EU Centres Conference

Europe: New Leadership, New Directions?

23+24 November 2015
Auckland, New Zealand
EU Centres Conference

Welcome to the joint EU Centres Conference which held on 23 + 24 November 2015 in Auckland, New Zealand! In this booklet you will find the conference programme as well as all abstract and bios. We hope you arrive safely and enjoy your stay.

Co-organisers & Sponsors
ANU Centre for European Studies (ANUCES)
European Commission
European Parliament to Campus Programme sponsored by Candriam
European Union (EU) Centre at RMIT
EU Centre for Global Affairs at the University of Adelaide
New Zealand European Union Centres Network (EUCN)
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General Information for Conference Participants

The conference registration will be open from 8.30am on both conference days. Please make sure that you sign the attendance sheet for BOTH days of the conference.

If you have any concerns or problems during the conference please see or contact Yvonne Grosch (yvonne.grosch@canterbury.ac.nz). In urgent cases ring Yvonne via mobile phone on +64 21 1845 942.

Transport

Auckland Airport – to and from
Many transport options are available for getting to and from Auckland Airport, which is conveniently located between both Auckland city and Manukau city. A number of bus, shuttle and taxi services can be picked up from the terminal forecourts.

Please allow plenty of time when travelling to and from the airport to allow for any delays and ensure you arrive in time for your flight.

Airbus Express
This is Auckland’s airport transfer service from Auckland City and Auckland Airport, operating 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Every 10 minutes weekdays (7am to 7pm)
Every 15 minutes on weekends (6am to 7pm)
Evening departures every 20 minutes and overnight every 30 minutes.

Tickets are available online, from the bus driver (cash only), selected city hostels, hotels and Auckland i-Sites, or the ticket machine at the Airport Ticket Kiosks.

For more information please visit https://www.aucklandairport.co.nz/ToAndFromTheAirport/PublicTransport/Buses.aspx

Taxis and Shuttles
Auckland Airport licenses specific taxi and shuttle companies to ensure airport visitors and travelers receive a high standard of service. All taxi and shuttle companies are able to drop you off at the airport, however only licensed companies are able to pick you up from the designated taxi ranks at the terminal buildings.

Taxi and shuttle ranks are located outside the arrivals area (door 8) at the international terminal and outside the Jetstar forecourt at the domestic terminal. You can pre-book or just turn up at the terminal ranks – taxis and shuttles are always available.
Indicative fares from the airport to the city is between NZ$75-NZ$90 one-way and shuttles NZ$33 for one person, plus NZ$8 for each extra person together in the group.

For more information please visit https://www.aucklandairport.co.nz/ToAndFromTheAirport/PublicTransport/TaxisAndShuttles.aspx

**Between the Hotel and Conference Venue**
The conference will be held at the Auckland University of Technology (AUT) city campus. The building can be entered from Wellesley Street. AUT is an easy 7-10 minutes’ walk away from the hotel. No group transport will be provided. Please make your own way to the conference venue.

Please refer to the maps below for walking directions.
**Hotel Information**

**The Langham Auckland**

83 Symonds Street  
Auckland 1010  
New Zealand

Phone +64 (9) 379 5132  
www.langhamhotels.com

We have booked two nights of accommodation for each presenter, arriving on Sunday, 22 November and departing on Tuesday, 24 November. We have booked a room for these two nights unless you requested any additional nights at your own costs.

Check-in will be available as of 3pm on your arrival day. Free wireless internet and breakfast is included in the booking.

Please note that we will be covering costs for accommodation and breakfast only for presenters. We will NOT be able to cover any additional services or charges. Please ensure that you will cover them upon check-out.

As you surely understand, the preparations for the conference have progressed and the EU Centres had to make commitments to the hotel and other suppliers. If you have to withdraw from the conference now, you will be required to pay two nights of hotel accommodation. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation.

It takes approx. 10 minutes to walk from the hotel to the conference venue. You will find a map above.
Welcome Reception

A Welcome Reception will be held at the Europe House. The Europe House is located on the AUT City Campus WO Building, 56 Wakefield St, Level 16. The main entrance to the building is level 3. Please take the lifts up to level 16.

