Thursday, November 5

Networking Meeting at European House, Unter den Linden 78, 10117 Berlin

The Berlin Conference 2026 will once again bring together voices from across Europe to explore what belonging means in today's political and societal context. This year's focus, "Belonging Europe", looks at the role of culture, participation, and shared responsibility in strengthening connection and democratic resilience. That's why the Berlin Conference continues to place special emphasis on building connections between networks, organizations, foundations, and actors from arts, culture, civil society, and politics. **Together with the European Parliament Liaison Office in Germany (Berlin) we invite you to the Internal Networking Session that will offer space to connect, exchange and shape ideas together.**

Doors open at 12.30 pm

1.00 pm **Opening and Welcome**

1.15 pm **Keynote Speech**

H.E. Maeve Collins
Ambassador of Ireland to Germany

followed by an open discussion and exchange

2.15 pm **Networking & Coffee**

3.00 pm **Closing**

Wrap-up and joint transition to meet-ups and Mobile Labs at cultural organisations and projects, offering participants the opportunity to explore their work and meet the people behind them. Registration for The Internal meeting and the Mobile Labs is mandatory and free of charge.

Berlin Conference 2026 – Europe: The Art of Belonging

Executive organisation: STIFTUNG ZUKUNFTBERLIN

Project and conference partner: a soul for europe; Evangelische Akademie zu Berlin; Yuste Foundation; European Festivals Association

Funding partner: Federal Foreign Office

We thank the following partner for their support: Europäisches Parlament Verbindungsbüro in Deutschland

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Mobile Lab 1: Internationale Gesellschaft der Bildenden Künste (IGBK) e.V. and Deutscher Künsterbund

Markgrafenstraße 67, 10969 Berlin

The Deutsche Künstlerbund (German Artists' Association) and the Internationale Gesellschaft der Bildenden Künste (IGBK, International Society of Fine Arts) invite you to the Künstlerbund's project space for a discussion with members, managing director and staff about the work of visual artists in Berlin and Germany, their civic commitment and international and European networking structures.

Mobile Lab 2: Akademie der Künste

Hanseatenweg 10, 10557 Berlin

Building international connections has proven essential for artists and cultural practitioners working in contexts of conflict and crisis. The visit will begin with an introduction to the exhibition "Metaxy: Between Destruction and Reconstruction." The conversation will then explore how both informal networks and more institutionalised structures can strengthen cultural sectors and local communities, foster the exchange of ideas and artistic practices, and enable cross-border collaboration. It will also address the role that culture and international networks can play in conflict prevention, peacebuilding, and responding to the multiple crises facing our societies.

Mobile Lab 3: Berliner Festspiele

Schaperstraße 24, 10719 Berlin

The visit will include a short introduction to Berliner Festspiele and the Festspielhaus, a screening of the experimental award winning short film dream baby dream featuring 60 Berlin based citizens produced by Jazzfest Berlin and a conversation about its Community & Outreach projects 2023-26. This engagement questions and chellenges the term 'belonging' and formulates some answers to more inclusivity and access by the perspective of a large cultural institution in Berlin: who feels invited and represented, how relationships with different communities can be built, and what these experiences can offer to other European contexts.

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Mobile Lab 4: Haus der Statistik

Otto-Braun-Straße 70-72, 10178 Berlin

'Alesandersplatz' (a place where everything is different) is inscribed above the building on Alexanderplatz. 'The aim is inclusive and sustainable urban design that creates space for innovation, public participation and shared use – a vibrant place by and for everyone,' states the project description. Here, everything has indeed been different in the making. It is a striking example of just how large such a project can become and what sense of belonging arises when art, politics, public administration and civil society work together.

Mobile Lab 5: Literarisches Colloquium Berlin e.V.

Am Sandwerder 5, 14109 Berlin

Literarisches Colloquium Berlin (LCB) will welcome participants to its house on the shore of Lake Wannsee. The visit will include a discussion on The Role of Poetry in Times of Disorder. There will also be the opportunity to meet writers from across Europe and hear them read, as well as to enjoy an introduction to the extensive work of the Colloquium.

6.30 pm Joint reception and concerts: MW:M Club Festival

Revaler Str. 99, 10245 Berlin

MW:M Club Festival is a two-night showcase festival happening on the 4th and 5th of November 2026 at the iconic RAW-Area in Berlin. As part of Most Wanted: Music it brings together over 30 emerging artists from around the globe, across three venues and five stages. The festival offers a discovery journey through a wide range of genres and sounds, connecting up-and-coming artists with music professionals, delegates and music enthusiasts. Alongside the live programme, the festival creates space for exchange, networking and unique collaborations.

We're pleased to announce that the organizers are offering discounted tickets exclusively to visitors on the first day of the Berlin Conference here.

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