To counter authoritarian populism, four principles must be borne in mind:

1. Demonstrate that the EU is not an ‘agent of unfettered globalisation’
2. Enhance the EU’s ability to act as a ‘democratic watchdog’
3. Avoid raising expectations the Union is a ‘win-win’ from a national perspective
4. Intensify the fight against tax evasion

The EU could re-energise the European project. The EU27 should have the political will and courage to agree on a more regressive, nationalistic, closed, illiberal and authoritarian Europe, the greatest challenge we are currently facing.