Please see the maps below.
Europe House is in the WO Building on the corner of Wakefield Street and St Paul St.
Conference Dinner
An official conference dinner will be held on Monday evening, starting at 19:30 in the Wintergarden of The Northern Club, 19 Princess Street, Auckland.

www.northernclub.co.nz

The Northern Club is an easy stroll of approximately 15-20 minutes away from the hotel. Please make your own way to the dinner.
Your Presentation & Conference Procedures

Please make sure that you sign the registration sheet before the start of the conference. You will receive a printed conference booklet containing the programme and abstracts at the registration on Monday morning. Please check the booklet for the room in which your presentation will be in.

Sessions will be 90 minutes in length, divided by three (in some cases four) presenters. Presentations will be 15 to 20 minutes in length followed by approx. 5 minutes of Q&A. There are resident computers in the rooms.

In case you are using or creating your presentation not in Microsoft Powerpoint please save your presentation as true ppt or pptx before arriving in Auckland. If you encounter technical difficulties please contact Yvonne.

Please note that internet access will be available at the hotel but cannot be guaranteed at the conference venue. There will be no printing facilities at the venue.
PROGRAMME

The conference will be held at the Auckland University of Technology, City Campus in the WA and WG buildings. Please see the maps above. There will be NO group transport between the hotel and the conference, reception or dinner venue, as everything is within easy walking distance.

Sunday, 22 November 2015

| 18:00-20:00 | Reception at ‘Europe House’
| | Auckland University of Technology, 56 Wakefield St, Building W0 – Floor 16 |

Monday, 23 November 2015

| 08:30 | Registration
| | Venue: WG201 Forum |
| 09:00 | Welcome to the Conference
| | Venue: WA224 Conference Room |

Welcome
Prof Martin Holland, Director, EUCN

Introductory Address: The EU as a Driver for Change?
presented by H.E. Sem Fabrizi, Ambassador, Delegation of the European Union to Australia and New Zealand

| 09:45 | Session 1A
| Room: WG808 | Politics and Perceptions of EU Norms Promotion in the Wider European Space
| | Chair: Natalia Chaban & James Headley |
| James Headley | Thickening EU Norms: Internal-External Links and Political Implications |
| Natalia Chaban | Reflecting on Normative Power Europe: Comparing Internal and External Narratives in the EU and Ukraine |
| Milenko Petrovic | Powerful Norms or Powerful Politics: The EU’s normative power and the EUROpeanisation of the post-communist Western Balkans |
| Session 1B | Migration and Mobilities: Challenges for Europe (1)  
Chair: Fiona Barker |
|------------|--------------------------------------------------|
|            | Philomena Murray  
Europe’s Asylum Crisis – a crisis of legitimacy and leadership? |
|            | Shepard Masocha  
“This is about our hearts and our heads” Representations of compassion in parliamentary discourses relating to UK government’s response to the refugee crisis |

| 11:15      | Morning Tea  
Venue: WG201 Forum |

| 11:30      | Session 2A  
Room: WG808  
The EU’s Approach to Free Trade  
Chair: Bruce Wilson |
|------------|--------------------------------------------------|
|            | Annmarie Elijah  
Is the CETA liberalizing? An early assessment of the Canada-EU trade deal |
|            | Bruno Mascitelli  
The EU and its new leadership - An unexpected development - Discussions for a Free Trade Agreement with Australia |
|            | Peter Zamborsky & Maureen Benson-Rea  
The business interactions underpinning a European-New Zealand free trade agreement |

| Session 2B | Migration and Mobilities: Challenges for Europe (2)  
Chair: Kate McMillan |
|------------|--------------------------------------------------|
|            | Fiona Barker  
Navigating Migration, Religion and Identity in the EU Capital: Providing Representation for a Diversifying Citizenry |
|            | Kate McMillan  
Regional human mobility regimes and the electoral participation of regionally mobile citizens: comparing the EU and Australasian experiences |
|            | Caitlin Daugherty-Kelly  
A Long Walk Home: North African Unaccompanied Minors Entering the EU |
|            | Tom Milton  
Freedom of Movement Within the European Union: Explaining Britain and Germany’s differing Interests and Approaches |

