



CONSENT for Europe

PHD ONLINE JOURNAL

VOL. 5

(Edited by Attila Agh and Judit Kis-Varga)



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I. EDITORS' COLUMN

After three years of its activity the EU-Consent – “Wider Europe, Deeper Integration”- network of excellence has indeed collected rich experience in organizing PhD Schools. Five EU-Consent PhD Schools have been organized so far in Budapest, Dublin, Cambridge, Spetses and the latest one in Pau by the thematic Work Packages. About eighty PhD students have participated in these PhD Schools and scores of their papers have been discussed. The most recent PhD School was held between 2-7 June 2008 with the title of “The political economy of European growth: Demography, geography and democracy” and it was related to the Work Package VI “Economic and Social Policies”.

It has been proven again that a real “network of excellence” has emerged among the PhD students involved in these schools. This excellence has been confirmed by the EU-CONSENT PhD Award, which was invention by the EU-Consent PhD Centre. In June 2008 at the Paris Plenary session of the EU-CONSENT Andrea Schlenker, Aris Trantidis and Imogen Sudbery received the Award for the outstanding papers they presented at various EU-CONSNET events. It is encouraging for the PhD Centre that year on year we receive such high quality papers written for the PhD Schools. These papers are accessible from the EU-CONSENT archives.

This issue of the Journal, as usual, tries to facilitate the networking of the PhD

students by introducing current information on EU news and upcoming events. We hope that we can encourage many of you to participate in these events. The Editors of this Journal would like to thank you all for your engagement this year and hope to foster a more intensive cooperation for next year, for the final year of the EU-CONSENT to sustain the PhD network's activity.

II. GENERAL INFORMATION ON THE UPCOMING PHD SCHOOLS/EVENTS

The PhD Schools are integral parts of the EU-CONSENT Network of Excellence. They are designed to provide transnational training for doctoral students and to create lasting networks amongst junior researchers. Six PhD Schools were planned to be held during the lifetime of the project; five of which are related to the thematic work packages of EU-CONSENT and one final school giving a broader concluding overview on topics dealt within EU-CONSENT at the end of the project's lifetime. The planned “PhD Market” (within the framework of the final PhD school) represents a new opportunity for young researchers to present their research to fellow PhD candidates and to establish contacts with think tanks, experts and stakeholders in order to assist their future research and careers. Furthermore, PhD candidates will be encouraged to actively contribute to the promotion of the European Research Area by organising an EU-CONSENT



workshop of their own. The final "PhD Market: Lessons of the Past for Visions of the Future" dealing with EU-CONSENT's overall research question and other specific topics dealt with within the network, in Cologne or Brussels; scheduled for February 2009.

Taking into consideration the great demand for PhD schools and other activities targeted at young researchers EU-CONSENT will aim at establishing sustainable structures of the EU-CONSENT PhD Centre of Excellence that are well apt to initiate activities even beyond the project lifetime. An appropriate point of departure might be a PhD workshop organised during the final year of EU-CONSENT at the time of the Czech Presidency including a call for papers formulating recommendations for the Czech EU Presidency or dealing with the EU Presidency. The PhD workshop will include representatives from the Czech government and an award for the best paper would be awarded. This could represent a starting point for similar events beyond EU-CONSENT, which might be linked to the trainee programme of TEPSA.

FIFTH EU-CONSENT PHD SCHOOL, 2-6 JUNE, 2008, PAU, FRANCE

The fifth PhD School of CONSENT was organized by the University of Pau during 1-8 June 2008. A total of thirteen students attended the School.

The week-long school was very well organized and dealt with various interlinked topics. The programme

grouped the various areas such as monetary union, specialization, migration, innovation, female participation in the labour market, NGOs, and the Lisbon process into morning and afternoon sessions.

