons to vote on their preferred topics.

The group should work on the **most voted policy issues** during the conference. Discuss with the group or take a new vote if the result is in doubt.

Consider the **maximum number** of policy issues that should be selected:

- WG1: 4 policy issues/working subgroups
- WG2: 2 policy issues/working subgroups
- WG3: 3 policy issues/working subgroups
- WG4: 3 policy issues/working subgroups

- 4) **Divide in the final working subgroups:**  
With the help of the facilitator, divide into the subgroups dedicated to one of the policy issues. The facilitator will help make sure that the groups are as balanced as possible according to: professional and personal interests, geographic origin and gender.



## THIRD WORKSHOP – Nov. 11

### *Phase 'Analyze' (part 2) of the DESIGN THINKING METHOD*

#### *Analysis, summary, and presentation of the selected policy issues*

#### WORKING PHASES

##### 1) Answer the guiding questions:

- What is the problem?
- What are the key developments/challenges within the policy field?
- Why is the policy problem relevant for Italy, Germany, and Europe?
- What are hopes connected to the policy problem?
- What are fears connected to the policy problem?
- Who are the stakeholders of the problem and what are their interests?
- Blind spots: What aspects might have been overlooked so far?
- Do Italy and Germany agree on the problem definition? Or do they have different perceptions of the policy problem?

Reflect on how you intend to work on the policy recommendation.

**Present and gather feedback:** a spokesperson will present your result to the other participants (about 10 minutes).

#### LINK TO THE MURAL

WG1:

<https://app.mural.co/t/spinelliforumwg16592/m/spinelliforumwg16592/1663594228725/de6e2084abf2bd5318e7352dc727f6e29e258c38?sender=u5fd9ded97e2edd8d58a51580>

WG2:

<https://app.mural.co/t/spinelliforumwg16592/m/spinelliforumwg16592/1663584674100/22304123c8ad2c0b83725549bd296664a06997c5?sender=u5fd9ded97e2edd8d58a51580>

WG3:

<https://app.mural.co/t/spinelliforumwg16592/m/spinelliforumwg16592/1661957073260/ade3a89cd28c6a9d3dc408ba006efc5b2564efde?sender=u5fd9ded97e2edd8d58a51580>

WG4:

<https://app.mural.co/invitation/mural/spinelliforumwg16592/1663836152351?sender=u5fd9ded97e2edd8d58a51580&key=3580494b-587a-4812-af4c-d6985c72029f>



16 December, h12.00

Online Conference

## EUROPE AT A CROSSROADS AFTER COVID19 AND THE WAR IN UKRAINE: What Future for the Cooperation between Germany and Italy?

The EU and its member states face an increasing number of **challenges** that require close **cooperation at the European level**, as shown by the Russian aggression against Ukraine and its consequences for Europe and the world.

As close partners and founding members of the EU, both **Germany and Italy** are key to advancing European cooperation. During the **Spinelli Forum**, young leaders from both countries will develop concrete proposals over the two-day event.

The Forum will be opened by the keynote speeches of **Anna Lührmann**, Minister of State for Europe and Climate, Federal Foreign Office, Germany and **Maria Tripodi**, Undersecretary of State for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Italy.

For more information and to **follow the event online** click here:

[Visit the website and register](#)

Follow the Spinelli Forum on Twitter [@ispionline](#) [#SpinelliForum](#) [#GIYLD](#)



### ISPI Secretariat

email: [segreteria.eventi@ispionline.it](mailto:segreteria.eventi@ispionline.it)

web: [www.ispionline.it](http://www.ispionline.it)



ISPI | Via Clerici, 5, Milano, 20121 Italia

## Spinelli Forum 2022 – Detailed Schedule for Participants

*Venue of the conference: ISPI, Via Clerici, 5, Milano*

*Hotel: IBIS Milano Centro, Via Camillo Finocchiaro Aprile, 2, Milano*

### Methodology

The project employs the **DESIGN THINKING METHOD**, divided into the following phases:

**Analyze (1):** you have identified several problems within your policy field, understanding their context and what should be prioritized by the EU. You have agreed on a few policy issues/priorities to continue working on, divided into subgroups. **(2)** The policy issues have been analyzed, summarized, and presented to the other participants.

**Ideate and Focus (3):** during this phase ('Ideation Lab'), you will move from the policy problems to their solution, generating as many innovative ideas as possible. You will evaluate the ideas generated and choose to focus on the most promising one (your Policy Recommendation).

**Develop (4):** you will develop the selected policy idea, thinking about potential risks and benefits, reflecting on the role and contribution of Germany and Italy.

**Present (5)** you will pitch your Policy Recommendation to the decision-makers in the plenary session.

### Goal

During the Spinelli Forum's virtual workshops, participants have analysed a variety of policy issues. The final Conference will start with the 'Ideation Labs', aiming to provide a stimulating and hands-on workspace to dive deeper into the Working Groups' topics. The different working phases of the 2-days Conference are meant to bring the diverse experience and backgrounds of participants to discuss the most pressing challenges within the WGs' policy fields. The final goal of the Forum is to co-create **innovative solutions for real policy problems**.