| 13:15      | Lunch  
Venue: WG201 Forum |
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session 3A</th>
<th>European Policies and the Growth Agenda</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14:00</td>
<td>Room: WG808</td>
<td>Chair: Caroline Saunders</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Europe Rebuilding after the Global Financial Crisis: the Unsung Role of Regional Policy in generating a more Competitive Europe; some Early Empirical Evidence from the ‘Smart Specialisation’ Policy Phase (2014-2020)</td>
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<td>Hazel Moir</td>
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<td>Geographic Indications: reducing anti-competitive impacts</td>
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<td>Serena Kelly</td>
<td>Charting the EU’s local salience: how the EU is portrayed in the local NZ print media</td>
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session 3B</th>
<th>Migration and Mobilities: Challenges for Europe (3)</th>
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<tr>
<td>14:00</td>
<td>Room: WG809</td>
<td>Chair: Philomena Murray</td>
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<td>Heidi Hetz</td>
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<td>Dominant and Marginalised Narratives on Asylum in the Context of Australian History, Identity and Desired Future</td>
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<td>Heather Anderson</td>
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<td>“We are learning to like the sounds of our own voices” - Exploring the potential of radio to strengthen refugee resettlement</td>
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<tr>
<td>15:30</td>
<td>Conference Group Photo</td>
<td>WG201 Forum</td>
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<td>15:35</td>
<td>Afternoon tea</td>
<td>WG201 Forum</td>
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| 15:45 | **Session 4A**  
Room: WG808 | **Politics in the EU**  
Chair: Milenko Petrovic |
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<td>Robert Mezyk</td>
<td>Stability of the Eurozone – a new fundamental principle of the EU law?</td>
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<td>Juergen Mittag</td>
<td>From governmental to parliamentary leadership in the European Union? The 2014 EP election and its implications for party politics at the European level</td>
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<td>Hazel Moir</td>
<td>The European Patent Office: a rogue organisation?</td>
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| 16:15 | **Session 4B**  
Room: WG809 | **The EU and Development Issues**  
Chair: Serena Kelly |
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<td>Milos Blucher</td>
<td>EU Development Aid and Chronically Underfunded Countries</td>
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<td>Meike Guenther</td>
<td>Impacts of changes in consumption, production and trade policies in China and India on the European Union and New Zealand</td>
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<td>Lagipoiva Cherelle Jackson</td>
<td>How the EU Visa waiver affects Pacific migration to Europe</td>
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| 17:15 | **Plenary session**  
Room: WA224 Conference Room |
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Introduction and Chair: HE Sem Fabrizi</td>
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<td><strong>Keynote 2: Baroness Emma Nicholson</strong>, Former Member, European Parliament</td>
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| 18:15 | **Meeting of EU Centres Directors or Representatives and H.E. Sem Fabrizi**  
Venue: WG609 |
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<tr>
<th>19:30</th>
<th><strong>Conference Dinner</strong></th>
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|       | **The Northern Club**  
19 Princess Street, Auckland  
[www.northernclub.co.nz](http://www.northernclub.co.nz) |
<p>|       | The Northern Club is an easy 15-20 minutes stroll away from your hotel. You will find a map with walking directions in the conference booklet. |</p>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Chair</th>
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<tr>
<td>09:00</td>
<td>Session 5A</td>
<td>EU in Global Affairs</td>
<td>Annick Masselot</td>
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<td>Room: WG808</td>
<td>C-M Liang EU between internal and external challenges</td>
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<td>Elizabeth Buchanan Situating the Arctic in the EU-Russia relationship:</td>
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<td>conflict or cooperation?</td>
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<td>Jessica Gould Norms versus Interests: The Driving Force behind</td>
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<td>Georgia’s External Relations with the European Union</td>
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<td>10:30</td>
<td>Morning</td>
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<td>Venue: WG201 Forum</td>
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<td>10:45</td>
<td>Session 6A</td>
<td>Tensions in the EU</td>
<td>Annmarie Elijah</td>
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<td>Room: WG808</td>
<td>Athanasios Lazarou Greece and the Referendum: Mapping the Space of</td>
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<td>Public Assembly Within European Membership</td>
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<td>David Mayes &amp; Giannoula Karamichailido EMU – Bringing Europe closer</td>
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<td>together or pulling it apart: Aspects of the Greek Tragedy</td>
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<td>Annick Masselot The Impact of the EU Social Investment Package on</td>
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<td>Childcare: Going Beyond the Economic Imperative?</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:45</td>
<td>Session 6B</td>
<td>The EU, Energy and Environment</td>
<td>Jeff McNeill</td>
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<td>Room: WG809</td>
<td>Nicholas Smith The complexities of the Russia-Ukraine-EU energy</td>
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<td>relationship: Short term cooperation, long term competition</td>
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<td>Berengere Greenland Perceptions of energy in France: Comparison of</td>
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<td>the framing of nuclear energy in Left wing and Right wing media</td>
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<td>12:15</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>Venue: WG201 Forum</td>
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| 13:00 | Session 7 | EU Leadership in Diverse Policy Areas  
Chair: Bruno Mascitelli |
|       | Caroline Saunders | Consumer preferences for attributes in food and beverages in developed and emerging export markets and their impact on the European Union and New Zealand |
|       | Ashleigh Alberts | Third Generation Dutch Immigrants in NZ: Role in Public Diplomacy |
|       | Bruce Wilson | Regional Innovation, Economic Futures and the Eurozone: New Leadership, New Directions |
| 14:30 | Conclusion and Wrap up | Room: WA224  
Prof Martin Holland |
KEYNOTES

