



CEP NEWSLETTER

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New Researchers at CEP

This spring CEP welcomes two new professors, Ian Manners and Jette Steen Knudsen, who will start the 1st of April at the Department of Political Science.

Professor, Ph.D., Ian Manners has previously been employed at Roskilde University and is well-known for his contributions to the literature on the EU's role in international affairs. His general work is at the nexus of critical social theory and the study of the European Union in global governance. He is currently finishing a book focusing on the European Union's normative power in global politics. Manners will contribute to the teaching at the Department of Political Science and offer several courses in the next semester.



Professor MSO, Ph.D., Jette Steen Knudsen has previously been employed at Copenhagen Business School. Her research interests lie primarily in the field of comparative political economy. Currently Knudsen focuses her research on the motivation and ability of governments in economically advanced and industrialized countries to promote social change in less developed countries. She recently received a grant from the Danish Social Science Research Council of approximately DKK 2 million to conduct research within this area.

In addition CEP-researcher Martin Marcussen has been granted a full professorship and CEP-researcher Dorte Sindbjerg Martinsen has been appointed Professor MSO. CEP welcomes Ian and Jette and congratulates Martin and Dorte on their appointments.

Conference on the Future of Europe



Tomorrow's Europe is created today, but is Denmark a part of this process or are we just an observer on the sidelines? This is one of the questions that will be debated when CEP, in cooperation with DI and CO-Industry, the 30th of April organises the conference "Fremtidens Europa".

Mr. Charles Grant, Director of the Centre for European Reform in London, will open the conference with a talk about where Europe is heading, and Nicolai Wammen, Danish Minister for European Affairs, will speak of which role the Danish government sees Denmark playing in the European integration process. The panel debate will be moderated by CEP Professor Marlene Wind who will ask critical questions to prominent politicians, representatives from trade unions and the Danish industry on how Denmark should act in a multi-speed Europe.

After the conference there will be a reception and ample opportunity to continue the debate.

Please be aware that the keynote address will be in English but the panel debate in Danish.

Time: 30th April 1.00-5.00 pm

Place: University of Copenhagen, Aleksandersalen, Bispetorvet 1-3, Copenhagen K. For more information and registration visit:

www.di.dk/fremtid



LATEST RESEARCH

Ben Rosamond has published 'Theorizing the European Union after Integration Theory', in Michelle Cini & Nieves Pérez-Solórzano Borrágán (eds.) *European Political Politics*, 4th edition, Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp. 85-102.

Rebecca Adler-Nissen & Ulrik Pram Gad have published 'European Integration and Postcolonial Sovereignty Games: The EU Overseas Countries and Territories'. London: Routledge, Taylor & Francis Group.

Rebecca Adler Nissen has published 'European Diplomats: State Nobility and the Invention of New Social Groups' in Niilo Kauppi & Mikael Rask Madsen (eds.) *Transnational Power Elites: The New Professional of Governance, Law and Security*. London: Routledge, Taylor and Francis Group, pp. 65-80.

NEWS FROM CEP

Study trip to Brussels

From 8-10 April CEP is organizing a study trip to Brussels for 20 graduate students. The programme will include meetings with senior civil servants and experts in the Commission, the Council, and at the Permanent Representation of Denmark to the EU, as well as visits to Business Europe and the European Parliament. The students will all in all get a unique insight into the workings of the EU institutions and information about career opportunities in Brussels.

International Workshop and Seminar at CEP

During the last month CEP has hosted two international events. From 7-8 March Professor Dorte Sindbjerg Martinsen and Assistant Professor **Hans Vollaard** from Leiden University in Holland organized the workshop "Social Europe in Times of Crisis".

THE RESEARCHER COLUMN

Will enhanced popular participation do the trick?

When discussing the EU democratic deficit it is frequently argued that if the Europeans are more included in EU policy-making, they will endorse the EU project to a greater extent. Yet, we do not know if enhanced participation is what people really want. And in that case if it yields more pro-European sentiments.