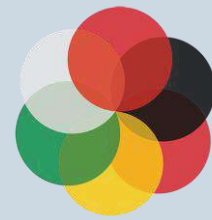
## DAY 1: December 16

Time	Agenda Item	Room in ISPI	Group	Goal	What to do/say
9:30	Registration & Welcome coffee	Prima anticamera ( <i>first floor</i> )	All	Networking	Collect your <b>badge</b>
10:00 - 11:30	Plenary session	Sala Nuova	Participants, Speakers, Public and Guests	Official opening of the Conference	Plenary session (open to the public): <b>“Europe at the Crossroads After Covid-19 and the War in Ukraine: What Future for the Cooperation Between Germany and Italy?”</b>
	Group photo				
11:30 - 12:00	Coffee Break	Seconda anticamera	Participants, Guests	Networking	
12:00 - 13:30	<b>Ideation Labs</b>	<b>WG1:</b> Sala Consiglio ( <i>first floor</i> ) <b>WG2:</b> Sala Ortona ( <i>first floor</i> ) <b>WG3:</b> Aula Ortona ( <i>ground floor</i> ) <b>WG4:</b> Aula Pirelli ( <i>ground floor</i> )	Working Groups & Subgroups	<b>Phase (3) - Ideate &amp; Focus</b>	Subgroups recap the work done during the virtual workshops and <b>brainstorm possible solutions to their policy issue</b> . ➔ Before the end of the session, you will try to <b>focus</b> on a few specific solutions to your policy issue.
13:30 - 14:30	Networking Lunch	Seconda anticamera	All	Networking	
14:30 - 16:00	<b>Expert Input &amp; Working Phase</b>	WG Rooms	WGs	“Reality check” with experts & Discussion	The expert gives an input to the whole Working Group and specific feedback to each subgroup: ➔ Each subgroup presents its policy problems and possible solutions. Gather comments and corrections.
16:00 - 16:30	Coffee Break	Seconda anticamera			
16:30 - 18:00	Working Phase	WG Rooms	Subgroups	<b>Phase (4) - Develop</b>	Facilitator will hand out the <b>draft Policy Recommendation sheets</b> (with guiding questions). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Evaluate your solutions according to the <b>criteria relevance, urgency, and feasibility</b>.</li> <li><u>By the end of the session</u>, you should choose one policy idea to develop further.</li> </ul>
18:15	Networking Event	Seconda anticamera			

## DAY 2: December 17

Time	Agenda Item	Room	Group	Goal	What to do & say
8:45 - 9:00	Registration	Prima anticamera	All	Networking	
9:00 - 10:15	Welcome & Working Phase	WG rooms	Subgroups	Introduction to DAY2	<p>Facilitator will hand out the <b>final</b> Policy Recommendation sheet.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➔ Subgroups decide on which idea to focus; you will elaborate it and write it down on the <b>Policy Recommendation sheet</b>.</li> <li>➔ You will present this proposal to your Working Group first and to all participants ('<b>Gallery Walk</b>') in order to gather feedback.</li> </ul>
10:15 -10:30	Coffee Break	Seconda anticamera			
10:30 -11:00	<b>Gallery Walk I</b>	WG rooms	Working Group	<b>Internal presentation</b> and feedback round	Present your Recommendation and <b>receive feedback from your WG</b> .
11:00-11:30	Working Phase	WG rooms	Subgroups		<p><b>Policy Recommendation sheets must be finalized by 11.15.</b></p> <p>Policy recommendations need to be presented in a concise way and understandable for someone, who has not been in the group.</p>
11:30-12:00	<b>Gallery Walk II</b>	Set up the presentations in <b>Sala Pirelli</b>	All	Feedback among <b>all Working Groups</b>	Present your Recommendation and <b>receive feedback from the other groups</b> .
12:00-12:45	Lunch	Seconda anticamera		Networking	
12:45-13:45	Working Phase	WG rooms	Working Groups & subgroups	Prepare presentations to policy planners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➔ Each subgroup <b>picks one person</b> who presents their policy problem and respective recommendation.</li> <li>➔ Complete <b>one slide on the Working Group's PPT presentation</b>. Send the complete WG's presentation to <a href="mailto:sara.lazzarin@ispionline.it">sara.lazzarin@ispionline.it</a></li> </ul>
<b>13:45</b> <i>End by 15:30</i>	Presentation of Recommendations and Closing.	Sala Nuova		<b>Phase (5) - Present</b>	Participants <b>pitch their Policy Recommendation</b> on stage in the plenary session.





## Spinelli Forum 2022 Programme

December 16 and 17, 2022

Event Venue: Palazzo Clerici, Milan (via Clerici 5)

### December 15

19.00: Informal get-together at ISPI- Palazzo Clerici

### December 16

9.30 – 10.00: **Registration and networking breakfast**

10.00 – 11.30: Plenary session (open to the public) – **Europe at a Crossroads After Covid-19 and the War in Ukraine: What Future for the Cooperation Between Germany and Italy?**

#### *Welcome Address*

- **Francesco Rocchetti**, Secretary General, ISPI

#### *Keynote Speeches and Panel Discussion*

- **Maria Tripodi**, Undersecretary of State for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Italy
- **Anna Lührmann**, Minister of State for Europe and Climate, Federal Foreign Office, Germany
- **Christian Mölling**, Deputy Director and Head of the Center for Security and Defens, DGAP (*online*)
- **Paolo Valentino**, Correspondent from Berlin, Corriere della Sera (*online*)
- **Pier Virgilio Dastoli**, President, Movimento Europeo Italia (*online*)

*Moderator:* **Cornelius Adebahr**, Senior Associate Fellow, DGAP

#### *PHOTO OPPORTUNITY*

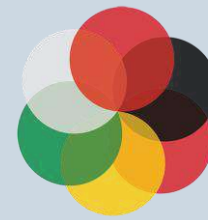
11.30 – 12.00: Coffee Break

12.00-13.30 Get together in working groups and recap of digital workshops

#### *Networking Activities*

*Preparation to present the policy problems and possible solutions to the experts*

13.30 – 14.30: Networking Lunch



14.30 – 16.00: Input & Working Phase

*Short input by the authors of the WGs concepts*

- **Niklas Wagner**, Head of Division (EUKOR) European Correspondent and Head of Common Foreign and Security Department, German Ministry of Foreign Affairs - *EU Foreign and Security Policy*
- **Davide Tentori**, Research Fellow, ISPI - *New European stability and growth pact*
- **Ole Spillner**, Research Assistant to the Director, DGAP - Technology and Digitization in Europe
- **Matteo Villa**, Research Fellow, ISPI - *A European Green Deal and the challenges of the energy transition*

*Groups present their policy problems and pitch possible recommendations  
Feedback and discussion with experts*

