

INFOCUS

Corruption on the level of the EU and how to handle it

C4EP analysis on the subject – Mi casa es mi soberanía – Whose job is it to take out the trash?

"Regardless of the political elements of the case, the question still stands: can a member state "protect" EU institutions with its own domestic penal legislative measures? What if the EU or any of its institutions does not want this to happen?

Our opinion is that the European Union must build its own legal-institutional capacities if it wants these cases to be taken out of the hands of member states and protect its own identity and integrity. Of course, this idea may meet resistance from member states in the future that will fear losing more elements of their sovereignty, but the point is, that this may not be "their" sovereignty anymore."

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EU legislation on anti-corruption

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C4REPORT

European Movement: Democracy Alive: The Brussels Summit – 6 June 2023

I. Panel: Enemy at the gates: building an alliance to defend democracy and freedom

"History doesn't repeat itself, but it rhymes" – quoted Domenec Ruiz Devesa opening the first panel discussion of the European Movement, an organisation dating back 75 years. Far right and populism represents today what totalitarianism did back in those days. The so-called enemies are those who want to destroy democracy, that's why we need now, more than ever, the victory of pro-European forces, and consolidated values under a stronger political union, according to Ruiz Devesa.

II. Panel: Countering threats: The rise of authoritarianism in Europe and beyond

Tom Hanney started the second panel discussion with the fact that right wing authoritarian regimes (like in Hungary and Poland) prefer to simplify things, for example that migration is bad. "We can't simplify things" - underlined Hanney - "saying we are good, they are bad."

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Centre for European Policy Studies: The Future of the European Political Community: launching the EPC Observatory – 16 June 2023

Steven Blockmans opened the event talking about the EPC Observatory with pictures of the site projected on the walls. The Observatory is an online tool to support policy makers, filtering the information in a visitor friendly way. Even though no official documents are produced, the voices still matter. The Observatory can also serve both local and international media.

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C4EPIECE

C4EPOSITION

Artjoms Konohovs, EU correspondent at Latvijas Radio:

When thinking about transparency and accountability in the EU institutions, and especially in the European Parliament (EP), I tend to agree with the opinion of the EU Ombudsman Emily O'Reilly. She believes that the EP has an identity and a legacy issue, meaning that the EP still cannot fully realize how powerful it is. In the past, the EP wasn't as powerful as it is right now, and thus it was not necessary to control the actions of the MEPs too strictly. Now the situation has changed, but the resistance towards checks and controls remains. On top of that comes difference in cultures and attitudes. In Latvia, financial declarations of the MPs are much more detailed. This is something that could also be introduced at the EP. On the contrary, the European Commission does realize its powers. But it still prefers to keep some secrecy as tool for ruling.

For a detailed interview on the issue with the EU Ombudsman, open the link below:

Euronews: EU 'cannot have political legitimacy without moral authority,' says European Ombudsman click here





