

International Online-Workshop

Redefining Europe?

East-West relations revisited

July 9th 2020, 13.30 - 16.00

July 10th 2020, 09.00 - 10.45 & 14.00 - 15.30



The **Center for Advanced Studies at Eurac Research** in cooperation with **the Institute of Political Science at the University of Leipzig** would like to offer a platform for an exchange of ideas and invites to an international workshop on July, 9th and 10th 2020 in Bozen-Bolzano. Experts coming from different areas of study and from the practice, will provide insights into developments and future perspectives of international relations in the European context.

Thirty years ago, the Soviet Union collapsed, fifteen years ago the great eastward expansion of the European Union (EU) started. These events were accompanied by much hope and optimism. Today, the people in the east of the EU are among the strongest supporters of the Union, but the wave of refugees on the Balkan route and growing income disparities, are also raising doubts about the benefits of European integration. In addition, a series of surveys conducted by the Pew Research Center between 2015 and 2017 revealed a gap in many attitudes towards social issues, religion and minorities between Western, Central and Eastern Europe. Historical experience and migration are among the main reasons why East and West have never really grown together. In fact, through increasing migration the differences and gaps between East and West became evident on a broad level. Another reason is that in spite of the formal process of integration in the course of the EU-enlargements, the EU structures and logics remained predominantly shaped by the mentality of the founding members. There was not really a process of renegotiation after the enlargements, thus, even hindering a real integration between old and new member states.

The current context of the economic crisis and political instability highlights an increasingly urgent need for Europe to build a stronger identity and community, in order to put up an united front outwards, to keep being economically competitive and having political weight at the global level. Furthermore, the actual COVID-19 crisis encourages us to reflect even more on what Europe is all about and in which direction developments should go.

In order to achieve a European integration with a strong cohesion, a deeper understanding and mutual appreciation among EU community members, as well as among them and external political and commercial non-EU partners (e.g. Russia) is desirable. Various questions arise in this context:

- **How can European countries achieve and develop an intercultural competence, in order to better understand and negotiate with partner states?**
- **How can stereotypes and reciprocal wrong perceptions be abated to foster cooperation and future developments?**

There are no simple answers, but the need for discussion and to develop new approaches is of great relevance and interest.

Program

Thursday, July, 9th 2020

13:30	<p>Welcome and Opening Harald Pechlaner, Head Center for Advanced Studies, Eurac Research Ireneusz Paweł Karolewski, Institute of Political Science, University of Leipzig</p>
13:45	<p>Presentation Project “Cooperative efforts between Europe’s East and West” Harald Pechlaner, Head Center for Advanced Studies, Eurac Research Mirjam Gruber, Researcher at the Center for Advanced Studies, Eurac Research</p>
14:00	<p>Discussion 1: Perspectives on Eastern and Western relations Chair: Harald Pechlaner</p>
	<p><i>Gender equality and family discourses in Hungary and Poland in the context of right-wing populism</i> Dorota Szelewa, University College Dublin</p>
	<p><i>Populism, anti-populism, and the EU</i> Carlo Ruzza, School of International Studies, University of Trento</p>
	<p><i>Institution-building in the post-Soviet transitional countries: a case study of the Ukrainian party system</i> Andrey Meleshevich, National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy, Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence in European Studies</p>
15:00- 16:00	<p>Discussion 2: Identity and Integration Chair: Ireneusz Paweł Karolewski</p>
	<p><i>European and Eurasian integration: Any opportunity for convergence in the post-Soviet space?</i> Yulia Nikitina, World Politics Department, Center for the Post-Soviet Studies, Moscow State University of International Relations</p>
	<p><i>EU at its Hamiltonian moment. Can the US history set a path for the future of the European integration?</i> Karol Chwedczuk-Szulc, University of Wrocław</p>
	<p><i>Creeping community: European identity in times of global crises</i> Aleksandra Sojka, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid</p>

Friday, July, 10th 2020

Morning	
9:00	<p>Welcome and Opening</p> <p>Harald Pechlaner, Head Center for Advanced Studies, Eurac Research</p> <p>Ireneusz Paweł Karolewski, Institute of Political Science, University of Leipzig</p>
9:15	<p>Democratic Backsliding in CEE</p> <p>Ireneusz Paweł Karolewski, Institute of Political Science, University of Leipzig</p>
9:30-10:45	<p>Discussion 3: Economic and political developments</p> <p>Chair: Harald Pechlaner</p>
	<p><i>Poland's reluctant approach to EMU-membership: does Germany matter?</i></p> <p>Sebastian Plocienik, Polish Institute of International Affairs (PISM) and Vistula University in Warsaw</p>
	<p><i>The Vienna Initiative, a public-private partnership for financial cooperation between East and West Europe</i></p> <p>Filip Keereman, European Commission</p>
	<p><i>Differentiation in transatlantic relations. Does West-East divide matter in the US relations with the EU member states?</i></p> <p>Magdalena Gora, Institute of European Studies, Jagiellonian University</p>
	<p><i>The pandemic shock and the convergence process: why 'Next generation – EU' is crucial</i></p> <p>Marcello Messeri, Luiss School of European Political Economy, Rome</p>

Noon			
14:00-15:00	Parallel Workshops		
	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top; padding: 5px;"> <p>Topic 1: <i>How can stereotypes and reciprocal wrong perceptions be abated to foster cooperation and future developments?</i></p> <p>Moderation: Ireneusz Paweł Karolewski</p> <p>With: Yulia Nikitina Karol Chwedczuk-Szulc Magdalena Gora Filip Keereman</p> </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top; padding: 5px;"> <p>Topic 2: <i>How can European countries achieve and develop an intercultural competence, in order to better understand and negotiate with partner states?</i></p> <p>Moderation: Harald Pechlaner</p> <p>INPUT: <i>Intercultural communication between Eastern and Western Europe</i> Denys Lifintsev, Kyiv National Economic University named after Vadym Hetman</p> <p>With: Aleksandra Sojka Carlo Ruzza Andrey Meleshevich</p> </td> </tr> </table>	<p>Topic 1: <i>How can stereotypes and reciprocal wrong perceptions be abated to foster cooperation and future developments?</i></p> <p>Moderation: Ireneusz Paweł Karolewski</p> <p>With: Yulia Nikitina Karol Chwedczuk-Szulc Magdalena Gora Filip Keereman</p>	<p>Topic 2: <i>How can European countries achieve and develop an intercultural competence, in order to better understand and negotiate with partner states?</i></p> <p>Moderation: Harald Pechlaner</p> <p>INPUT: <i>Intercultural communication between Eastern and Western Europe</i> Denys Lifintsev, Kyiv National Economic University named after Vadym Hetman</p> <p>With: Aleksandra Sojka Carlo Ruzza Andrey Meleshevich</p>
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15:00-15:30	<p>Short Presentation results of Workshops & discussion possible output (projects, publication, networks...)</p> <p>INPUT: <i>Current possibilities of european projects</i></p> <p>Viachaslau Nikitsin, Deggendorf Institute of Technology, European Campus Rottal-Inn Pfarrkirchen, Germany</p>		