16.00 – 16.30: Coffee Break

16.30-18.00: Working Phase

*Incorporate feedback from the speakers*

18.30: Social event (*offered by the German side*)

## **December 17**

8.30 – 9.00: Registration

9.00 – 9.15: Welcome & Introduction to Day 2

9.15 – 10.15: Continuation of Working groups

*Develop policy recommendations*

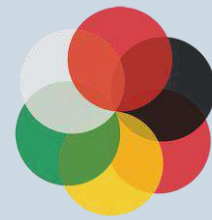
10.15 – 10.30: Coffee Break

10.30 – 11.15: Continuation of Working groups

*Preparation to present policy recommendations within the working groups*

11.15 – 12.00: **Gallery Walk**: Short Pitches and Feedback

12.00 – 12.45: Lunch



12.45 – 13.45: Continuation of Working groups

*Incorporate feedback into policy recommendations*

*Preparation for the final presentation of policy recommendations*

13.45 – 15.00: Presentation of policy recommendations and Closing Ceremony

- **Maria Adebahr**, Deputy Head of Mission, German Embassy in Rome
- **Alessandro Gaudiano**, Principal Director for the Countries of Europe, Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation
- **Axel Schäfer**, Chair, German-Italian Parliamentary Friendship Group (*online*)

*Moderator: Isabella Bufacchi*, Correspondent from Frankfurt, Il Sole 24 Ore

**La ministra tedesca, Anna Lührmann. È urgente allontanare le pecore nere degli scandali**

## «Subito un organismo etico per difendere le istituzioni europee»

**Isabella Bufacchi**

«**Q**uesto scandalo è una cosa orrenda. Nel Parlamento europeo i politici lavorano sodo per il bene comune del proprio Paese e dell'Europa e mi dispiace che alcune pecore nere mettano a rischio un'intera istituzione. Il Parlamento europeo e la Ue devono migliorare subito le regole affinché questi comportamenti non accadano più in futuro. Un'idea sul tavolo è la creazione di un organismo etico europeo e questo potrà aumentare la trasparenza per l'integrità della nostra istituzione. Bisognerà agire velocemente». Anna Lührmann, junior minister cioè ministro di Stato con delega su Europa e Clima, non minimizza il Qatargate. «Al Parlamento tedesco abbiamo avuto uno scandalo simile due anni fa, alcuni parlamentari si arricchivano con gli acquisti delle mascherine durante la pandemia: ebbene, hanno perso immediatamente il posto. Gli abusi di posizione capitano ovunque. Bisogna agire velocemente per far capire a questa gente che i loro comportamenti hanno conseguenze immediate».

Anna Lührmann crede nella forza della politica e la sua fiducia nella politica non vacilla per il Qatargate. Lührmann passa alla storia in Germania come la più giovane parlamentare di sempre, è entrata al Bundestag all'età di 19 anni per il partito dei Verdi Bündnis 90/Die Grünen, dove milita da quando aveva 13 anni. Ora di anni ne ha 39, e dopo svariati anni nel mondo accademico, è tornata in politica nel primo governo federale composto da socialdemocratici, verdi e liberali. «Sono tornata in politica per la crisi del cambiamento climatico: ora le crisi sono multiple, ed è questo il

momento di avere buone decisioni politiche, sono di estrema importanza adesso più che in tempi normali, soprattutto per gestire la crisi climatica e costruire un mondo sotto la stella della democrazia e dei diritti umani.

Serve ora come non mai la leadership politica, come fosse una bussola», dice al Sole-24Ore in un'intervista esclusiva ai margini del German-Italian Young Leaders Dialogue (Gilyd)-Forum Spinelli, una nuova iniziativa congiunta del ministero tedesco degli Affari esteri e del ministero italiano degli Affari esteri e della cooperazione internazionale, in collaborazione con la Società tedesca per la politica estera (Dgap) e l'Istituto Italiano per gli Studi di Politica Internazionale (Ispi).

**La Germania è pronta a farsi carico della leadership europea?** Non serve in Europa uno Stato-leader che detti la linea agli altri. Non è questo quello che vogliamo per l'Europa. Dobbiamo trovare su tutto un terreno comune, che deve essere ambizioso e progressista. Ma si va avanti con il consenso, che deve essere ampio.

**La Ue è chiamata a gestire la crisi energetica e al tempo stesso a centrare gli obiettivi della transizione verde: riuscirà a farlo? E in quali tempi?** La Ue ha accelerato il passo e si sta dimostrando all'altezza della crisi. Abbiamo appena approvato il nono pacchetto di sanzioni contro la Russia, stiamo cambiando totalmente il modo di produrre e consumare energia con il REPower EU programme, che va nella giusta direzione promovendo la diversificazione delle importazioni e la riconversione verso le rinnovabili e l'efficienza energetica. Il nostro partito dei verdi è molto impegnato per fare in modo che avremo energia a sufficienza in Europa questo inverno e il prossimo, per questo le centrali elettriche a carbone

resteranno aperte più a lungo. La radice del problema resta la nostra dipendenza dalle importazioni di combustibili fossili e dobbiamo risolvere questo con più rinnovabili e più risparmio di energia: in Europa bisognerà risparmiare il 20% dei consumi di gas.

**C'è chi dice che manchi la solidarietà energetica, una rete europea che consenta di travasare energia dai Paesi che ne hanno di più a quelli che ne hanno di meno.**

Abbiamo fatto progressi a livello Ue anche in questo: riduciamo i consumi tutti insieme, abbiamo firmato un ottimo accordo per comprare il gas tutti insieme: una piattaforma di questo tipo ci consentirà di avere più peso sul mercato per far scendere i prezzi. All'ultimo Consiglio europeo, gli Stati membri hanno fatto un notevole passo in avanti. Spero che troviamo, a breve termine, una decisione sul meccanismo di aggiustamento del prezzo di mercato che soddisfi tutti gli Stati membri.