H.E. Mr. Sem Fabrizi
Ambassador and Head of Delegation
Delegation of the European Union to Australia and to New Zealand

Sem Fabrizi has been Ambassador and Head of the Delegation of the European Union to Australia and to New Zealand since September 2013.

An Italian career diplomat, he served as Advisor for External Relations to the President of the European Council in Brussels (2010 - 2013), responsible for Asia and MENA regions and global architecture (G8/G20). Prior to that, he was Diplomatic Advisor for EU and Asian affairs (2008 - 09) and for Asian and African affairs (2006 - 2008) in the Italian Prime Minister's Office in Rome.

He was Head of the European Parliament Office in the Italian Permanent Representative Mission to the EU in Brussels (2009 - 2010) and has also served in Geneva at the Italian Permanent Mission to the WTO and other International Organisations (2002 - 2005), and in Beijing as Deputy Head of the Economic and Commercial Office at the Italian Embassy in the People's Republic of China (1999 - 2002).

At the MFA in Rome he was responsible for the Common Agricultural Policy Agenda 2000 negotiations for the EU Department (1996 - 1999); and Member of the Coordination Unit of the Secretary General (2005 - 2006).

He holds degrees in International Law and International Economy from La Sapienza University in Rome, and completed the postgraduate programme in diplomacy at the School of Government of LUISS University, Rome.


Married to Rebecca, with three children, Filippo, Altiero, and Jacopo, he was born in Italy.
Baroness Emma Nicholson

Emma Nicholson was born in Oxfordshire and brought up on a small family farm. Her father was a Member of Parliament and like her mother came from a long line of politicians, farmers and businessmen.

Emma entered the House of Commons in 1987 for a large, West Country farming constituency. She took her seat in the House of Lords in 1997, and she continued to serve as a working peer after her 1999 election to the European Parliament. In 2009 she became a member of the U.K. Delegation to the Parliament of the Council of Europe.

Her focus is always on foreign policy and human rights and common defence and security policy.

In her private time she chairs five charities in Russia, Romania, Lebanon, Iraq and the US. She is a lifelong supporter of the Commonwealth with a body of work in Africa and India.

She studied at the Royal Academy of Music and trained and practiced as a computer software engineer and management consultant. Her home is in Westminster where she welcomes international guests to visit parliament close by.
INDIVIDUAL AND CO-AUTHORED PAPERS

A to E

ALBERTS, Ashleigh
Third Generation Dutch Immigrants in NZ: Role in Public Diplomacy

New Zealand (NZ) and the Netherlands (NL) have a strong link, dating back to 1642 when Abel Tasman became the first European to sight the coastline (Schouten, 1992). In the 1950’s NZ required migrants to strengthen the labour force, so a large number emigrated from the NL (Hofstede 1964; van der Pas and Poot, 2011). There is an estimated 55,000 third generation (3G) Dutch immigrants in NZ (van der Pas and Poot, 2011). Given this strong link, how does the diasporic influence of 3G Dutch immigrants in NZ affect public diplomacy between NZ and NL? Interviews, questionnaires and a media analysis will be conducted to answer this question. The anticipated results are that some will feel a stronger connection than others. There is an opportunity to strengthen ties between NZ and NZ culturally, politically, and economically, through the third generation of Dutch immigrants.

