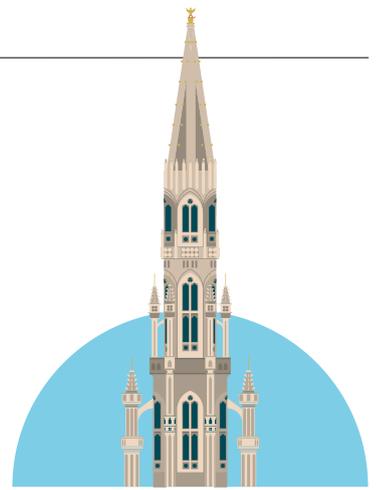


# Highlights from IDEA Francophone (FR)



## IDEA FR

Located in Brussels, IDEA Francophone (IDEA FR) is the programmatic arm of IDEA Central, the coordinating and liaison office for the IDEA Network worldwide. It also serves as the Secretariat for the Network Governing Board.

Since 2015, IDEA FR is the bridge to the French-speaking community, bringing bilingual English and French debate education training to young people living in French-speaking countries in Europe and beyond: developing materials, providing information and organising events in French, which is currently missing in the Network.

## Training of Trainers

In April 2015, IDEA FR kicked off its programmatic activities for the French and English-speaking communities in Brussels starting with the Training of Trainers (ToT). Together with partners Brussels Debaters and Solvay Debate Society, and in collaboration with their training expert from IDEA Middle East and North Africa (MENA), IDEA FR ran a week of training for future debate trainers.

Over one week, a group of university student debaters and professionals learned how to train non-debaters about different debate formats, how to quickly analyse a motion, structure an argument and respond with convincing evidence. Trainees had the opportunity to practice debate exercises using different debate formats.

IDEA FR plans to conduct additional training sessions in the near future.

*At the end of the week, trainees were more self-confident and better structured.*



## 60 debates engaging 132 young European debaters took place across 11 European countries, giving young people a sense of ownership about EU issues.

### Debate, engage, vote! European Union and Strasbourg

In May 2014, in collaboration with the League of Young Voters, IDEA FR participated in The European Youth Event (EYE) held in Strasbourg that attracted 10,000 people, including MEPs.

During the 3-day EYE event, IDEA FR launched a final debate tournament that was designed to raise awareness of the upcoming European Parliamentary elections in 2014: Debate, Engage, Vote!



### Speak UP! A series of live debates

Speak UP! A series of debates performed in front of a live audience. Brussels Debaters and Solvay Debate Society teams argue and persuade audiences on motions of interest to EU citizens.

The filmed debates are uploaded online by IDEA FR partner Debating Europe [www.debatingeurope.com](http://www.debatingeurope.com) where they can reach a wider audience including influential policy makers who are invited to continue the debate.

Future debates are scheduled from September 2015 onwards.

*May 2015 saw a debut debate take place at the ULB Campus in Brussels on the motion 'Parental Leave should be Compulsory for Fathers'.*

