

## Programme summary

### Difference Day 2022 – 2-5 May

Difference Day 2022 is organised by the Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Université libre de Bruxelles, Erasmushogeschool Brussel, Bozar and the Evens Foundation. They are supported by the Flemish and French-speaking media, Bertelsmann, EBU, EPC, the European Parliament, the EC, the European Democracy Endowment fund and the media ministers of both regions.

#### **Students have their say – Students’ Speakers Corner – 3 May – 12.00-14.00 – outside terrace Bozar restaurant**

A Difference Day tradition: the Students’ Speakers Corner. Freedom of speech is an important value in our society. With Students’ Speakers Corner, VUB, EhB (Universitaire Associatie Brussel) and ULB want to offer Brussels students a unique platform to present their message – in Dutch, French or English – to an audience of fellow students, interested parties and passers-by. This is the fourth time Students’ Speakers Corner has been held and on Tuesday 3 May it will once again guarantee impassioned, committed and inspired speeches from a new generation of students. Expect verbal fireworks!

#### **Other highlights**

Difference Day 2022 takes place at various locations in Brussels and offers an exciting and rich programme. For instance, there is **Alicja Gescinska’s** conversation with **Hindi Fahri** about her book **Antipode**, in which she examines radical positions or opinions that go against the prevailing view. It promises to be an exploration of the fragility and resilience of our democracy. On 3 May, there will also be a **panel discussion with Belarusian and Ukrainian journalists** about their experiences. Belarusian journalists have been living in a dictatorship for decades and are persecuted there; Ukrainian journalists were confronted from one day to the next with war on their own territory. What does this mean for their work and their lives? With Ukrainian journalist and founder of Public Interest Journalism Lab Natalia Gumenyuk, Barys Haretski and Hanna Valynets from the Belarusian Association of Journalists, Jakub Parusinski from The Fix, and Pavol Demes, EED executive committee vice-chair and GMFUS fellow.

The organisation **EnGaje**, which works for persecuted journalists, will also participate in DD2022. There will be a **documentary about the authoritarian regime in Viktor Orbán’s Hungary: The Hungarian Playbook**, by journalist and documentary maker Bence Máté. And also on the programme is **They Blew Her Up, a haunting play by Herman Grech** of The Times of Malta about the murder of **Maltese journalist and anti-corruption activist Daphne Caruana Galizia**, in the presence of her son Matthew.

[View the full programme here](#) and send questions about the programme to [itsdifferenceday@gmail.com](mailto:itsdifferenceday@gmail.com).