



ENP IN A COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVE

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

KEY CHALLENGES AND MAJOR LESSONS

THURSDAY & FRIDAY, 20 - 21 MARCH 2014, BRUGES

CALL FOR PAPERS

The Department of EU International Relations and Diplomacy Studies at the College of Europe invites scholars to submit proposals for papers to be presented at an international conference on 20-21 March 2014 in Bruges, Belgium. The conference benefits from the financial support of the European Commission.

Deadline for submission of abstracts: 8 January 2014

The working language of the conference is English. Accepted paper proposals will be organised in thematic panels with discussants. Participation is free of charge. The organisers will cover the speakers' travel costs, accommodation and meals during the conference.

PURPOSE OF THE CONFERENCE

In the growing academic literature on the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) the comparative perspective has so far not attracted much scholarly attention. Yet, in order to further develop the ENP it is crucial to understand the European Union's neighbourhood policies in a wider sense and the commonalities as well as differences of these policies, which range from pre-accession and multilateral structures to specific bilateral partnerships with the EU.

The two-day conference aims to analyse and compare the legal, institutional, political, security, economic and financial challenges that these integration models are confronted with in order to identify lessons for the ENP. Although the co-operation has taken different forms and shapes, there are many common or similar challenges that the neighbouring countries have to cope with in their relations with the EU.

Based on a comparative approach, the key question to be addressed by the papers is to what extent common challenges can be identified across different policy frameworks and what conclusions can be drawn, in particular for the ENP.

A first, related conference on "The ENP in a Comparative Perspective: Mapping the EU's Wider Neighbourhood Relations" took place in November 2013 in order to put the ENP into context (see www.coleurope.eu/ENPComparativePerspective). It focused on a comparison of the different co-operation schemes that the EU has developed with neighbouring countries. The models discussed *inter alia* included the pre-accession strategy, the Stabilisation and Association Process in the Balkans, the EU-Turkey customs union, the European Economic Area (EEA), the EU-Swiss bilateralism, the EU's Northern Dimension, and the EU-Russia Strategic Partnership.



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Taking a more horizontal and sectoral perspective, the conference in March 2014 concentrates on specific, cross-cutting challenges that these models face and that are also relevant for the ENP and its future development.

Selected papers of the two conferences will be edited and published in a peer-reviewed book with an international publisher.

POSSIBLE TOPICS

Possible panel topics, within which specific research questions aiming at a comparison with the ENP may be embedded, include:

- **Legal and Institutional Challenges:** legal approximation and static vs. dynamic adaptation to the *acquis*; institutional frameworks and participation in relevant EU decision-making processes; surveillance, enforcement and dispute settlement mechanisms; regulatory convergence (e.g. normalisation, certification); other relevant questions (e.g. Pan-Euro-Med cumulation of rules of origins; intellectual property rights; mobility of persons); ...
- **Economic and Financial Challenges:** economic reforms; trade and development issues (e.g. WTO-related issues, investments, agriculture); financial instruments and co-operation programmes; relations with alternative non-EU integration projects (e.g. Eurasian Union); ...
- **Political and Security Challenges:** political reforms and conditionality; frozen conflicts and CFSP; transnational factors of destabilisation (e.g. organised crime); *'finalité'* and role of accession perspective; connecting different co-operation schemes; ...

SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS

Please submit **paper abstracts** of approximately **500 words** along with a **brief CV résumé** (1-2 paragraphs) to Prof. Sieglinde Gstöhl and Prof. Erwan Lannon via the e-mail address ENPComparativePerspective@coleurope.eu **no later than 8 January 2014**. All proposals will be reviewed and the organisers will soon thereafter take a decision. A key criterion will be the comparative dimension of the proposals. Confirmed participants are expected to provide complete **drafts of their papers**, which should not exceed **8,000 words**, in electronic form **by 9 March 2014**.

CONTACT

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