

Paris Baloumis: Europe must use its heritage



I thoroughly enjoyed participating in the European debate. Not only was it an honor to join such a diverse and empowered group, but I also found it inspiring to take part in the debate because the topic is such a timely initiative that is particularly relevant for our future.

It is clear that a new narrative is needed to motivate Europe and the European ideal. Over the past several years the debate has focused almost exclusively on economic issues such as productivity, efficiency and balanced books. It now needs to be completed with science and the humanities. We in Europe have a uniquely strong and universal cultural heritage that must be used to our advantage. By capitalizing on our heritage, we will develop a new European

cosmopolitanism, founded on everything that makes Europe great.

I hope this debate will spark new enthusiasm among all of us Europeans. Hopefully, it can present a more rounded, more attractive European vision to the world.

I think it is up to the younger generation of Europeans to play a leading part in carving out a meaningful role for Europeans within Europe and between Europe and the world. It is time for us to start thinking about our continent collectively and transform it into a place of creative enterprise to be valued by the world. We need to create a sustainable competitive advantage based on unique European values - a European mosaic where the contribution of all is acknowledged. We are, after all, living on a great continent. A continent which has given so much to the world. A continent which still has so much to give.