

EFP Candidates – Biographical Information

België/Belgique/Belgium

Pietro De Matteis (Stand Up for the United States of Europe-EFP joint list in Wallonia and Brussels, Belgium)

A convinced European federalist, Pietro De Matteis holds a PhD in international studies from the University of Cambridge and currently works for the European Commission, where he manages cooperation programmes with third countries. An economist by training, he graduated from the University of Milan-Bicocca (summa cum laude) and obtained a Masters-level degree from the European College of Parma. Thanks to some scholarships he had the opportunity to research in the US (Columbia University) and in China (Renmin University). Previously he worked for the Chamber of Commerce of Milan, a multinational company in Shanghai, the European Central Bank and the EU Institute for Security Studies. Pietro first joined the federalist movements (e.g. JEF, GFE) after his Erasmus year at University of Paris I Pantheon-Sorbonne in 2003 and since 2011 he serves as the Co-President of the European Federalist Party.



Mathias Maertens (Stand Up for the United States of Europe-EFP joint list in Wallonia and Brussels, Belgium)

Mathias holds a Master's degree in Business Economics from KU Leuven, and currently works as a budget advisor for the Government of Flanders. A long-time and active member of the European Federalist Party, Mathias is also the JEF-Belgium political secretary.

Roberto Mongiovi (Stand Up for the United States of Europe-EFP joint list in Wallonia and Brussels, Belgium)

Roberto graduated in Development Economics and International Trade Relations at the University of Namur in Belgium and the University of International Business and Economics in Beijing, China. For Roberto, there is real urgency to create a Federal Europe, to invest in a large and comprehensive European Growth plan focusing in the transnational infrastructures construction, energy and employment. Roberto has a special interest in incentives for innovation, federalism and public investment. After benefiting to companies, the European construction has now to be useful for the European citizens to increase their faith in the future and well being.



Ελλάδα/Greece

Panagiotis Pergantas ("Bridges" joint list in Greece)

Panagiotis is a biologist, married with four children. He is a PhD candidate in molecular biology, studying insecticide resistance in mosquitoes. In addition, he founded and is the General Director of Bioapplications Ltd., a company specializing in biology services R&D, field applications and environmental management. He is also a founding member and member of the central committee of political party Drassi in Greece. In May 2012 he was candidate for the Greek Parliament in Viotia prefecture.



Alfredo Saltiel ("Bridges" joint list in Greece)

Born in 1985 in Athens, Greece, Alfredo majored in Business Management at the University of Surrey, UK. He mastered his skills and expertise in the Fashion Industry attending a Masters in Fashion Marketing and Merchandising at the Institute of Polimoda in Florence, Italy. A fluent English speaker, Alfredo also speaks modest Italian and adequate Spanish. He initiated his professional career at the early age of 15 as a continuous quest to explore the value of employment. He is the founder of a partnership aiming to promote Greek Organic Extra Olive Oil worldwide since 2012.

Harry Stamelos ("Bridges" joint list in Greece)

Harry was born in 1977 in Athens (Greece) and grew up in Corinth. Harry is a teacher of English Legal Terminology in seminars for lawyers, a barrister in the Supreme Court of Athens and convinced federalist. He holds a PhD in EU Law from Athens University. Harry is President of the European Federalist Party in Greece, Programme Manager in the Board of EFP, and a member of the Administrative Committee of Drassi (Greek Liberal political party, ALDE).



France



Michel Caillouët (South-East France constituency)

Michel Caillouët is a former Ambassador of the European Union. He has dedicated his life to contribute to the implementation of European policies and cooperation programs in Latin America, and Asia. He has set up in France a fair trade enterprise, helping small handicraft people to improve their conditions of life. Facing French realities of a bureaucratic and centralised administration as well as the increase of nationalism convinced him that the future of Europe should be federalist, in order to improve

democracy and welfare all over Europe. Michel speaks French, English, Spanish and can manage in German.

Pauline Claudot (South-East France constituency)

Born in 1989 originally from Basse Normandie, where she grew up, Pauline is a student in Master 2 in Germanic Studies at the l'École Normale Supérieure de Lyon. She speaks fluent French, German and English, and aims to pursue a career within the European public sector. She is thus interested in the challenges of multilingualism, and at a global scale, in the issues that bring about multiculturalism and diversity within contemporary societies.



Christian d'Andlau-Hombourg (East France constituency)

Co-President of the French chapter of the EFP, Christian has previously served as secretary general of the International Paneuropean Union, and worked for several years in asset management.

Jean-Paul Bernard (South-East France constituency)

Born in 1942, Jean-Paul graduated from the École supérieure de Commerce de Lille and Sciences Po Grenoble. He has built his career at the Ministry of Employment at the regional and central administration level. He has participated in the definition and implementation of European programmes of professional training and experience exchanges across EU member states. His international experience makes him a staunch militant of European federalism, convinced that there is a majority of common points between the European Union states, and that the differences are more a sign of richness rather than an obstacle to unification.



