



**FEDERAL ALLIANCE OF EUROPEAN FEDERALISTS (FAEF)**

**Portfolio**

**February 2023**

## **What is the Federal Alliance of European Federalists (FAEF)?**

FAEF (2018) is a non-political organisation seeking federal cooperation of European member states. We follow two principles: (1) If countries want to cooperate without losing their sovereignty, only a democratic constitutional federal state form fits. Not the form of undemocratic treaties. (2) 'All sovereignty rests with the people.' This implies a democratic federal constitution of, for and by the people of Europe, i.e. ratified by European society.

Between early October 2022 and the end of March 2023, FAEF's Citizens' Convention of 70 people drafted such a 10-article democratic federal constitution for Europe. Strong enough to bind dozens of member states in realizing their common interests and achieving a leading geopolitical position. See [The Making of the Constitution for 'The Federated States of Europe'](#). FAEF's constitution has special forms of direct democracy in addition to the classical design of democratic procedures (trias politica, checks and balances, transnational elections, one man-one vote).

FAEF's work derives from sources such as - among others - constitutional law, philosophy of law, political philosophy, political history of federal state formation and systems theory. Because of this scholarly basis, we reject EU intergovernmental cooperation based on treaties - and thus a source of incessant internal conflicts - as being undemocratic and ineffective.

Twenty-seven federal states currently exist, which together house 42% of the world's population. With the creation of a federal Europe, as the 28<sup>th</sup> federal state then concerns  $\pm 50\%$  of the world's population.

As a federation, FAEF has no individual members. Only organisations with a legal identity can become members. See FAEF's Statutes here: [Statutes](#). Other organisations can opt for observer status under Executive Order 1, [Observer Status](#).

Currently, FAEF has the following members:

- o Union Europea de Mallorca
- o Associación Unitat d'Ajuda Ciutadana (UdAC)


The group Red Tulips for the United States of Europe has observer status.

## Who constitute the Board of FAEF?

The present Board of FAEF consists of the following people.



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### More about us




**Leo Klinkers**  
President FAEF

Leo Klinkers, PhD, is consultant in public administration, with a background in constitutional law. He worked as consultant for Governments and NGO's in a variety of countries. He is co-author of the European Federalist Papers and author of Sovereignty, Security and Solidarity.





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**Martina Scaccabarozzi**  
Executive Member Communication

She graduated in Political Science and had relevant working and living experience in different European countries where she has grown and cultivated her appreciation for Europe. She has been a political activist all her life, volunteering in several environmental and social bonding oriented organisations.





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**Peter Hovens**  
Treasurer

Peter Hovens is consultant in public administration. He has studied at the university of Twente. After 17 years of working as a civil servant at the municipality of Maastricht he started his own consultancy office. In this period he also was several years employed as alderman in three different municipalities.





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**Mauro Casarotto**  
Secretary

Mauro Casarotto graduated in Political Sciences and International Relations. He actually works as an Insurance consultant and a free-lancer. He has been active for several years in non-profit organisations involved in culture, sports, civil rights and politics.





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**Javier Giner**  
Executive Member Politics

In the 1980s, Javier was a member of the federalists and in 1988 he was co-founder of "Union-Europea de Mallorca". In 2005 Being an independent professional in Tourist Activities Javier lived in Mallorca but worked in Germany. In 2010, he became an activist and fought for a European Union of citizens.





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**René Graafsma**  
Executive Member Global Communication

In the Netherlands he works as a journalist and publicist. In addition, he is active as an organizational consultant, mainly in financial services. He says that "Communication is the magic word. Focusing all efforts on building a dialogue, wanting to understand each other and mutual respect, is the beginning of a solution."





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**Ivan Gli Carretero**  
Executive Member Digitalization

He works such as IT & media business manager, leverage and implementation of latest communications technologies and strategies on content within digital business sectors. Currently he works such as Senior Digital Manager for Sunrise Communication AG, in Switzerland.




