



CEP NEWSLETTER

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Study trip to Brussels

After many requests from students interested in European studies, CEP successfully repeated the tradition of a study trip to the capital of the EU. Thus, in April twenty students of political science went to Brussels with Marlene Wind and a small group of CEP researchers for three inspirational days.



The programme offered meetings with Danish officials in both the European Council, the Council of Ministers, in the Commission, and at the Permanent Danish Representation to the EU. The group also met with members of the European Parliament and representatives from EU's Personnel Selection Office, and visited Business Europe as well as the think-tank European Policy Centre, EPC.

Besides providing the students with excellent insights and knowledge of the day-to-day workings of the EU, and a chance to discuss some of the challenges facing Europe, the trip had as well the purpose of raising awareness and informing the students about the many career opportunities in Brussels and in the EU institutions.

EURECO Distinguished Lecture Series 2013

Under the headline Europe and the Changing Global Order, EURECO's Distinguished Lecture Series this fall sets out to explore the political, legal, economic, and societal aspects of Europe in the context of a changing global order. The rise of new emerging powers have produced new growth poles and shifted the location of power in the world economy. Hence, a pertinent question to address becomes whether and how the EU, with its unique institutional architecture and the internal problems confronting it, will be able to navigate in this changed setting. At the same time the West's leadership across a range of domains – political, legal, cultural, and normative – may be in serious decline. This could present Europe with a severe challenge in maintaining its position, not just as a key player in the global economy, but also within the field of normative politics. These and many more interesting issues arising from the overall theme of the lecture series will be addressed and debated throughout the fall.



Among the speakers in the programme are two scholars at CEP: Ben Rosamond who will give the introductory lecture, and Ian Manners who will give a talk on the EU's normative power. For more information and registration please visit: www.eureco.ku.dk.

The Annual CEP Prize

As has become tradition CEP each year awards a prize for an excellent Master thesis on a European topic. This year the CEP prize went to Mads Nørgaard Jørgensen and Tobias Caspersen Panduro. They received it for their thesis "A European model of strategic trade policy". In this, they provide an original and convincing empirical analysis of different types of trade policy in the EU, by identifying and classifying four different clusters of strategic trade policy, and subsequently assess their implementation and impact on trade.



CEP wishes everyone a happy summer!

LATEST RESEARCH

Owen Parker & **Ben Rosamond** have published 'Normative power Europe' meets economic liberalism: Complicating cosmopolitanism inside/outside the EU', *Cooperation and Conflict* 48(2): 229-246.

Nielsen, Julie Hassing & M.B. Christensen have published 'Can a Small Non-Euro Member State Holding the EU Presidency Make a Difference in Times of EU Economic Crisis? Perspectives on the Danish EU Presidency' in P.Dabrowska-Klosinska (ed.) *Polish Yearbook of European Studies*, vol. 15/2012.

Ian Manners has published, 'Assessing the decennial, reassessing the global: Understanding European Union normative power in global politics', *Cooperation and Conflict*, 48(2): 304-329.

NEWS FROM CEP

In cooperation with the Confederation of Danish Industry and CO-Industry CEP organized the event "Fremtidens Europa". Lots of people showed up to listen to Vice Director of Centre for European Reform Katinka Barysch and the Danish Minister of European Affairs Nicolai Wammen presenting their views on **Europe in the future**. The event, moderated by Marlene Wind, was concluded with a lively debate with participants from the Danish and the European Parliaments.

CEP has also had the pleasure of hosting a **research seminar** with Professor **Michael Moran** from the University of Manchester who spoke about the changing power of finance in the UK.

THE RESEARCHER COLUMN

Croatia's EU Accession

On the occasion of Croatia becoming the 28th member of the EU this column recaptures the accession process and the affirmative impact of EU's conditionality on democratic reform in the country.

By *Majka Holm, Research Assistant, Department of Political Science, University of Copenhagen*



While the EU's agenda has been dominated by economic crisis management the negotiations of Croatia's accession to the EU have been successfully concluded. On the 1st of July Croatia's EU membership is thus a reality. In comparison to those accession processes that went on in the heydays of EU enlargement in the first half of the millennium, this one has taken place somewhat more discreetly. However, it is no less remarkable.