Ms Ashleigh Alberts
University of Canterbury
Aja119@uclive.ac.nz
Ashleigh Alberts graduated 2014 with a Bachelor’s Degree (majoring in Psychology, minor Geography) and had only taken one paper in EU studies, but had found a great passion for this study area. With both sets of grandparent’s coming to New Zealand in the first wave of migration after WWII, it is clear to see how her honours’ dissertation came to be; a personal connection and wider research context with supervisor Associate Professor Natalia Chaban.

ANDERSON, Heather
“We are learning to like the sounds of our own voices” - Exploring the potential of radio to strengthen refugee resettlement

The paper draws and extends on a growing body of research on community radio that identifies its important role in community development and communication for social change (see for example Dahal 2013; Anderson 2012, van Vuuren 2008; Meadows et al 2007; Tacchi 2002; Girard 1992). It focuses on an action research project currently underway in Adelaide, Australia, that is investigating solutions to the challenges of resettlement for refugee youth, through their engagement in radio production. It compares this work to similar media projects being held across the European Union and considers the transferability of such a project to a European setting, where community radio is a less established sector.
This research views engagement in media production as an alternate form of enacting one’s citizenship – what Rodriguez (2001) refers to as citizens’ media. Citizenship can be more significant for refugees than for other migrants who have left their home countries voluntarily (Haggis and Schech 2010) and Nyers (2005) argues that without a state to recognise their citizenship rights and take responsibility for them, refugees lack a political voice. Therefore it is interesting to note that Ewart (2012) found ethnic audiences value community radio because it allows them to negotiate their participation in the broader social and political life of Australia.

A strong theme of ethnic radio broadcasting is that it strengthens integration by maintaining community connections and networks. This refers to creating and maintaining social life, community spirit and connections between members of the same community, and is especially important to emerging communities who may not have the range of avenues available to more established communities. The Community Media Matters report (Meadows et al 2007, p.79) found that for some, “radio is often the only source of information for this emerging community which is still to make solid connections between new arrivals and those already-established”. While there are other avenues for newly arrived refugees to engage in media production and to access media in their own language, radio is still a popular choice (Meadows et al 2007; Ang et al 2006; Lawe Davies 2005), but is yet to be given rigorous academic attention.

Dr Heather Anderson
University of South Australia
Heather.Anderson@unisa.edu.au

Dr Heather Anderson is a Journalism Lecturer at the University of South Australia in Adelaide. She has been a community radio practitioner nearly 25 years, mostly in Brisbane at the radio station, 4ZZZ, where she has worked and volunteered as a program producer and presenter, journalist, project coordinator and board member. Heather specialises in radio production with marginalised groups to explore voice, empowerment and alternative means of enacting one’s citizenship. She published her first book, Raising the Civil Dead: Prisoners and Community Radio, in 2012 through Peter Lang. Heather is currently working on a refugee youth radio project at UniSA.

BARKER, Fiona
Navigating Migration, Religion and Identity in the EU Capital: Providing Representation for a Diversifying Citizenry

Migration flows present an ongoing and pressing external challenge to the EU and to individual member states. While the current media and political focus is on migrant/refugee flows themselves, how member state governments approach the issue is informed at least in part by their prior experiences of non-EU migration flows, migrant integration and by their current experience of the diversification of their citizenry, voters and, in turn, elected representatives. societies and polities.