Hélène Feo (Île-de-France constituency)



Former student of Sciences-Po Bordeaux, she works today in the first French advertisement agency. Born in 1965, she has Spanish and Polish origins. She was a federalist activist since her early twenties. Indeed she used to work in the European Parliament. She is one of the founders of the French Federalist Party in 1995, she was 28 years old. Since then she took part in almost every local elections as a candidate. She took part in all the Federalist Party struggles, including the 2005 referendum campaign. She was the candidate of the European Federalist Party for the 2012 presidential elections.

Michel Firmin (Île-de-France constituency)

Regional delegate of Ile de France for AGIR abcd, a social action NGO in France that aids development in 50 countries – an organization with 500 members in Ile-de-France and 3000 total. Michel was formerly the president of a workers' union association at SQY for 4 years. He is a graduate of the School of High Studies in Engineering, and has pursued an international career

in IT (in Europe and the US). He worked 5 years and a half in Germany and a year and a half in Belgium. Michel speaks English, German, and Italian. He can understand some Spanish and Serbian-Croatian. He has visited three-fourths of the European Union.



Yves Gernigon (North-West France constituency)

Yves has been involved in the French Federalist Party for 10 years, and served as its President since 2009. He has a Masters in Economics, Law and Politics from Sciences-Po and has been working in Paris as an adviser in corporate and financial communication for more than 20 years. Since 2011 he serves as the Co-President of the European Federalist Party.

Catherine Guibourg (South-East France constituency)

Catherine Guibourg is an agronomist and a writer. She has worked all over the world, in particular in Africa and Latin America at grassroots levels, in development programs such as food security in Sahel or protecting the Amazonian forests. Her experience led her to spend several years with the French Government, the FAO and the European Commission. Her knowledge of the world and of the French system convinced her that our only viable future was to be European. The granddaughter of a French resistance member, she finds in the founding fathers of European federalism the spirit to fight and win the struggle over nationalism. She speaks French, English and Spanish, and can manage in Italian, Thai and Hindi.



Fairouz Hondema (South-West France constituency)

Jurist specialized in European law and after a passage to the European parliament, Fairouz Hondema is a candidate for the European Federalist Party in the southwest of France. Persuaded that Europe will be federal or will not be and that it is urgent to increase the democracy within the EU institution. Fairouz Hondema is at present responsible of development for an industrialist in renewables energies.

Romuald Knobelspiess (Loire, Massif Central France constituency)

Originally from Rouen, Romuald has a long career track as field coordinator in the oil industry in France. He is proficient in both French and German.



Vincent Lancien (West France constituency)

A Master's graduate from the École supérieure de commerce d'Amiens, Vincent works as an engineer for EDF. He speaks fluent Mandarin, French and English.



Alain Malégarie (South-East France constituency)

Alain graduated from the Institute of Political Studies in Bordeaux. Since 1981, he has worked at the Ministry of the Economy, Finances and Industry, and simultaneously, between 1994 and 2005, as Director General of the Euro Institute in Lyon. Also a member of a group of experts entitled "GroupEuro" at the European Commission, Alain is a major European participant. He is the co-author of "Euro: an unfinished success?" published in 2012.

Julien Martino (Île-de-France constituency)

Julien is a Human Resources Consultant, who has always been interested in politics, mainly by the question of what place Europe can and should take at the world stage. He is convinced that some issues should be managed at a federal level, and that Europe should raise a unique voice when it comes to foreign affairs or defense.



Giovanni Reibaldi (Île-de-France constituency)

Italian, 29 years old, Giovanni lives in Paris where he works as a marketing manager for a firm providing services in the healthcare and insurance field. He loves Italy and hopes his country will rise as a leader in the movement for a stronger and more democratic Europe. Giovanni believes that the time has come for the European people to move beyond purely economic cooperation towards a political community sharing the same values of peace, democracy and respect for human rights. If you think the same, then join us!

Emmanuel Rodary (South-East France constituency)

Secretary-General for the French chapter of the EFP, Emmanuel is an engineer by training and currently works as a project manager in Lyon. He particularly enjoys working in Central European projects.

Deborah Sellam (South-East France constituency)

Only 20 years old, Deborah is a student at Sciences Po Lyon and a former student of Law. She is passionate about international relations, and is currently following a specialization in South East Asia, although her aspiration is to promote European federalism – a goal for which she has already started working.