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**Manuel Galifianes**  
Executive Member Democracy

He is a member of the Academy of Medical and Health Sciences of Catalonia and the Balearic Island and has worked as a basic scientist and medical doctor in Canada, the United Kingdom, and Spain. Being a board member of the Federal Alliance of European Federalists (FAEF) and member of the Federalistes d'Esquerra (Catalonia, Spain), he has participated in the Citizens' Convention for a European Federation Constitution and is actively promoting humanitarian values and the citizens' political participation rights.



## What is FAEF's agenda in 2023?

Following the publication of our draft federal constitution for Europe in autumn 2022 under the title *The Making of the Constitution for the 'Federated States of Europe'*, we have set the following agenda for 2023.

### Federating the Federalists

FAEF was formed in 2018 on the basis of the slogan 'Federating the Federalists', with the aim of strengthening the organisational capacity of many diverse groups seeking a democratic and effective Europe. By collaborating with a wide diversity of organisations - federalist movements, transnational political parties, centers of excellence, student organisations, citizens' initiative organisations, think tanks, organisations pursuing world federalism, et cetera - this is achievable. In addition, we use the slogan 'Educating the Federalists' because not everyone knows what the standards of centripetal federal state formation are and that in a situation, where countries want to cooperate without losing sovereignty, the constitutional federal state form is the only one that fits it. Offering a diversity of organisations membership of a federal body like FAEF will strengthen the organisational capacity and allow - in particular - transnational political parties, as member organisations of FAEF, to have more significance in the political decision-making of the EU and its member states. Member organisations retain their full autonomy, have voting rights in the annual General Assembly and can nominate members of their own organisation for membership of the board.

### Publications

Members of the Board, and individuals who follow our work, publish books and articles. Articles are usually placed in the [Europe Today Magazine](#). For books, besides the already mentioned book *The making of ...*, we refer to *Sovereignty, Security and Solidarity* (Leo Klinkers, Lothian Foundation Press 2019) and the *Constitutional and Institutional Toolkit for Establishing the Federal United States of Europe* (Board FAEF 2021).

### Street actions

One of FAEF's member organisations, the *Union Europea de Mallorca*, is actively distributing a Flyer on our commitment to federalise Europe. The Flyer is being distributed in various places in Europe (Germany, Poland), as well as in front of the European Parliament in Brussels and the Parliament in the Netherlands.

*In front of the EU Parliament*



*In front of the Dutch Parliament*





If member organisations wish to support the distribution of the Flyer by participating in such street actions across Europe, it would be greatly appreciated.



**I am pleased to inform you about The making of the Constitution for 'The Federated States of Europe'. This work by the Citizens Convention of the Federal Alliance of European Federalists (FAEF) provides a solid constitutional basis for a democratic and effective federal Europe.**

**FAEF**  
FEDERAL ALLIANCE OF EUROPEAN FEDERALISTS

· See the text below the image for a description of the contents. For a sneak preview, see [www.iustitiascripta.com/978-90-832475-2-6](http://www.iustitiascripta.com/978-90-832475-2-6) or click on the QR codes below our logo.

· We, the Citizens of Europe, moved by the need and the will to form a more perfect and durable union, with the objective and duty of taking care of the common European good, protect and ensure the greatest degree of liberty and well-being for its peoples, establish the Federated States of Europe by ratifying this Constitution.

· After two hundred years of futile attempts to federalise Europe, it seems useful to quote George Washington (first US president) once again: "Some day, following the example of the United States of America, there will be a United States of Europe".

· The Federal Constitution for the Federation is submitted for ratification to the Citizens of Europe.

· If a simple majority of the electorate of all participating states vote to ratify the Constitution, followed by ratification by their national parliaments, it will enter into force and the Federation will be established.

· If the electorate of nine countries or regions ratify the constitution by a simple majority, the Federation will be established in accordance with Article 20 of the Treaty on the European Union.

· Find the material and information on the website.

· If you like that idea, please buy the book, forward this information to those who you think should be informed about it and become one of the Historical Founders of a constitutional federal Europe by registering on [www.faeu.eu/en\\_gb/historical-founders/](http://www.faeu.eu/en_gb/historical-founders/) or click the QR below.