**Non lo chiama "tetto sul prezzo" perché non lo è?** È un insieme di misure per limitare il rialzo dei prezzi garantendo le forniture. Tanto in Germania quanto in Italia, le nostre industrie dipendono talmente tanto dal gas naturale e non possiamo rischiare di non averne a sufficienza sul breve termine. Sul lungo termine invece dobbiamo puntare sull'idrogeno verde e in Germania lo stiamo





facendo aiutando le imprese che sostituiscono l'idrogeno verde al gas naturale. In quanto al Cbam (Carbon border adjustment mechanism), l'accordo firmato dal Parlamento europeo e dal Consiglio europeo, è un passo molto importante perché ci protegge dalla concorrenza sleale.

**Germania e Italia sono nella stessa barca per il gas naturale ma non in tutte le questioni aperte. Lei partecipa a Milano al Forum Spinelli assieme al sottosegretario agli affari esteri Maria Tripodi. Qual è lo stato di salute dei rapporti tra Germania e Italia? Si firmerà l'Action Plan tra Italia e Germania?**

Questa iniziativa dello Spinelli Forum è animata dal forte spirito di cooperazione pro-europea di Italia e Germania. E dall'incontro che ho avuto con il sottosegretario Tripodi è emerso proprio questo, che i nostri due Paesi continueranno a collaborare con questo spirito. E intendiamo intensificare molto la nostra collaborazione nella Ue. In quanto all'Action Plan, siamo pronti a continuare le discussioni in chiave costruttiva con l'obiettivo di fare sostanziali progressi nei temi importanti che il piano d'azione prevede per la nostra agenda bilaterale.

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**DELEGHE SU  
EUROPA E CLIMA**  
Anna Lührmann,  
junior minister,  
ministro di Stato  
con responsabilità  
su Europa e Clima



German Italian Young Leaders Dialogue – Spinelli Forum

**PARTICIPANTS' LIST**

**- WG1: European Foreign and Security Policy**

*Facilitator:* Miriam Heß, Research Fellow, DGAP

- Swaantje auf dem Keller, Personal Advisor to the district administrator, Hochtaunuskreis
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- Helge Dresen, Project Officer, Villa Vigoni
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- Florian Kommer, Chief of Staff, Deutscher Bundestag
- Silvia Perino Vaiga, Consultant, APCO Worldwide
- Thaila Poli, Senior Protection Assistant - Field Unit Coordinator, UNHCR
- Mattia Serra, Research Assistant, ISPI
- Mattia Luca Tarelli, Government Affairs and Public Policy Senior Analyst, Google
- Cecilia Varuzza, PhD Student in History of International Relations, University of Essex
- Vanessa Verena Wahlig, Communication Officer, Federal Government Commissioner for Culture and the Media

**- WG2: New European stability and growth pact**

*Facilitator:* Christoph Erber, Chief of staff to the Director, DGAP

- Donato Boccardi, Relationship Director, Aviva Investors
- Anna auf dem Brinke, Economist, European Policy Department, German Federal Ministry of Finance
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- Sebastian Enning, Bank Resolution Expert, Single Resolution Board
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**- WG3: Technology and Digitalization in Europe**

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- Lorenzo Maria Boldorini, Manager in ICT Consulting Firm, Softlab S.p.A.
- Lana Bensiek, Intermunicipal Chief Digital Officer, KAAW



- Giulia Carsaniga, Public sector consultant - EU team, Capgemini
- Andreas Daum, Lawyer and Senior Associate, Noerr PartGmbB
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- Hannah Herzig, Policy Coordinator, European Commission
- Franziska Link, Senior Consultant Digital & Innovation, Ramboll Management Consulting
- Lucrezia Menoncello, Strategy and Business Development Lead, Bitpanda Pro
- Kai Utzinger, Entrepreneur, rubiconcepts
- Felix Wagner, Teamlead Finance & Controlling FCAS, Airbus Defence & Space

**- WG4: A European Green Deal and the challenges of the energy transition**

*Facilitator:* Lucia Ragazzi, Research Fellow, ISPI

- Martin Adler, Financial Risk Expert, European Central Bank
- Philipp Aepler, Policy Lead, Foreign Climate & Energy Policy, German Federal Foreign Office
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- Tamara Ritter, Specialist for Microsimulation, Ifo Institute for Economic Research
- Julia Walschebauer, Political assistant to the Deputy Director General, Directorate General for Energy, European Commission



# SPINELLI FORUM 2022

*Second Edition*

**16-17 December 2022**

## SUMMARY OF POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

### WORKING GROUP 1: European Foreign & Security Policy

Facilitator: Miriam Heß, DGAP

Input: Niklas Wagner, Head of Division (EUKOR) European Correspondent and Head of Common Foreign and Security Department, German Ministry of Foreign Affairs

#### SUBGROUP 1: Italian-German cooperation

*Rapporteur: Patrick Hoffmann*

*Group: Luigi Daniele, Sophie Eichhorn, Alessandro de Cicco*

**Draft:** The subgroup discussed the issue of Italian-German cooperation on foreign and security policy. The starting point was the existence of institutionalized formats talking about foreign and security policy between Germany and France, and Italy and France, but the lack of such a format between Germany and Italy.

They spent some time discussing that there seems to be a lack of strategic culture in thinking about foreign and security issues in both countries, though there is a current discussion on establishing a national security council in Germany and a "momentum" for defense topics due to the Russian war in Ukraine. The subgroup then discussed how to implement the Action Plan between Germany and Italy. They thought about focusing on a specific country or region where Italian-German cooperation seems most urgent, i.e. Libya, but found that the interest of both countries are too divergent here.

#### **DANTE DIALOGUE – bilateral ministerial exchange on foreign and security policy**

The subgroup proposed the creation of an institutionalized Forum. The subgroup thought about the size, topics and level of officials to be involved in the format. Ideas that were discussed were i.e., to have the format take place on a yearly basis in advance of the Munich Security Conference. Engagement groups should be involved as well (civil society, businesses, think tanks, unions, scientists).