This paper examines the diversification of regional and federal parliaments in Belgium, a case study
that helps us to understand the broader politics of ethnicity, migration and representation across EU member states. Studies of representation have begun trying to map and explain patterns of representation by migrant-background and ethnic minority (MEM) politicians in contemporary democracies. This paper draws on interviews with MEM politicians and party representatives in Belgium to ask whom MEM politicians seek to represent and what kind of representation ethnic communities and political parties expect of them. I explore the extent to which two important aspects of the diversification of legislatures challenge (or do not) the existing values and character of representation in the political system. First, I examine the tensions around style and goals of representation that arise in the triangular relationship among political parties, ‘ethnic’ voters and MEM politicians. Second, I use examples such as recognition (or denial) of the Armenian genocide and the politics of the headscarf to assess the challenges that exist for both MEM politicians and political parties in navigating ‘external’ political debates and providing representation for a diversifying citizenry. The paper concludes by situating Belgium’s experience in the context of wider debates about the changing nature of representation and diversity across Europe.

Dr Fiona Barker
Victoria University of Wellington
fiona.barker@vuw.ac.nz

Fiona Barker is Lecturer in Comparative Politics at Victoria University of Wellington. Her current research includes a collaborative study of voting among immigrants to New Zealand and a new project on the experiences of elected politicians of immigrant or visible minority background in Europe and New Zealand. A recent monograph, Nationalism, Identity and the Governance of Diversity (Palgrave Macmillan, 2015), examined sub-state nationalism and immigrant integration in the United Kingdom, Belgium and Canada. Other recent publications include ‘Multi-level governance of immigration in multinational states: Who Governs reconsidered’ (with Ricard Zapata-Barrero) in E. Hepburn and R. Zapata-Barrero eds. The Politics of Immigration in Multilevel States. (Palgrave Macmillan, 2014) and ‘Le droit de vote des étrangers en Nouvelle-Zélande’, Migrations Société, vol. 25, n°. 146, mars-avril 2013. She has been a Jean Monnet Scholar at the European University Institute and visiting researcher at institutions including the Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin, CERI-Sciences Po Paris, and the University of Edinburgh.

BLUCHER, Milos
EU Development Aid and Chronically Underfunded Countries

The year 2000 marked the start of an important new era in global development, with the adoption of the Millennium Development Goals and the signing of the Cotonou Agreement. The European Union (EU) and its Member States (when considered together) constitute the world’s largest development aid donor. The 21st century has so far seen a notable scaling up of EU development aid; this has been driven by a political commitment to ambitious targets, which nonetheless remain largely unmet. This aid, or development assistance, is not without controversy, and there are those who argue that it is not being targeted towards those countries that need it most. Therefore, the aim of this project is to examine the extent to which the distribution of aid given by the EU to
developing countries is based on the relative needs of recipients.

The importance of this research is twofold. Firstly, in an increasingly multi-polar world, the EU has an opportunity to cast itself as a normative power, and development aid can constitute an important part of that normative expression. Secondly, the cumulative effects of development aid imbalances can lead to some developing countries becoming ‘chronically underfunded’, which can render them more susceptible to conflict and state failure.

This research is quantitative in nature. It makes use of the Human Development Index (HDI), published by the United Nations, as a measure of states’ development statuses, and of official Overseas Development Aid disbursement figures from the Development Assistance Committee of the OECD. Data for EU Institutions, as well as France, Germany and the UK, is examined, which allows for comparisons to be made.

Considering the 21st century context of a world characterised by vast global inequalities, the EU’s attempts to find a place for itself in an increasingly multi-polar system, and the advent of the post-MDG era, it is pertinent to consider the EU’s priorities as a development aid donor and possible development policy approaches going forward.

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BUCHANAN, Elizabeth

Situating the Arctic in the EU-Russia relationship: conflict or cooperation?

“The Arctic is ours and we should manifest our presence”
- Vladimir Putin (2007)

In August 2007 a titanium Russian flag was planted on the seabed of the Arctic Ocean. The message was clear – the Arctic was Russian. As global energy resources dwindle in the face of increasing global demand, fuelled in particular by the rise of China, the Arctic has become the focus of intense geopolitical interest. Russia’s assertive Arctic stance has intensified international focus upon the region as it emerges as a potential flashpoint for conflict. This paper examines Russia’s Arctic ambitions in order to elicit a deeper understanding of how best to engage with Putin’s Russia in the Arctic. In light of souring EU-Russian relations over Ukraine, this paper plots the two potential trajectories of the Arctic’s future assessing the role of the EU in determining which scenario eventuates.

