Citizens Assembly in Ireland; Emmanuel Macron’s announcement of a *Convention Citoyenne* on ecological transition; environmental organizations’ demands for a Citizen Assembly on climate and ecological justice; digital democracy promises... There are a number of demands for citizens’ voice to be at the heart of policy-making. However, what kind of participatory democracy procedure could best respond to this demand? What are the key conditions for such a procedure to be really democratic and take into account the informed view of citizens?

For more than ten years, *Sciences Citoyennes* and the *Observatory of Participatory Practices within Research and Innovation* have developed a detailed rigorous procedure that fosters informed expression of citizen opinions, based on multiple contradictory expertise. This method is named “Citizens’ Conventions”.

Giving voice to experts and stakeholders’ representatives, the conference *Citizens’ Conventions, Taking Democracy Seriously* will aim at introducing and discussing “Citizens’ Conventions”, as a mean of citizens’ participation in public debate, including on climate change mitigation and adaptation policy-making, within the framework of the European project *TeRRIFICA – Territorial Responsible Research and Innovation Fostering Innovative Climate Action*.

**Temporary Agenda**

**09:00 – 09:30* Welcome & Coffee**

**09:30 – 10:00* Introduction by Patrick Bernasconi, president of CESE**
Presentation of TeRRIFICA and of the Conference

**10:00 – 10:50* What are Citizens’ Conventions & what are the minimal conditions for this procedure to be legitimate?**

Speakers:
- **Dominique Rousseau**, Professor of Constitutional Law at Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne University, former Member of the Conseil Supérieur de la Magistrature (2002-2006);
- **Marie-Angèle Hermitte**, Doctor in Law, Honorary Director of the CNRS and EHESS.

Followed by an open debate.

**10:50 – 11:30* Sharing experiences of similar approaches in Europe**

Round Table (speakers to be confirmed).

**11:30 – 12:15* Open-debate on Citizens’ Convention**

With all the speakers.

**12:15 – 12:30* Wrap up by Jacques Testart, Doctor in Biology and Sciences Citoyennes Honorary President**

*CET Time - French > English & English > French translation will be available.

**Contact**

*Charlotte Coquard* (Sciences Citoyennes)
tel.: 01 43 14 73 62 – email: charlotte.coquard@sciencescitoyennes.org

---

Launched in January 2019, TeRRIFICA is a European Horizon 2020 project aiming at fostering co-creation between researchers, CSOs, policy-makers and companies, on mitigating and adapting to climate change, in six pilot regions in Belarus, France, Germany, Poland, Serbia and Spain.