Mehdi Soukehal (Île-de-France constituency)

Born in France of Algerian parents, 46 years old, Mehdi has 2 children (ages 5 and 16). He discovered the European Parliament in 1982 and visited it again in 2008 at Strasbourg. An electronic/data processing engineer, he is now a project manager (software design for airport operations). He has also been involved in creating a tenants' association

in 2005 with one member elected at the board of lessors, as well as in union action from 2004 to 2009. He served as a town councilor from 2008 to 2014, and has a private pilot license.

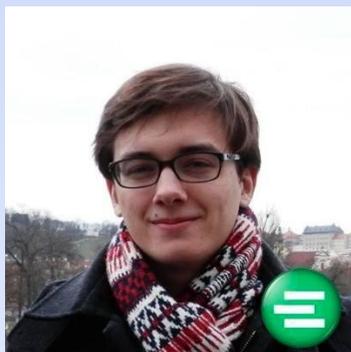


Alice Stradi (South-East France constituency)

After living all her life in Italy, Alice decided to move to Lyon (France) as soon as she finished high-school. Currently a student in Law and Political Sciences at Jean Moulin University, she has chosen the side of Europe to fight against the crisis and the challenges of our time, towards a brighter future for all.

Cédric Suzanne (North-West France constituency)

Born in Basse-Normandie, Cédric grew up surrounded by the grove. He had the opportunity to live in London, Italy and Paris until deciding to return to his roots by moving to Vire 5 years ago. Dedicating himself for his city and region, making Europe a reality at the rural level, is a priority for him. Likewise, he considers family values to be of fundamental importance. Cédric pursued studies in Industrial Marketing and holds a state diploma as a professional adult trainer, and currently works as managing director of the French Association of Painted Steel Technology – an association of small and medium enterprises in a little known but fascinating profession. Working as an international representative of the French companies at the European general meetings has induced Cédric to understand the importance of the EU. Europe is a daily challenge that must be defended, and above all included in the functioning of our lives and our companies. Cédric is also the honorary president of JE-CAEN, aimed at gathering young federalists living in Basse-Normandie.



Victor Thévenet (South-East France constituency)

Victor Thévenet is 18 years old and is studying law in Lyon. He is a member of the Young European Federalists (JEF) and of the European Federalist Party.

Italia/Italy



Stefania Schipani (EFP-Scelta Europa joint list for Southern Italy)

Stefania was born in Calabria, in the South of Italy, and lives in Rome where she works as researcher of environmental economics and statistics. She's also a journalist and author of many publications. She has two children and has always been genuinely pro-European.

Magyarország/Hungary

Aron Barabas (EFP-Hungary)

Aron is a project expert and develops EU-related programmes with themes including EU citizenship, EU public awareness raising and EU enlargement. He holds an English-History degree from the University of Debrecen. As a committed European and federalist he is the founding member and co-president of EFP Hungary.



Agnes Darabos (EFP-Hungary)

Agnes is the national coordinator, founder and co-president of the Hungarian branch of European Federalist Party. She studied International Relations (Bachelors and Masters) at Corvinus University of Budapest. Being a true federalist, she strongly believes in the idea of the united Europe. She is as proud of being European as of being Hungarian. She believes in the Europe of Citizens' instead of the Europe of institutions.

Österreich/Austria

Bengt Beier (NEOS in Austria)



Bengt has been at the forefront of the fight for a more democratic and accountable Europe for years, helped to realize the innovative European Citizens' Initiative and was a founding member of several pro-democracy organizations, including Democracy International and the European Federalist Party. As coordinator for the campaign Europeans for Fair Roaming, he pushed through the latest reduction of mobile phone roaming charges across the EU and the establishment of an innovative market for roaming. As a researcher at the European Institute for European Law and Policy, he was able to get detailed insight

into policy-making at the European level and organized several high-level conferences with scientists and politicians.

Portugal

Benoit Barbier (PDA-PFE joint list in Portugal)

Born in 1965, Benoit graduated as an engineer from the Ensam-Paristech. He is now an operations manager of an international industrial group manufacturing spectacles frames and lenses. He has been living in Lisbon (Portugal) for many years. Benoit became a member of the French chapter of the EFP in 2010, and is now a member of the Portuguese chapter.



Arlindo Costa (PDA-PFE joint list in Portugal)

Born in South Africa as the son of immigrants from the beautiful island of Madeira. Resident in Portugal for more than 14 years, Arlindo is an IT and design consultant at the t8ch.com project. He is confident that the world needs a Europe that will give hope for a better tomorrow – hence his willingness to work for a better Europe.

José Almeida (PDA-PFE joint list in Portugal)

José holds a degree in European studies and works as an IT manager at a Law company in Lisbon. A long time federalist, having previously volunteered for the Union of European Federalists, José is currently the President of the Portuguese chapter of the EFP. He is also actively involved in several other civil society organizations, including neighborhood resident associations.