The focal point of the school was on the papers presented by the doctoral students. However, these were interspersed with presentations by academics and experts in the various fields. After the presentation by each student, all the students engaged heartily in the ensuing interesting debates. The papers presented were mainly of good quality, others needed clarifications, but overall all the students gave their best and this was evident in the discussions that lingered on in the coffee and lunch breaks. The small size of the group allowed for the creation of a familiar atmosphere that helped to generate the right environment for discussions. This has led to more contacts after the Ph.D school was over to continue to share material and information.

Prof Jacques le Cacheux, as the main organizer, was very constructive in his criticism of the papers presented with helpful ideas and insightful comments on how to improve the academic work. He also made two very useful presentations that served as background to the school's workshop arrangement. He regaled us with his vast knowledge and research. Furthermore, the invited speakers elaborated on the themes in the doctoral papers, by bringing in their own perspective.



The social programme consisted of a walking tour of the lovely picturesque town and several visits to different restaurants within a multicultural milieu which seemed very appropriate, particularly as 2008 is the European Union's year dedicated to cultural diversity. One of the main highlights of the social programme was an invitation for a drink by the mayor of Pau, Madame Martine Lignieres-Cassou.

Rose Marie Azzopardi, University of Sussex

Award-winner papers in the year of 2007/2008

The PhD Award winners in the year 2007/2008 as per the decision of the Steering Group are:

1. **Andrea Schlenker:** Multiple identities in Europe: a conceptual and empirical analysis
2. **Aris Trantidis:** The economic underpinnings of semi-authoritarianism: explaining preferences and power relations in the case of Belarus
3. **Imogen Sudbery:** Europeanisation From the Bottom Up? Analysing 'Usages of Europe' in Poland

[Click here to download the papers](#)

Congratulations for the winners!

III. PAPERS

The role of PhD Online Journal is to widen the awareness of the PhD Schools

and other EU-CONSENT activities where postgraduates participated. This serves as one of the EU-CONSENT missions of bringing together junior and senior researchers. The three papers below are a demonstration of just that.

Andrea Schlenker: Multiple identities in Europe: a conceptual and empirical analysis

This paper analyses citizens' identity on the national and European level conceptually as well as empirically. Concretely the question is addressed whether there is a relationship between identification processes on both levels and whether this relationship is influenced by the way citizens frame their national community with respect to cultural diversity. The paper is structured in two parts. The theoretical framework describes shortly the approach to identity considering its construction through different codes which found different conceptions of political community in terms of inclusiveness and exclusiveness towards cultural diversity, especially through immigration. These conceptions can be transplanted to the European level, resulting in different visions for the EU and supposed differences in the compatibility of national and European identities. In the empirical part Eurobarometer data from 2000 and 2003 is used. Following the theoretical framework the 15 old member states are classified according to their citizens orientations towards cultural diversity. Then the extent of national and European identity is compared across countries and put into



relation to each other as well as to the above mentioned attitudes. It is expected to find a lower degree of European identity in countries where citizen orientations are predominantly exclusive and a higher degree of European identity in countries where such orientations are more inclusive, that is positive towards cultural diversity. Empirical results show that this expectation is not confirmed for all countries under study. Deviating cases are discussed and alternative explanations proposed.

[Click here to download the paper](#)

Imogen Sudbery: Europeanisation From the Bottom Up? Analysing 'Usages of Europe' in Poland

This paper presents the theoretical framework and interim results of a PhD thesis that analyses how women's rights organisations in Poland have used the European Union to effect change at domestic level. In recent years, there has been a shift in the Europeanisation literature away from a linear, top down approach, in which pressure from the EU is considered a necessary condition for change, towards more complex, cyclical models. This 'second generation' of Europeanisation research facilitates the examination of parallel 'bottom-up' mechanisms, whereby change is understood to result from a process of interaction between structure and agency at multiple levels of governance. However, the vast majority of

Europeanisation studies focusing on the new Member States continue to take a 'top down' approach, focusing largely on change to institutional structures. This paper will argue that a conceptual framework drawing on the models elaborated by the 'bottom up' Europeanisation scholars is more appropriate for the analysis of social actors in post-communist contexts. The interim results of the research will then be presented in order to demonstrate how the application of this framework can contribute to addressing current methodological and empirical research gaps, in particular with regard to the differential impact of various EU modes of governance.