In conclusion, Germany and Italy should host a 3+3 annual meeting between Ministries of Defense, Foreign Affairs and Home Affairs embedded in the Action Plan to develop shared policy positions on foreign and security issues.



## SUBGROUP 2: EU(ropean) values

*Rapporteur: Thaila Poli*

*Group: Isabel Hernandez Pepe, Justus Duhnkrack, Swaantje auf dem Keller, Katharina Hurka, Mattia Luca Tarelli, Cecilia Varuzza*

The EU is facing several external challenges to its economic and security stability, these challenges are also directly threatening the EU core values such as the concept of democracy itself and fundamental rights. The question is how do we ensure that the EU external action is shaped upon common basis that are shared and framed towards a common goal that is not only and merely economic.

The working group's objective is to shift the EU's purely economic focus to a socioeconomic focus in order to strengthen the EU's resilience against external threat to the EU's stability and reinforce the EU integration process. A socioeconomic focus of the EU seems to be a "new-generation-approach" based on a strong EU identity amongst "young" Europeans fostering a long-term stability. As such a wider approach towards Art. 2 respectively Art. 3 Treaty of European Union is needed.

The EU's resilience has an "internal" as well as an "external" dimension. Fostering agreement and cohesion on EU values tackles risks of nationalistic tendencies (internal) as well as hybrid warfare on civil society (external). As an instrument to improve on the EU values education seems to be a promising policy issue to spark EU identification in future generations as well as for pushing member states to have a critical analysis of their respective history and remembrance culture with a perspective on encouraging diversity as enriching element of the EU identity rather than an adverse factor to a shared identity. The policy recommendation therefore serves also as a prevention strategy countering coloristic tendencies. Among the objectives on the long-term strategic outreach may be considered as an external factor to keep an eye on diversifying and enriching perspectives on history.

For the policy recommendation at hand aspects to be considered should be which level of education shall be addressed, considering that higher level of education have already fostered a more "educated" EU generation, through mobility, this nevertheless might have left behind those who didn't have access to higher levels of education. A step forward towards a common identity seems to be that that identity is shared and involves citizens from different social and economic backgrounds. Furthermore, aspects to be taken into account are how to include various social groups, what age groups are relevant for the objective and how a political instrumentalization can be prevented.

As policy recommendations the group's ideas circle around various measures that could be part of a common education strategy plan that could fit within the framework of the European Education Area objectives, aiming at operationalizing it and focusing it on the EU Integration process and history knowledge. The plan would include exchange programs, further training for teachers (integrating the life-long learning process), school twinning, peer counseling, visiting programs to cultural heritages sites representative for the EU, create an experts body that monitors quality and implementation of these measures aiming at some stage to link education funds to the implementation of the education strategy plan and eventually to extend the program to countries acceding to the EU etc. The experts could also serve as advisors to the IT and DE governments to orientate legislative measures and advising on possible actions to be taken to improve the systems based also on the EU education yearly monitoring report.

The pillars of such plan would be:

- educate new EU citizens
- refresh/build teachers competences and common background



- exchange and monitor good practices.

The bilateral Italian-German dimension could serve as propulsive instrument and be part of or integrate the eventual Common Action Plan. Italy and Germany could build upon the experience of the 2009 Germany-Italian historical commission by extending their mission in this direction. In a step-by-step strategic approach, the policy serves as a role model to be expanded to a trilateral (France?) basis and subsequently multilateral effort eventually resulting in a EU wide effort. On the long run the plan could then be extended to other strategic partners/States especially countries with pending membership status.

### SUBGROUP 3: Communication - Fake News as Weapons

*Rapporteur: Silvia Perino Vaiga*

*Group: Vanessa Verena Wahlig, Helge Dresen, Mattia Serra*

In the past few years, the countries of the European Union have all been exposed to the dangers posed by disinformation and fake news. Both the EU and its member states have taken steps to fight this phenomenon, which in the context of the Covid-19 pandemics has assumed a particularly hazardous nature. But while policymakers generally agree on the seriousness of the challenges posed by fake news, the human and financial resources put in place to fight them are still insufficient. In a period in which disinformation campaigns are carried out by foreign actors to influence the outcome of elections or foster political polarisation and public outrage, the EU needs to develop a comprehensive and coordinated approach to tackle this form of external influence.

#### **Fellowship Programme for media professionals and members of civil society**

Building on existing initiatives, this subgroup has argued for the constitution of a system of permanent knowledge transfer between people working to counter disinformation within the EU and outside it. This system will be based on a cooperation mechanism between the European External Action Service's Strategic Communication Task Force (StratCom) and the European Digital Media Observatory, an independent platform of media experts working on disinformation, financed by the European Commission. This collaboration will take the form of a fellowship programme targeting media professionals and members of civil society coming from EU member states and countries in the Eastern and Southern Neighbourhood. This fellowship programme will aim at training participants in detecting and countering disinformation while promoting the values of pluralism and press freedom. Further, this initiative will establish a lasting network of professionals working on these issues both within and outside the EU, strengthening the EU and its partners' resilience against hybrid threats, disinformation campaigns and external influence in general.

The targets of this initiative will be journalists, academics, media professionals and representatives of civil society from both the EU and selected countries in the Southern and Eastern neighbourhoods. On a practical level, the fellowship will take the form of a series of events, conferences, summer or winter schools, and professional mobility initiatives organised annually. Following a public tender and a selection process, the fellowship will admit a new cohort of participants each year while fostering opportunities for debate and knowledge transfer between old and new members of this initiative. During the fellowship period, participants will be trained to detect fake news and encouraged to develop their own tools to promote media literacy and foster public awareness about this issue in their respective countries.

This project will need some financial resources to get started, but the structural nature of the threats posed by foreign disinformation campaigns requires new forms of activism by the EU and its member states, a fact that justifies this expense. This fellowship programme will represent a low-cost and high-impact initiative to strengthen the resilience of the European Union in times of global turmoil.