By Assistant Professor Julie Hassing Nielsen, Dept. of Political Science, University of Copenhagen



The democratic deficit discussion of the EU has many dimensions. One addresses the institutional deficit, targeting the lack of popular elections for the powerful Commission and Council. Another aims at the European Parliament's lack of power vis-à-vis the strong Council – even if the Lisbon Treaty (2009) transferred considerable powers to the Parliament, elevating the co-decision procedure to become the common decision-making procedure. Lastly, there is the European people, which is probably the most discussed dimension of the democratic deficit. And it is around this dimension I concentrate my research.

It was the Danish no to the Treaty of Maastricht more than 20 years ago that initiated this whole discussion. The beginning of the 1990s was the heyday of democracy; the Iron Curtain fell, East and West united, and the Cold War, having preoccupied international politics since WW2, ended. Fukuyama did not make his now-famous “end of history”-statement in a vacuum. And then Denmark voted no in a popular referendum to the Treaty transferring the European Community to a political union. In this context, it came as a shock: why were the Danes against measures to unite and integrate the European continent? In brief, the paradigm of the understanding of a *permissive consensus* amongst the European people regarding European integration was over. The political and the academic elite entered a new phase of reflection on the phenomenon of ‘euroscepticism’.

20 years later much work has been published on the democratic deficit. And where the conclusions are plentiful, addressing very different areas in the debate about the EU's democratic outlook – except from the work of Moravcsik and Majone – relies on one strong assumption: if the Europeans were more actively engaged in the European enterprise, the skepticism towards further integration would diminish. Most research on popular attitudes towards the EU derives questions on the basis of this assumption. The question is, however, if it is true that regular Europeans wish for more active political involvement. And, if so, whether enhanced participation

indeed will bring a more pro-integration population.

Where consensus (almost) exists within EU studies, positively linking political participation with democratically desirable attributes like legitimacy and trust, the results nevertheless become blurred if the view is expanded beyond EU studies. Recently, for example, Hibbing and Theiss-Morse (University of Nebraska) conclude in their controversial work on stealth democracy that people do not desire participatory democracy. Rather, due to widespread conflict aversion and a perception of false consensus, a majority prefers to be left alone when it comes to political decision-making. In essence, they prefer democratic decision-making, assimilating the processes seen in the efficient business world.

In my work, I explore these questions in a comparative Danish-Italian context. On the basis of laboratory experiments, I investigate if inclusion in decision-making processes is positively linked to trust. Testing different decision-making processes, varying on degrees of participation, I conclude, however, that the highest levels of trust amongst people participating are found after decision-making processes, resembling representative political institutions, and where elected leaders are decision-makers. Surprisingly, I did not find support for the thesis that enhanced participation yields more trust.

These conclusions are a contribution to the debate about participatory democracy in general, but also a reply to the extensive research within EU studies, arguing for higher levels of participation. Frequently you hear arguments for generating an EU public sphere, for example, through deliberative forums – which has been explored in depth over the past decades. My conclusions, however, point to a potential problem of having misinterpreted the symptoms, and, consequently, prescribed the wrong cure. Despite 20 years of extensive research on the democratic deficit, we still do not know if people really want more participation – and whether participation relates to ‘euroscepticism’. Based on my results, I call for enhanced focus on the assumptions upon which we conduct research on attitudes towards the EU.

The researcher column is written in turn by the researchers at the Centre for European Politics. The column does not represent a common CEP-position.

On 21 February CEP, in cooperation with Centre for Military Studies, hosted the seminar: “Is there a Future for European Security and Defense?” which offered a presentation by Tomáš Valášek, President of the Central European Policy Institut, Bratislava.

EURECO Distinguished Lecture Series 2013

Once more EURECO organises the EURECO Distinguished Lecture Series. The overall theme of this fall's series will be ‘Europe and the Changing Global Order’.

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The newsletter is published four times a year and includes the latest updates on activities and European research at the Centre for European Politics.

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