[Click here to download the papers](#)

Elna Roig: Individuals, regions and nation-states: Support to the EU and the region identity issue

How do citizens form their attitudes towards the European Union? Do contextual factors have any influence on citizens' attitudes to the EU? In other words, can we explain support to the EU focusing mainly on individual issues or should we look at other levels of influence?

This article examines the regional level effect in forming citizens' attitudes towards the European Union.

Our aim is to give answer to two main issues: to what extent individual regional identity affects their attitudes towards EU and, secondly, whether we can observe different trends among regions



with certain historical or socio-cultural particularities.

So, on the one hand we will test the existence of different levels of analysis in support to the EU and, on the other, socio-political and institutional factors will be compared to the explanatory power of utilitarian and economical theories of support to the EU.

This paper has three sections: firstly we present a brief review of the literature on public opinion and the EU, secondly we propose an explanatory model to understand support to European Union joining together different levels of influence: individual, regional and national, and two kinds of explanatory variables: political and economic. Finally, on the last section we will remark that results of this empirical approach are not only surprising by themselves but also a key factor to understand why some regions are more pro-European than other within the same country. Our results should also be taken into account when we try to understand, for instance, why some traditionally europeist regions seem to reject the European Constitution project.

[Click here to download the papers](#)

IV. Upcoming EU-CONSENT Events and activities (for full information see EU-CONSENT Newsletter and www.eu-consent.net)

**EU-CONSENT lecture
Work Package X 'Teaching'
workshop on the experiences and
test results of the test phase of EU-
CONSENT's teaching units.**
Cologne, date to be announced.

Currently EU-CONSENT partners have been asked to apply the conventional and virtual teaching units in their teaching and dissemination activities. Results of the practical application will be evaluated and discussed at the workshop (date to be announced) which will form the base for the potential redesign and completion of the established teaching units.

August

ECPR Graduate Conference:
25-27 August 2008
Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

All panels, round tables and registration will be located at the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, and campus accommodation will be available. This is an excellent opportunity for graduate students to come together from all over Europe to share their work and experience by presenting papers or by simply observing, and as with all ECPR conferences, there will be a number of social events. The keynote lecture will be delivered by Professor Fred Halliday of the London School of Economics and Political Science.

The academic convenors of the conference are Eileen Connolly (Dublin City University) and Joaquim Molins (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona), members of the ECPR's Executive Committee and Jennifer Sands (University of Leeds) and Robin Pettitt (University of Manchester), members of the ECPR's Graduate Network.



The conference format will consist of open themed panels, roundtables and lectures. Approximately 20-25 sections will be offered (depending on the number of applications received). Each section should contain a minimum of 4 and a maximum of 6 panels. For further information on the conference schedule, please see the day by day timetable.

September

Fourth Pan-European Conference on EU Politics, Organized by the ECPR Standing Group on the European Union 25-27 September 2008, Riga, Latvia
Deadline: 29 February 2008

The ECPR Standing Group's Pan-European Conferences are the largest academic conferences on the European Union in Europe and bring together scholars from all over the world. The Conference has eight sections covering major fields of current research on the EU.

- Theories of European Integration
- EU Institutions and Politics
- Political Economy of the European Union
- EU Law and Policies
- Gender, Diversity, and European Integration
- The Politics and Economics of EU Enlargement
- Foreign Policy and External Relations
- Migration and European Integration

The program chair will accept proposals for BOTH individual papers and whole panels (including a maximum of four papers). Proposals should be made on-line using the conference website: www.jhubc.it/ecpr-riga/

Non-Legislative Methods in EU Integration

Brussels, 19 September 2008
Workshop organised by Team 6 'Enlarged Institutions and Interaction with National Governments' under Work Package IV 'Institutions and Political Actors'

Discussions of the evolution of European governance in the last few years have been strongly shaped by enlargement and institutional reform. As these issues settle down for the meantime, attention can be given in a more focussed way to consideration of the relative merits of different approaches and instruments in addressing areas of common concern.

