



ADVANCING THE PACT FOR THE FUTURE

FEPS
FOUNDATION FOR EUROPEAN
PROGRESSIVE STUDIES



SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL



AVANZA
LABORATORIO DE IDEAS DE PROGRESO

FUNDACIÓN
PABLO IGLESIAS



RI RennerInstitut



Financing our Future

Crafting a Progressive Vision for the Future of Financing for
Development

Date: Monday, 30 June 2025

Time: 18:00 - 22:30 CEST

Venue: Metropol Eventos, Setas de Sevilla, Pl. de la Encarnación, s/n, Casco Antiguo 41003 Sevilla, Spain

BACKGROUND

International solidarity, commitment to multilateralism, and promotion of development have been at the heart of the European Union's mission. However, in today's increasingly challenging political landscape—marked by the rise of far-right agendas, interest-driven policies, and isolationist governments—the multilateral system, particularly development cooperation, is under threat. Rather than retreating, this shifting environment should push the EU, led by the progressive family, to deepen its global engagement, championing its core values of human rights, equality and democracy.

Last September the adoption of the Pact for the Future (PFTF), marked a significant milestone together with a Global Digital Compact and a Declaration on Future

Generations. The PFTF gains the highest importance as the most relevant reference for international cooperation and multilateralism in these turbulent geopolitical times, marked by Trumpism and nationalistic trends. It is a comprehensive agreement to adapt international cooperation to tackle present and future global challenges. After its adoption, a process for implementing its 56 actions has been started. The 4th International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD4) represents a critical moment to move forward with key actions from the Pact for the Future.

The FfD4 provides a unique opportunity to reshape the global financing framework and intensify efforts to accelerate the implementation of the PTFTF as well 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The UN Summit will bring together a wide range of stakeholders, including governments, civil society organizations, international institutions and private actors from all over the world. Participants will discuss key issues such as the debt burdens affecting developing countries, IMF Special Drawing Rights, and the reform of international financial institutions.

Since 2018, FEPS, in collaboration with its partners, has been at the forefront of advocating for multilateral reforms through its '*UNited for*' flagship initiative, championing the need for more inclusive, equitable, and sustainable global policies. Last year, FEPS and its partners, contributed to the Summit of the Future, actively advocating for "[New Global Deal](#)". This publication focuses on the need to reshape international institutions to better respond to the evolving needs of the world, ensuring that policies prioritize people and the planet while fostering international cooperation for a just and resilient future.

AGENDA

WELCOME COFFEE - from 18:00 to 18:30 (also available during the entire event)

OPENING REMARKS - from 18:30 to 18:40

Facing the New Geopolitical Realities: The EU's Role to Relaunch Global Alliances on Equal Footing

In an era when democracy and multilateralism are increasingly under threat, strategic alliances among nations and regional leagues are more vital than ever. With the US retreating from multilateralism, for the EU and like-minded countries focused on safeguarding global order, democracy, and multilateralism, this new reality underscores the need to reestablish strong partnerships on an equal footing, ensuring mutual respect, shared responsibility, and a collective approach to global challenges. Effective cooperation across various areas—ranging from digital policy to climate action and global governance—demands that the EU move beyond its

current double standards and leverage all available tools to foster just and impactful engagement.

Speaker:

- **Lina Gálvez**, MEP S&D Group, Chair of the Women's Rights and Gender Equality Committee & Vice President, FEPS

FIRST SESSION - from 18:40 to 19:40

The Financing of Development in the Global South: The Global Gateway as the European Strategic Instrument

In 2021, the EU Commission launched the Global Gateway, a strategy aimed at enhancing infrastructure, energy, and digital connectivity through global investments. This approach was intended to effectively contribute to long-term, sustainable development in developing countries. However, it has faced criticism over a lack of transparency, potential environmental and human rights impacts, and the risk of exacerbating inequality and conflict in fragile contexts.

At the same time, the dismantling of USAID and deepening cuts in ODA by Western donors mark a turning point in global development cooperation. This panel will explore the evolving role of the Global Gateway within this shifting landscape, assess the widening North-South divide in financing security and development, and discuss how international partnerships can become more inclusive, accountable, and responsive to local needs.

Opening Remarks by:

Manuel Escudero, President, OECD Development Centre (2018-2024) & President, Fundación Avanza

Speakers:

- **Mario Pezzini**, Director, OECD Development Centre & Special Advisor to the OECD Secretary General on Development (2010-2021)
- **Ilke Toygür**, Director, IE University's Global Policy Center
- **Udo Bullmann**, MEP S&D Group, Chair of the Delegation for relations with South Africa; Member of the Committee on Development; Member of the Committee on International Trade & the European Parliament's standing co-rapporteur on Global Gateway
- **Leire Pajín**, MEP S&D Group, Vice-Chair of the Delegation to the Euro-Latin American Parliamentary Assembly & Member of the Committee on Development

Moderated by: **Paulina Lampsa**, Executive Vice-President, Socialist International

KEYNOTE SPEECH - from 19:40 to 20:00

Financing for Development and Equality: A Feminist and Equal Agenda for Action for Sevilla and Beyond

Speaker:

- **Ana Redondo García**, Minister of Equality of Spain

SECOND SESSION - from 20:00 to 21:10

Defending and Expanding Feminist Financing: Strategies for Sustainable and Inclusive Funding

The rise of far-right and conservative governments poses a grave threat to achieving SDG 5, gender equality, human rights, and social justice. Cuts to ODA, targeted defunding of sexual and reproductive rights, austerity measures, rising debt burden, and neoliberal financial policies disproportionately harm women and LGBTQ+ justice initiatives. This panel will explore sustainable funding mechanisms for feminist action within the European Union, particularly how feminist foreign policy can expand funding for feminist and gender equality initiatives. It will also examine how to ensure funding reaches not just large NGOs but grassroots feminist movements, especially those led by marginalised groups, including women with disabilities, LGBTQ+ activists, and Indigenous and Black feminist movements. Speakers will discuss strategies to counteract the defunding of feminist causes, legal frameworks and protections for feminist resources and political and civil society alliances to push back far-right policies.

Speakers:

- **Ann Linde**, Former Minister of Foreign Affairs Minister of Sweden & Foreign Affairs Advisor, FEPS
- **Petra Bayr**, Member of the Austrian Parliament and SPÖ spokesperson for foreign, global and sustainable development policy
- **Florence Syevuo**, Executive Director, SDGs Kenya Forum
- **Marit Maij**, MEP S&D Group, Member of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs and of the Delegation to the Africa-EU Parliamentary Assembly

Moderated by: **Cristina Muñoz Pavón**, Director General, Alianza por la Solidaridad

CLOSING REMARKS - from 21:10 to 21:30

Global South and European perspectives

- **Chantal Kambiwa**, General Coordinator, Socialist International (sharing the Global South perspective)
- **Maria João Rodrigues**, President, FEPS (sharing the European perspective)

RECEPTION - from 21:30 to 22:30



This event is organised with the financial support of the European Parliament. It does not represent the views of the European Parliament.



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