

Simen Ekern

EUROPEANS

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The struggle for the future of Europe is intense, alarming and dramatic. In this book we meet the main actors.

When Simen Ekern went to live in Brussels as an exchange student in the late 1990's, the mood was optimistic. The 'Erasmus Generation' would nurture a new Europe, where national differences were less important than the idea of future harmony. When he returned to the EU capital as a journalist ten years later, people were talking instead about a 'Lost Generation.'

Europeans is about the crisis which has hit Europe. The difficult economic situation has presented opportunities for political entrepreneurs with widely different ideological projects. Ekern introduces the reader to Italian populists, Scottish separatists and Hungarian extremists. He talks with Brussels bureaucrats, French patriots and a Greek crime-writer who has his own distinctive views about who are the villains in the story.

Simen Ekern

Simen Ekern (born 1975) worked as a correspondent in Brussels for several years, and is currently living in Rome. He has covered European politics and culture for several media outlets including Dagbladet, TV2 and Morgenbladet. Ekern is a trained social and political historian who for many years has been considered one of Norway's leading experts on Italy. He made his debut as an writer in 2006 with Berlusconi's Italy. He was awarded the Brage Prize for Rome. *New Fascists, Red Terrorists and the Dream of La Dolce Vita* in 2011.