This workshop is a preparatory step for a publication by the European Institute of Public Administration (EIPA) in the framework of EU-CONSENT, which will provide an assessment of the main forms of non-legislative approaches within the broader perspective of the Better Regulation agenda and the Treaty of Lisbon.

While Better Regulation involves the improvement of the quality of legislative proposals, the openness and responsiveness of the decision-making process, the reduction of unnecessary or overlapping rules and the simplification of the laws, the consideration of alternatives to laws and regulations is also essential for a better regulatory environment.

This one-day workshop will address basic questions as to whether the Open Method of Coordination and Alternative Methods of Regulation continue to offer



viable policy options in the enlarged Union. We will focus on the OMC, Social Dialogue and Co-regulation, but would welcome contributions on other aspects related to Better Law Making in the EU-27.

Applications to participate in the workshop should be sent to Sonia Piedrafita (s.piedrafita@eipa.eu) before 2 June 2008, together with an abstract of the paper in case you are willing to be considered for the publication. The complete papers should be delivered by 2 September 2008. A provisional programme for the event is available at www.eu-consent.net.

**Exchanging Ideas on Europe 2008
Rethinking the European Union**
1-3 September 2008
Edinburgh, UK

The 38th UACES Annual Conference is an opportunity to interact with delegates from a broad range of European-related disciplines. As well as plenary sessions, there will be a large number of research papers presented at this event. The conference will be hosted by the [Edinburgh Europa Institute](http://www.edinburgh.europa.institute) who celebrate their 40th birthday in 2008.

October

**Towards Increased Policy
Effectiveness: Inter-institutional
dialogues in the Enlarged Union**

Brussels, 1-2 October, 2008

Workshop organized by Team 9 'Institutionalising Access: European Civil Society after Enlargement' under Work Package IV 'Institutions and Political Actors'

Team 9 would like to continue its analysis of the transformation of the

institutions for civil society participation in an enlarged Union by focussing on the inter-institutional relations activated by the decision-making processes surrounding specific policies.

The term "dialogue" is often used in the EU to indicate the involvement of representatives of subnational authorities (SNAs), social partners (SPs), and civil society organizations (CSOs) in policy areas such as economic growth and labour policy. "Territorial dialogue" indicates the active involvement of some European regions in the implementation of the Lisbon objectives. "Social dialogue" indicates the institutional arrangements for arriving at tripartite agreements in the field of labour policy. "Structured dialogue" denotes attempts at enlisting the help of European regions on a number of cross-cutting issues that can powerfully affect the overall performance of the Union: on democracy (with Commissioner Wallström), on neighbourhood (with Commissioner Ferrero-Waldner), on regional, national and EU budgets and EMU (with Commissioner Almunia), just to mention a few. In all of these cases, the term indicates new modes of inter-institutional relations.

Our purpose is to call for papers that look at the impact of enlargement on EU inter-institutional relations, by looking at specific policies, such as policies that try to carry out the Lisbon objectives, e.g., cohesion and higher education policies, but also labour and social policy, neighbourhood policy, energy policy, and so on. This will give us a new focus for



analysis that will complement the focus on institutional change already charted by WP IV during the first half of the life of the network.

We would like to invite submission of papers, ready to be submitted for "publication" on the EU-CONSENT webpage, from within and without the network to be discussed in some depth during the four sessions of the workshop. We envision at the moment roughly 8-12 papers, to be presented during the two half-days of the workshop: should there be more we could run two parallel sections. Depending on the degree of interest from members of other Teams and other WPs, and on the number of paper proposals also from graduate students, we may consider proposing a publication of the contributions. The deadline for applications is 1 July.

Draft programme:

Panel 1: CoR in Enlarged Union: new opportunities in policy making?

Panel 2: EESC and Social Dialogue in Enlarged Union: new opportunities in policy making?

For more information, contact Milena Bigatto (mb.eu-consent@soc.unitn.it).