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## Working Group 2: A New Stability and Growth Pact

*Facilitator: Christoph Erber, DGAP*

*Input: Davide Tentori, Research Fellow, ISPI*

*Rapporteur: Olimpia Caetani, Edoardo Segantini*

*Group: Donato Boccardi, Federico Colajanni, Sebastian Enning, Tobias Hauck, Mark Skudlik, Markus Tiemann*

### PROBLEM: Shortcomings of the current Economic Governance Framework

Given the unique features of the European Monetary Union, economic coordination among its members is of vital importance to strengthen the Eurozone's economy and let countries reap the maximum benefits of sharing a common currency. Although no effort has been spared in streamlining European economic governance, policymakers and the public alike are mostly disillusioned with the current set of rules in place. These are mainly centered on three pillars: the Stability and Growth Pact, the Macroeconomic Imbalances Procedures, and the European Semester. Over the years, the economic governance framework has evolved into a highly obscure and technical set of rules, whose historic record in achieving the goal of debt reduction and fiscal stability, is at best questionable. The very public finances reference values that the SGP targets are widely considered arbitrary and not rooted in economic theory<sup>1</sup>; which might be the reason why several highly-indebted countries have failed to attain them. Additionally, the non-transparent and top-down constraints that such rules impose on national governments' budgets, coupled with the fiscal framework's disconnect with the actual member state's budgetary process, might have exacerbated the public's disaffection towards the wider EMU project.

### GOAL: An economic governance framework fit for the future

While aware of the economic governance framework's shortcomings, we are also cognizant of the challenging macroeconomic environment that the Eurozone and EU countries will face in the next decades. In particular, national governments' extraordinary and forceful responses to the pandemic economic shock led to a surge in public deficit and debt, impacting disproportionately countries with already high debt levels and further cementing divergences among member states. Furthermore, the high inflation environment has compelled central banks to shift from an accommodative monetary policy to higher interest rates, driving up borrowing costs and putting further pressure on public finances. At the same time, overall investment levels in the Eurozone remain below pre-crisis levels despite the urgency of the green and digital transitions which will require unprecedented joint public and private spending. The proposals laid out in this paper intend to address these challenges by ensuring the attainment of public financial sustainability over the medium term and tailoring fiscal governance to each country's specificities in a transparent, accountable, and politically

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<sup>1</sup> These references mainly reflect the average economic conditions of EU countries in the 1990s.

legitimate fashion. We identified two areas of reform: the creation of an investment facility for green and digital common goods and multiyear budget plans.

### **FIRST PILLAR: An EU Fiscal Capacity**

A joint fiscal capacity would be set up for the provision of European common public goods. This investment facility would support cross-border projects which are aligned with the EU's strategic priorities. For instance, this new joint fiscal firepower may facilitate the construction of liquefied natural gas terminals off the shores of a coastal Member state, as well as strengthen network infrastructure to distribute gas across Member countries. Another instance of investment in a European strategic priority, like digitalization, could be the configuration of a data center in a Member State, which would underpin the delivery of digital services across the continent.

Such financing instrument can be built on the successes of the Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF) and funds would be tied to the attainment of reforms and compliance with the public finance thresholds that Member states would need to negotiate with the European Commission as part of the new SGP framework, namely Pillar 2 of our proposal. Unlike the RRF, though, the facility shouldn't be designed with a redistributive purpose: even though resource allocations may reflect GDP shares, the focus should be on pan-European and cross-border initiatives such as industrial policy (i.e., cross-border electric grid). To fund this facility, the EU should be able to cap capital markets so that, at the same time, an EU-level safe asset can be created for a prolonged period. In order to service the jointly-issued debt, member states could either choose to designate a new stream of EU's Own Resources or new country contributions (like a European capital gain tax).

### **PILLAR 2: A new SGP and National Reform and Investment Plans**

We welcome the recent European Commission's proposal<sup>2</sup> on the economic governance framework since it touches upon crucial reform aspects such as strengthening national ownership of multiyear plans, simplification and transparency of the EU surveillance system, and enhanced enforcement powers. In our view, member states should select realistic debt targets by submitting fixed, multiannual budgetary plans in addition to the existing Stability and Convergence Programs. Likewise, member states would also be required to come up with multiannual National Reform and Investment Plans, containing concrete and long-term investment reforms to address CSR and European-wide policy objectives. These plans should be underpinned by a single operational indicator, net primary expenditure, and anchored to a country-specific debt level. The rationale for introducing multiyear plans based on explicit milestones is to promote national governments' accountability, thus trust among member states; also, the increased focus on national political ownership of the plan would boost engagement by social partners, civil society, and parliaments. We opine that a set of medium-term fiscal-structural plans, that take into account both reforms and investment commitments and are guided by clear targets and milestones, would eventually promote high-quality, growth-enhancing public spending and reassure that fiscal flexibility will not be misused. The cross-border investment projects set out in the multiannual National Reform and Investment Plans that align with the EU's strategic priorities (i.e., digitalization and transition to a green economy) might be eligible for funding from the joint-investment facility mentioned above.

<sup>2</sup> "Building an economic governance framework fit for the challenges ahead"; Press release from 9<sup>th</sup> November 2022

As for the application of the rules, supervision should be perceived as fair but binding. To this end, a straightforward and easily communicable threshold for the medium term should be established: for instance, a 100% debt-to-GDP benchmark. Deviations should be monitored and accounted for under the correction mechanism, although sanctions should be limited to serious breaches in high-risk cases. To encourage enforcement when needed, a two-tier system of sanctions should be established. Non-compliance might first lead to a halt of common funds under the EU investment facility (Pillar 1). If breaches were to persist, a pecuniary sanction might be imposed: the amount would be invested until the infringement is remediated. Once compliance is restored, the principal amount would be returned to the country for paying off its debt while the interest accrued would be channeled into the EU budget: this would represent the opportunity cost that the Member State pays for breaching fiscal rules.

