

**WESTERN BALKANS 2 EU
4th Ideas go public Lab**

Paris, 19 May 2022

**THE PATH TO THE EU –
HOW THE WAR IN UKRAINE HAS REOPENED THE CASE FOR ENLARGEMENT**

19.00h–20.30: Public debate

Venue: EuropaNova premises, 64bis av. de New York, 75016 Paris

Right in between the tail of the presidential race and the head of the parliamentary elections, our *WB2EU 4th Ideas go public Lab* will focus on the general politics of enlargement in France. The Russian aggression on Ukraine has rekindled a movement of solidarity and mobilisation akin to those of 1956 for Hungary, 1968 for Prague, or the 1980s for Poland. The reconfirmation for Ukraine of its European destiny in the face of war and its domino effect on Georgia and Moldova triggered a refreshed interest in the French public and political spectrum for the EU's enlargement goals and processes. In this regard, we found it relevant to reflect on what this novel context could mean for the Balkans' path into the EU. And the associated political narratives and plays.

Keynote speech:

André GATTOLIN, French Senator LREM, Vice-chair of the European Affairs

Discussants:

Tineke STRIK, Dutch MEP Greens EFA (video message)

Gwendoline DELBOS-CORFIELD, French MEP Greens EFA

Nebojsa VUKADINOVIC, Expert for the European Commission on pre-accession funds

Oana POPESCU-ZAMFIR, Director, GlobalFocus Center (Bucharest), WB2EU Network

Moderated by **Paul SCHMIDT**, General Secretary, Austrian Society for European Politics (ÖGfE), WB2EU Network

Concluding remarks: **Elise BERNARD**, EuropaNova, WB2EU Network

Registration and livestreaming:

On-site registration: anna.lelkes@europanova.eu

Distance registration (Zoom): <https://bit.ly/3yFkKoT>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/oegfe> & Facebook: <https://bit.ly/3whuKTA> & YouTube: <https://youtu.be/Wy8CooYNyVM>