

AGORA: International Conference "The Dynamics of Change. Trends and Perspectives in Global and European Politics"

■May 13-14, 2025, Iaşi, Romania Hybrid format (In-Person & Online)

STUDENTS PROGRAM – Call for Applicants!

European Parliamentary Debate: Democracy vs. The Limits of Freedom of Expression!

Date: 14th May

Location: Alexandru Ioan Cuza University

Deadline for registration: 31st March 2025

Are you passionate about debates, politics, and fundamental rights? Join us for a unique event!

What awaits you?

- □ Real Parliamentary Debate Represent an EU member state with your friends (from 3 to 5 members) and debate the limits of freedom of expression in a democracy!
 □ Lobbying & Counterarguments Sharpen your negotiation and argumentation skills!
- Expert Jury Face off against strong opposing motions and compete for the award for the best-argued point of view!

Why participate?

- ✓ Develop critical thinking and argumentation skills
- ✓ Gain insight into European decision-making processes
- ✓ Learn from the best and win exciting prizes!

How to sign up?

 $Details\ and\ registration:\ https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1mMe4I5iETpGj0wN8XIDKbQlqEj-tUFpS_LjrTgnNV6o/edit$

Limited seats available – Hurry and be part of this unforgettable experience!

WORKSHOP: The impact of artificial intelligence on democracy

Duration: 2 hours

Public: Students (approx. 20 participants)

Format: Interactive discussions, case studies, group exercises

Workshop agenda

1.Introduction: Short presentation of the topic

What is artificial intelligence? How does AI influence democracy? What does democracy mean in the digital age? Examples of using AI in politics (campaigning, disinformation, surveillance)

Open Q: How do you think AI can influence voting and public opinion?

2. Interactive case study: example: deep fakes and election manipulation

Case: In India's 2020 elections, a politician used a **deep fake video** to deliver an election message in multiple languages. The video appeared authentic, but it was generated by AI. This created controversy, as people did not know if the politician actually said those words or if it was digital manipulation.

Quick watch: Show an example of deep fake or a video clip about how the technology works **Group discussion:** How can deep fakes influence democracy? Should they be legally banned? If so, how?

3. Mini-debate: 2 groups

- One group argues that deep fakes can be used for disinformation and manipulation.
- Another group argues that they are just a technology that depends on how they are used.
- **4. Group discussion**: *Is it ethical for AI to influence voter behavior?*

5. Group exercise: How does AI influence the democratic process?

The students are divided into two groups and each group presents its arguments:

- One group argues that AI helps democracy (e.g., fighting fake news and analyzing data).
- Another group argues that AI threatens democracy (e.g., manipulation and fake news).

6. Regulating IA in democracy

Question : Who should control AI— governments, tech companies, or citizens? The groups propose three essential rules for the use of AI in politics. Discuss ideas and compare them with current regulations (e.g., the GDPR and AI Act).

7. Conclusion

Final question: What should be your role as a future citizen in managing IA in a democracy? **Quick feedback:** Each participant writes a keyword summarizing what they had learned.

Optional resources for students

Report: AI and Democracy - European Parliament

https://eptanetwork.org/images/documents/EPTA_Report_on_AI_and_Democracy_FINAL.pdf Interactive platform:

Fake News Challenge (Google Fact Check Explorer)

Student requirements: Complete the enrolment form: https://forms.gle/w99x2sBvQki93YE78

You are invited to attend an interactive workshop in which we will explore the growing impact of Artificial Intelligence on democracy.

Workshop coordinators: PhD lecturer: Ana-Maria Andronache & Morariu Miruna- RISE II