November

Internal Market and Domestic Legitimacy

Bruges, November 2008

Workshop organised by Work Package VI 'Economic and Social Policies for an Expanding Europe'

Following the successful conference held in April 2007 on the 'Internal Market in a Tri-disciplinary Perspective', the College of Europe, in the framework of EU-

CONSENT WP VI (Economic and Social Policies for an expanding Europe), is pleased to announce that a conference on 'Internal Market and Domestic Legitimacy' will take place at the College of Europe in November 2008. EU-Consent members are invited, subject to a participation ceiling for budgetary reasons.

While the conference of April 2007 dealt with the broader issues related to the internal market, this conference aims at exploring in detail specific areas of European market integration. In particular, this year, the sessions will be devoted to the following topics:

Product Market Reforms and the Better

1. Functioning of the Internal Market
2. Social Aspects of European Market Integration
3. Healthcare and the Internal Market
4. Interest v. Identity? Member States Loyalties towards the Internal Market.

As in the previous conference, the multidisciplinary perspective will be the methodological approach for exploring the topics above. Each topic will therefore be tackled by prominent scholars from a legal, an economic and a political perspective with the view of increasing mutual understanding and cross-fertilization amongst these disciplines.

Please note that a few (advanced) PhD students can present papers, before the actual start of the conference.

The finalized programme of the conference will be available in the summer 2008. The organisers hope to publish the revised papers. For further



information and possible participation/enrolment to the conference, please contact Matteo Negrinotti (mnegrinotti@coleurop.be).

April 2009

EUSA Biennial International Conference

23-25 April, 2009

Los Angeles, California

The European Union Studies Association invites scholars and practitioners engaged in the study of Europe and the European Union to submit panel and paper proposals for its 2009 Eleventh Biennial International Conference, April 23-25 in Los Angeles, California. This conference also marks the 20th anniversary of EUSA.

The Program Committee plans to promote the broadest possible exchange of theoretical approaches, disciplinary perspectives and research agendas. Please note the following:

1. On the basics of paper and panel proposals:

We welcome both paper and panel proposals, particularly those that foster transatlantic dialogue. Panel proposals need to consist of three to four papers.

Participants are limited to two appearances on the conference program (two papers or one paper and one discussant role; chair roles do not count toward the appearance limit). Participants should therefore submit no more than two proposals.

For organizational reasons, the program is subdivided into six substantive sections (integration theory, institutions,

political economy, political sociology, law and public policy, external relations). Please indicate for which section you would like to be considered. Note that there is no fixed number of panels for each section. Choosing one section rather than another does not enhance or diminish your chances of having your paper or panel accepted.

2. On a new presentational format for EUSA 2009:

For papers that we judge meritorious but which cannot be included in regular panels, we will offer a new format instead of poster sessions. In two time-slots during the conference (on Friday and Saturday morning) several papers will be grouped in thematic "workshops" around a round table. Presenters will give extremely brief (3-4 minute) statements and then move to discussion. Multiple workshops will run concurrently in a large room, such that visitors can move around and sit in on discussions. Our hope is that this format will preserve some of the openness of poster sessions but will provide more substantive interaction.

3. Teaching workshops:

EUSA offers two time slots for teaching workshops during the conference. For more information, please refer to the call for teaching workshops that will be published separately.

4. Other conditions:

The Program Committee reserves the right to make changes to organized panel proposals, including their composition.



You do not need to be an EUSA member to submit a proposal, but all those appearing on the conference program must be current EUSA members.

We cannot honor individual scheduling requests; by submitting a proposal you agree to be available from 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, April 23rd through 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 25th.

The firm deadline for **receipt** of paper and panel proposals is **September 30, 2008**. We regret that we cannot

consider proposals received after this date. You will be notified of the Program Committee's decision regarding your proposal by December 15, 2008.

All proposals must be submitted via the online proposal submission forms, which will be located at **www.eustudies.org** beginning August 4, 2008. Proposals must be submitted via the website. Address all questions about the proposal process to **eusa@pitt.edu** or by telephone to **412.648.7635**.