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### **Working Group 3: Technology and Digitalization**

*Facilitator: Alberto Guidi, ISPI*

*Input: Ole Spillner, Research Assistant to the Director, DGAP*

#### **SUBGROUP 1: Digital Sovereignty**

*Rapporteur: Andreas Daum*

*Group: Rosanna Fanni, Lorenzo Boldorini, Matteo Foti, Hannah Herzig*

#### **Data Access for Innovation**

One key piece to EU digital sovereignty is a flourishing data economy in the public and private sector. Ministries, regional and national agencies only make available a small section of the data they produce and often only in different, incompatible formats.

Our proposal aims to strengthen EU companies by promoting privileged access to public sector data. It would digitalise our public administrations' processes and improve access to and quality of digital services available to citizens. The policy recommendation targets EU technology companies and digital service providers.

EU entities interested in using the data to develop services can apply for access. After a lean vetting procedure to ensure the enterprises are domiciled and operating in the EU, ministries and agencies will grant access. The public sector and company will lay down the details in a partnership agreement, also safeguarding continuity of services in case of the company ceasing operations or work.

The types of data will include infrastructure, transportation, energy, social services, weather, and climate as well as public sector information. By providing only non-personal data, we avoid infringing on privacy rights.

Italy and Germany can develop local pilot projects, leveraging Italy's experience in digitalising its public sector and Germany's attention to preserving privacy.

This will boost the EU's digital economy through giving access to underused data needed for everything—from training machine learning algorithms, energy efficiency tips in your neighborhood to your next municipal appointment. Our policy recommendation benefits citizens and businesses by improving the EU Member States' public services, thereby strengthening our digital sovereignty.





## SUBGROUP 2: Digital Skills Gap

*Rapporteur: Franziska Link*

*Group: Lucrezia Menoncello, Simona Autolitano, Giulia Carsaniga, Felix Wagner*

In an increasingly data- driven world, digital skills are essential and strategic for our sustainable development and for European security. The EU's ambition is to make sure that 80% have basic digital skills by 2030. With less than 40% of individuals with basic digital skills (Eurostat, 2021), Italy and Germany face a common challenge which needs further investigation and targeted action. Nevertheless, the issue of "digital skills" is immense. Therefore, taking actions without fully understanding where the problem is, is counterproductive. In the realm of "digital skills" targeted actions for specific problems are needed. Today a tool which allow such a deep assessment of existing digital skills is missing. Most of the data is retrieved through survey – this does not give the real picture of the digital skills landscape. Instead of answering questions, skills should be tested through practical exercises. And, more importantly, they need to be tested regularly.

### **The Digital Skill Maturity Assessment**

The DISMA will allow governments but also companies to set up targeted actions and ultimately close the gap in digital skills. By providing a fact-based/data-driven tool to national governments (in Italy and Germany), these will be able to identify the digital skills gap (which skills, which category of people, etc.) and ultimately define targeted action and concrete strategies to tackle the problem.

The recurrent nature of the tool should allow governments to regularly monitor the skills mismatch, evaluate the implemented policies and improve their action to be ahead of the market.

The same applies for the private sector. The data can help to drive more effective policies and initiatives to reduce the gap in workplaces.

The recommendation is targeting the respective Ministries of Digitalisation and Labour, as well as the national statistical institutes.

To the assessment should cover and test the all population between 16-60 years old (already in the workforce or about to enter the labour market). This includes therefore not only students but also employees and employers (public and private entities, SMEs, big companies, etc.).

First, both governments start a consultation with the private sector and identify which skills need to be assessed through the test.

Secondly, a standardised test is created (with practical exercises, such as the INVALSI or the Pisa Test). The test is mandated by National statistical Offices and it is run on a random representative sample (different categories, different sectors etc.).

Fourthly, the results are collected and a study is prepared (a sort of manual). This should be then evaluated in order for governments and private actors to further develop concrete activities and target concrete groups.

In the short term, it will be possible to get an overview of the national digital skills landscape and therefore take targeted actions by prioritizing.

In the long term, it will be possible to track also the evolution of the digital skills in Italy and Germany (and ideally in the EU as well), thus closing the digital skills gap and fit for purpose workforce.



It is important to tackle a couple of questions before starting:

- 1) Accountability: Who is responsible?
- 2) Coordination in the implementation
- 3) Data security + privacy (e.g. loss of data)
- 4) Budget

In order to start the project we should: first, get public and private stakeholders on board; second, create, run, evaluate the test, take actions based on the results to narrow down and eventually close the skills gap. Start again after two years with a new test.

Germany and Italy should act as pilot countries for a broader European implementation.

Contribute to the European agenda on skills, e.g. in light of the 2023 European years of skills and digital decade targets by 2030.

#### **How can we contribute?**

Share experiences and best practices from personal and professional experiences (e.g. German -French Cybersecurity Threat Landscape with BSI and ANSSI, Open Data Maturity Report). Provide contacts and the network.

### **SUBGROUP 3: Funding**

*Rapporteur: Gianluca Errico*

*Group: Kai Utzinger, Ludovica Gabrielli, Lana Bensiek*

The activities of this group were centered on the topic of poor accessibility of EU fundings.

The major issue that the group addressed was the difficulties that SMEs and small municipalities face while applying for EU fundings (grants) for innovation projects.

More specifically, the group agreed on the necessity to create a single point of contact (SPOCs) that would help SMEs and municipalities (equal and less than 100.000 inhabitants) to be informed on the EU grant offering and to support them in the application process to obtain the funds. This initiative would foster equal opportunities to receive EU fundings.

The match-making service that the SPOCs would provide should be promoted by an informative marketing campaign.

The long-term vision of the group is to (re-)establish trust between local and EU institutions. For this purpose, the group decided to integrate the SPOC in existing public institution (such as municipalities themselves). It was decided that in each municipality there should be an ambassador trained by EU consultants who can be easily contacted by the local communities, and that this service should be offered for free.

To assess the feasibility of the proposal, the group suggested that Germany and Italy select two wealthier regions (for instance, Lombardia and Bavaria respectively) for a pilot phase of the implementation process.