Carrying the legacies of authoritarian rule, and less than ten years after the country had been in a devastating war with its neighbours, Croatia submitted its application for EU membership in 2003. The EU reacted positively, but made membership conditional on Croatia complying with the Copenhagen Criteria. These include: the stability of democratic institutions, the rule of law, the respect for human rights and protection of minorities, a market economy, and the ability to take on the obligations of membership. The EU's pre-accession machinery, already developed for the post-communist countries in Central and Eastern Europe, was set in motion, with the Commission intensely monitoring and delivering its opinions and reports on the steps made by Croatia towards compliance. The Croatian governments put at the same time the aspiration for EU membership at the fore of national politics, and the country made profound progress in meeting the requirements. EU and Croatia were thus able to close negotiations on all 35 chapters in June 2011, and by the end of that year Croatia's accession treaty was signed and later endorsed by the public, when 66% voted in favour of accession in a national referendum in January 2012.

However, the accession process was jeopardized before it had even begun. In addition to making membership conditional on meeting the Copenhagen Criteria, the EU also included Croatia's full cooperation with the International Crime Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) as a requirement for negotiating accession at all. The EU stood firm on this and postponed the launching of the accession negotiations for more than six months. The reason was Croatia's lack of fully cooperating with the ICTY, which would involve helping to the arrest of general Ante Gotovina, an extremely delicate national issue as many Croats saw him as a war hero, and not a war criminal. It is worth mentioning that the EU's willingness to deliver, if Croatia complied, was not put into question. The negotiation framework was in place and ready the moment ICTY confirmed Croatia fully cooperated, which it did in October 2005.

Croatia's accession process demonstrates well, how the EU's application of conditionality, in

combination with a domestic wish for integration into Europe, encourages political, economic, judicial and administrative reforms. It gives furthermore weight to the notion that the credible prospect of EU membership provides a strong incentive for a country to stay on the path to consolidating democracy, and to take the necessary steps to overcome the legacies of authoritarian rule and ethnic conflicts.

The effectiveness of EU's accession conditionality has been widely acknowledged in the case of the post-communist countries in Central and Eastern Europe. And whether explained as the result of rational calculations of the costs and benefits of compliance, or by a constructivist approach as a question of national identity and adherence to European norms, the same could reasonably be argued in the case of Croatia. In this perspective, the outcome of Serbia's newly granted status as candidate country, and the promise to start accession negotiations as soon as Belgrade makes progress in the dialogue with Kosovo, is very much anticipated, and it shall be interesting to see if the prospect of EU membership once more could have an affirmative impact on regional cooperation and democratic reform. In addition the deteriorating transition to democracy in Albania, that was recently confirmed by the chaotic parliamentary elections, provides yet another perspective for studying the path a country might take, when credible EU membership is absent within a foreseeable future.

Recognizing the EU has a toolbox effective for promoting democracy while negotiating accession, the question that arises is what happens after Croatia has acceded. The weakening of democratic rule in Hungary has displayed how the EU's leverage is limited when membership is achieved. And even though Croatia has come a very long way towards democracy since it declared independence in 1991, the country still falls within Freedom House's category: "semi-consolidated democracy". Hence, in order to avoid that Croatia's democratization process enters into a stalemate or derail, when membership is a reality, there is still an effort to be made. This in particular involves improving the functioning of the judiciary and the conditions for the independent media, as well as minimizing the level of corruption.

Croatia's entrance into the EU indicates that, while countries in Northern Europe are either deliberating on their future membership or have expressed a wish to put their application on hold (as Norway and lately Iceland have done), countries in the South Eastern Europe seem to be recovering from their troublesome past and ready to take on the challenges of continued European integration.

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.

Assistant Professor **Krzysztof Pelc**, who do research on international trade rules at McGill University, presented at a CEP research seminar his work on how international trade rules affect the odds of cooperation, and how it can benefit some countries over others.

In September CEP will have the pleasure of welcoming **Anne Rasmussen** who is changing her current position as Associate Professor at the University of Leiden with a professorship with special responsibilities at the Department of Political Science at the University of Copenhagen.

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The newsletter is published four times a year and includes the latest updates on activities and research at the Centre for European Politics. To subscribe or unsubscribe to the newsletter send an email to: student.cep@gmail.com