### Forms of potential cooperation

We are currently working on the design of activities that could be better shaped and given substance in cooperation with member organisations of FAEF:

- Organising a Symposium on the essence of the federal constitution for Europe, as designed by FAEF's Citizens' Convention. Discussions on this subject are ongoing with the Free University in Amsterdam. The reason for choosing that venue is that the founder of the Free University, Abraham Kuyper, prime minister in the Netherlands from 1901-1905, borrowed his famous adage 'Sovereignty in everyone's own circle' from the founder of federal state formation, the political philosopher Johannes Althusius (±1600).

- Translating our English-language constitution into a number of other languages, including - at least - German, French, Spanish, Italian and Dutch. For strengthening contact with the Balkan and Baltic states, those languages should also be included.
- Developing a weekly digital news magazine. Goal: explain to the citizens of Europe the value of a federal Europe, and why the status of a federal form of state for Europe makes concern and policies for common interests significantly stronger than the current treaty-based way of conflicting cooperation.
- Developing a quarterly journal explaining the benefits of a federal Europe. That journal, both for professionals in the field of constitutional federal state formation and also for other interested citizens discusses how the structure, procedures and functions of a federal Europe safeguard common interests such as humanity, security, climate, energy, health, economy, security better than in the current treaty-based European Union. This activates sensible discussions on the most essential aspects of our society. In addition, that journal pays attention to how a federal Europe can gain a geopolitical position in a multipolar global state system.
- Developing a weekly 1-hour news programme in the Euronews channel to disseminate and discuss news. Including the presentation of interviews with individuals who (want to) lead federalisation of Europe.
- The ratification of the constitution by the people of Europe. As a consequence of our premise 'All sovereignty rests with the people', the democratic federal constitution must be ratified by the people of Europe. Having worked intensively with the activities just mentioned to inform the people about the usefulness and necessity of a federal Europe, ratification has to be organised. That requires a special number of complicated actions: in terms of content and design. This requires close cooperation with all member organisations under the federal umbrella of FAEF.

### **Amending FAEF's draft federal constitution**

The obvious question that arises when contacting potential member organisations is whether it is possible to amend our 10-article federal constitution. That is possible, but in an organised, systematized way. By this we mean the following:

1. Everything can always be improved through progressive understanding. As part of an open society, we are open to signals to improve our draft 10-articles federal constitution and its explanatory memorandum.
2. The revolutionary draft federal constitution of the 70-member FAEF Citizens' Convention – as published in *The Making of the Constitution for 'The Federated States of Europe'* remains the basis of our pursuit of a federal Europe. See this link for the list of the [Convention members](#).

3. The FAEF Board carefully examines whether proposed amendments are in line with standards of constitutionalism. This implies, inter alia, that amendments that - however well intended - are contrary to the chosen constitutional line, or detract from democratic intentions, as so-called 'destructive amendments' will not be considered.
4. It is open only to member organisations of FAEF to submit amendments on the ten articles and their memory of understanding. Naturally, FAEF takes into account the obvious development that non-member organisations or individuals also submit proposals to amend the constitution. Familiar with such processes, the Board knows that a moment always arises to test such proposals on their merits and give them a place within proposals for amendments by member organisations.
5. Potential member organisations that first want their ideas on amending the federal constitution to be adopted by the Board before they are willing to become members of FAEF will be politely declined.
6. Amendment proposals should be concrete constitutional legal texts, supported by a well-reasoned explanatory memorandum.
7. Amendments proposed by member organisations will be carefully archived by the Board, studied, discussed with the proposers, if necessary, and prepared in such a way that they form part of the process of ratification of the Federal Constitution by the citizens of Europe at a time to be determined: 'All sovereignty rests with the people.'
8. For managing, considering and deciding on proposed amendments, the Board shall adopt a regulation analogous to the working method of the Citizens' Convention.
9. Once the Board has considered and possibly approved the amendments submitted, including after consultation with the proposers, the Board will reactivate the Citizens' Convention - either in its original composition or renewed - and submit these amendments to the Convention for final decision. The Citizens' Convention will determine the final outcome to be presented to the people of Europe for ratification.

### **More information and contact**

There is more information about the Federal Alliance of European Federalists on the website [www.faeef.eu](http://www.faeef.eu). For contact, please email [administration@faef.eu](mailto:administration@faef.eu).

The Hague,  
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