## **Working Group 4: A European Green Deal and the challenges of the energy transition**

*Facilitator: Lucia Ragazzi, ISPI*

*Input: Matteo Villa, Research Fellow, ISPI*

### **SUBGROUP 1: Renewables**

*Rapporteur: Andrea Colombo*

*Group: David Sailer, Valeria Cerasani, Philipp Aepler*

#### **A New «Era» for Renewables Permitting Process: Digital, Transparent, Skilled**

At the EU and national levels there are several initiatives aiming at simplifying the legal procedure and framework for issuing permits. What we find missing is a comprehensive framework that ensures the effective implementation of renewable capacity installation in Europe – meaning, a framework that ensures availability of land, access to finance and a streamlined and effective permitting process.

In particular:

- Companies applying for permits do not necessarily know whom to talk to
- There is no mechanism at the national or EU level that allows streamlining and effectively monitoring the permitting processes.
- There is a skills gap among local civil servants who oversee the evaluation of projects.

We believe a **European Renewable Agency (ERA)** with national branches would help fill this gap by:

- Acting a digital single point of contact for companies applying for permits (front office) and managing all stakeholders involved in the evaluation process (back office)
- Monitoring the permitting processes through a digital scoreboard
- Providing training for current civil servants or for a new generation of civil servants in project evaluation techniques

The short-term benefits would be real time monitoring and mapping of problems and there would be a taskforce of experts at national and EU level; in the long term, the agencies would build capacity to assess projects at the local level and create ownership.

Germany and Italy would push the idea at the EU level, while Germany could share its expertise with technical schools.

### **SUBGROUP 2: Just Transition**

*Rapporteur: Tamara Ritter*

*Group: Gero Roser, Edoardo Casarotto, Anna Rother, Julia Walschebauer, Stefano Ingallina*

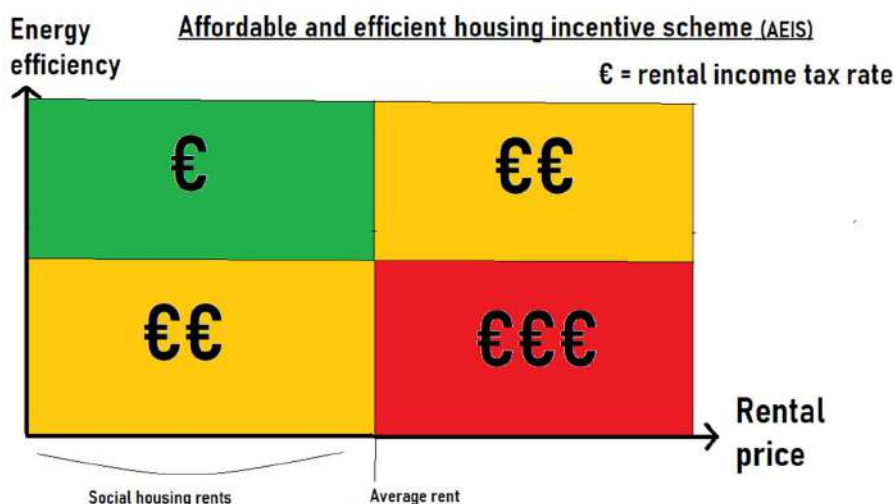
#### **Affordable and Efficient Housing Incentive Scheme (AEIS)**

Our policy proposal aims to tackle the split incentive between owners and low-income tenants on energy efficiency and affordability in residential buildings. By adjusting taxation on rental income based on energy efficiency, renewable energy and the (relative) rent price, it aims at promoting and incentivising investments in energy efficiency in residential buildings, in particular for low-income residential buildings. Landlords' tax rate on rental income will be lowered if the housing they provide is energy efficient and the rent price is low relative to the average rents in that location. Vice-versa, an increased tax rate for energy inefficient buildings and a relatively high rental price will incentivize landlords to renovate their buildings to be more energy efficient and to offer them at a lower price (in view of benefitting from a lower rental tax rate).

We expect this policy to lead to more energy efficient and renewable buildings, less emissions and expensive energy bills as well as decreased social inequality. There will also be a short-term positive effect on public budget and a boost in the renovation and construction sector. To counter the possible barriers such as push-back from landlords and increased administrative burden, we propose a market evaluation, a revenue and impact assessment to determine the appropriate taxation level. The assessment would include a stakeholder engagement and targeted negotiations with the most affected social groups. To soften the burden on the owners and allow for adequate preparation, a gradual phase-in period is foreseen.

Germany and Italy can contribute to this policy by exchanging data, doing regular consultations and comparing the respective unique situations, Germany as a country with a majority of renters and Italy as one of homeowners.

From a European perspective, the scheme will allow the respective countries to increase their overall Energy Efficiency in buildings performance and their renewable energy targets, as well as contribute to reduced inequality across regions.



### SUBGROUP 3: Energy Demand

*Rapporteur: Raffael Hanschmann*

*Group: Riccardo Rao, Giacomo Migliore, Mariachiara Polisena, Martin Adler*

#### **Efficient building voucher**

We propose a policy recommendation to reduce energy demand in the European building sector.

The focus of our proposal is to increase the energy efficiency of the 15% worst performing buildings (e.g. below and equal F class) by granting the owners of those buildings a voucher to use for targeted fixes (e.g. renovate window/ install heat pumps, etc.) and by simplifying the existing funding schemes. The effects of this proposal consist in achieving short term efficiency improvements and in the long term alignment with climate targets.

Moreover, many stakeholders could benefit from that initiative: construction and manufacturing sector, utility players, tenants. The following risks should be taken into account when implementing the policy recommendation: shortage of skilled labor and construction material, ensure the funding, bureaucracy related barriers, misuses of building voucher. In that context, Germany and Italy can provide political support as well as share expertise and best/worst practices. The policies should be integrated with the proposal for a revised energy performance building directive currently under discussion. The proposal includes 150 billion euros funding within the European Union budget to address the challenge of reducing the energy demand in the European building sector.