

## 9th Edition of the Author-Publishers Dialogues with David Lagercrantz and his publishers

with the support of Dr. Christian Ehler, MEP

**Brussels – European Parliament - salons**  
**Tuesday 12 November 2019 at 19:00**

### **DR. CHRISTIAN EHLER, MEMBER OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, GERMANY**



Born in Munich in 1963, **Christian Ehler** has been a Member of the European Parliament (EP) since 2004. He holds a degree in journalism and economics from the Ludwig-Maximilian University in Munich (1991) as well as a PhD of political science on the topic of U.S. trade policy (1993). Until 2010 Ehler held the post of Managing Director of Biotech GmbH - a biotechnology centre in Hennigsdorf, Germany.

In the European Parliament Ehler is a member and EPP coordinator of the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy and a substitute member of the Committee on Culture. In 2014 Ehler MEP and Pervenche Berès MEP (S&D) founded the Intergroup “Cultural and Creative Industries in Europe”. By establishing the Intergroup in the European Parliament, an open and transparent forum has been created to fuel the much-needed debate on how to ensure a thriving creative economy for the generations to come. Furthermore, he was rapporteur of the joint report by the Industry and Culture Committee of the European Parliament entitled “A coherent EU policy for the cultural and creative industries in Europe”.

### **RUDY VANSCHOONBEEK, PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERATION OF EUROPEAN PUBLISHERS, BELGIUM**

Antwerp based Publisher and President of the Federation of European Publishers (FEP), **Rudy Vanschoonbeek** has been working in the book sector for more than 30 years. In 2008, he founded Uitgeverij Vrijdag which publishes annually 50 new fiction and non-fiction titles for the general market - with original angles, quirky quality, rigid beliefs and sovereign reflection. Formerly President of boek.be, CEO at ECI Belgium (part of Bertelsmann) and Managing Publisher at Standaard Uitgeverij (WPG), he worked in the sales department of Elkedag Boeken, services PR and sales for several publishing companies in the



Flemish Market e.g. De Harmonie, Koppernik, Maven, Marmar, Podium, Van Oorschot, Wereldbibliotheek.

### DAVID LAGERCRANTZ, AUTHOR, SWEDEN



**David Lagercrantz** is a Swedish journalist and bestselling author. After studying philosophy and religion, he obtained a degree from the Gothenburg School of Journalism. He did a four-year stint as crime reporter at *Expressen*, at the time the largest newspaper in Scandinavia, where he covered the most prominent murder cases in Sweden during the late 80s and early 90s. Having written bestsellers such as *Fall of Man in Wilmslow* and *I am Zlatan*, written together with international football star Zlatan Ibrahimovic, in 2013

Lagercrantz agreed with Norstedts and Moggleden to pen a set of sequels to Stieg Larsson's Millennium Trilogy. The first, *The Girl in the Spider's Web*, was published in the fall of 2015 in a coordinated worldwide launch and immediately reached number 1 in the US, UK, France, Germany and Spain. His third entry, *The Girl Who Lived Twice*, was released in August 2019; marking the end of the Millennium-era for Lagercrantz. He is a board member and financial contributor to Swedish P.E.N. He also supports Grävfonden, a foundation that trains reporters in investigative journalism, and Läsrörelsen, an organization that promotes literature and language development for youths.

### EVA GEDIN, PUBLISHER, SWEDEN

**Eva Gedin** is a publisher at Norstedts, the oldest publishing house in Sweden. She has worked in publishing since the 1980s. She is the chairman of the Swedish Publishers' Association, and will take the position as the CEO of Norstedts Publishing Group in January 2020. Gedin has worked as an editor for a number of prominent Swedish authors such as PO Enquist, Agneta Pleijel, Jonas Gardell, Kristina Sandberg and Karolina Ramqvist. She is also the editor of the Millennium series; both for the books Stieg Larsson wrote and those David Lagercrantz wrote.



### FRANÇOISE NYSSSEN, PUBLISHER, FRANCE



**Françoise Nyssen** is a Franco-Belge publisher and politician. After studying chemistry and molecular biology at the Université Libre de Bruxelles, Nyssen went on to study urban planning and later worked with the Belgian Ministry for the Environment. The daughter of Actes Sud founder Hubert Nyssen, she began working in publishing in 1980, eventually becoming an associate and the director of Actes Sud. Nyssen was French Minister of Culture between 2017 and 2018 where she worked on

gender inequality in cultural industries, youth accessibility and on the EU Copyright Directive. In 2019 Nyssen published *Plaisir et nécessité*, an autobiographical collection of essays.

#### **CHRISTOPHER MACLEHOSE, PUBLISHER, UNITED KINGDOM**



**Christopher Colin MacLehose** is a British publisher, founder of the MacLehose Press, an imprint of Quercus Books. He was publisher of the Harvill Press from 1984 to 2003, where he published the works of the American authors Raymond Carver, Richard Ford, Peter Matthiessen and James Slater for the first time in Britain. At Harvill and MacLehose Press, however, he has published works in translation from 34 languages, initially chiefly from Russian. He introduced to an English-speaking readership the best-selling works of Stieg

Larsson and many prize-winning authors, among them Sergio De La Pava, who has described MacLehose as "an outsize figure literally and figuratively – that's an individual who has devoted his life to literature". His lists have contained the work of eleven winners of the Prix Goncourt.

He was given the London Book Fair Lifetime Achievement Award in 2006.

#### **TILO ECKHARDT, PUBLISHER, GERMANY**

**Tilo Eckardt** began his career in publishing at Haffmans Verlag before joining Carl Hanser Verlag as a publisher's assistant. Since 1999, he was the Editor-in-Chief for the Hardcover Imprints of Heyne and Diana before taking over responsibilities for Karl Blessing Verlag. From 2013, he was Senior Agent with the Mohrbooks Literary Agency in Zurich. Eckardt returned to Verlagsgruppe Random House in 2017 as Publishing Director of Heyne Fiction. In October 2017 he was appointed Publisher of the Heyne Group and Board Member of Verlagsgruppe Random House.



#### **FRANCESCA VARROTTO, PUBLISHER, ITALY**

After completing a master in publishing and working in Germany for a period, **Francesca Varotto** moved to Marsilio Editori (now part of the Feltrinelli Group) in Venice, where she is editorial director of foreign fiction. In her role at Marsilio Editori she is in charge of a list of 25 titles a year of literary, upmarket and crime fiction and narrative non-fiction.

**MARTIN KALA, MODERATOR, ESTONIA**



**Martin Kala** is an Estonian national with advanced degrees in international law, and a track record in Brussels’ policy-making process. Kala has held positions at the European Parliament since 2004, where he initially served as an advisor to President Toomas Hendrik Ilves, and later worked at ENPA, the European Newspaper Publishers Association and News Media Europe. Kala holds a PhD in law from Université Paris XI du Sud, Faculté Jean Monnet and a Master’s degree from the Sorbonne. He is a published author and a regular contributor to the Estonian newspaper Postimees. Kala has also translated several books into his native Estonian, including Milan Kundera’s “Le Rideau” and Dominique Moïsi’s “The Geopolitics of Emotions.”