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Elizabeth is a PhD Candidate at the ANU Centre for European Studies working on Russian Arctic strategy under Vladimir Putin. She holds a BA Honours Degree from Monash University with a thesis on Ukrainian-Russian natural gas relations. Elizabeth’s research interests include Russian foreign energy strategy; Arctic geopolitics and Sino-Russian energy relations.

Elizabeth has published widely on Russian Arctic affairs with The Moscow Times, Kyiv Post, St Petersburg Times, Australian Institute of International Affairs and the East Asia Forum. She has worked for Royal Dutch Shell (Australia) and is currently a Visiting Fellow with the Institute of the North (Alaska). Elizabeth has also held a Guest Scholar position with the Centre on the United States and Europe at The Bookings Institution (DC). Currently, Elizabeth is Manager of the Rio Tinto-ANU China Economy Program at the Crawford School of Public Policy.

CHABAN, Natalia

Reflecting on Normative Power Europe: Comparing Internal and External Narratives in the EU and Ukraine

Ukraine as a main arena of political and economic contention in the region challenges the EU's reputation of a normative power and the EU’s foreign policy focus on the exercise of global and regional political and economic stewardship. In this light, the EU’s mutual understanding with its neighbours is vital for preserving peace and promoting stability. This paper analyses current narratives on EU-Ukraine cooperation created in and projected to the EU internally and compares them to external narratives on EU-Ukraine relations created in Ukraine, with a special focus on their normative dimension.
The Normative Power Europe (NPE) analytical approach is used in this paper as a theoretical tool to examine the messages that the EU is seeking to transmit, as well as whether targeted external actors, such as Ukraine, are receiving them. Innovatively, the paper examines – through the filter of internal vs. external perceptions – the extent to which the EU perceives its key norms to have been exported, as well as, whether they have been recognised in Ukraine’s local discourses. The paper positions itself within the “third wave” of the NPE theorisation which aims to explore “structural changes in international relations problematising Europe’s capacity for normative power; ontological and epistemological contestation of normative power Europe; and a contestation of Eurocentricity seen to be intrinsic to normative power Europe” (Whitman 2013, 186).

The empirical data come from the public discourses in 2015: reports on EU-Ukraine cooperation in EU media (Politico, EUObserver) and Ukrainian press, as well as public statements by EU leaders and the President of Ukraine. By focusing on messages, perceptions, images and discourses, this paper aims to add to the literature that seeks to understand the EU’s capacity to shape and reshape its immediate region via available policy tools. The constructivist analytical methods that deal with norms’ export and import are employed to understand how relations work between the EU and its neighbours (case-study Ukraine) and, particularly, on the example of sending and receiving the messages. Such an approach echoes a growing trend in EU foreign policy studies to use social-constructivist and discursive approaches to the analyses of European foreign policy (Carta and Morin 2014; Audin-Düzgit 2015).

This paper is co-authored with Iana Sabatovych, Conor Pokoati, Fadia Rafiek, Catharine McGee. 

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DAUGHERTY-KELLY, Caitlin
A Long Walk Home: North African Unaccompanied Minors Entering the EU

North African unaccompanied minors have long constituted a part of the EU’s migratory flows. Since the mid-2000s, however, the number of North African unaccompanied minors seeking asylum at the EU’s borders has increased exponentially. This has raised a number of questions about how unaccompanied minors should be dealt with if they reach the EU. Such questions include: the nature of the criteria children need to fulfill in order to be considered a refugee; whether or not unaccompanied minors should be protected because of their age regardless of whether they meet the refugee criteria; what to do with minors who are granted refugee status and what to do with those who aren’t. Such questions have gained added urgency given the thousands of unaccompanied children who have arrived in the EU since the beginning of this year alone.

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When she began her undergraduate degree in 2011, Caitlin Daugherty-Kelly had every intention of studying Educational Psychology and becoming a primary school teacher. Four years later, with a BA in Spanish, Political Science and International Relations, she is now halfway through her Masters of IR, and loving it. While her work has covered a broad range of topics, she is particularly interested in the rights of refugees and asylum seekers in developing countries. If she’s not at the library, you can find Caitlin tutoring IR, Pols and English, working with young people with special needs, and baking brownies.

ELIJAH, Annmarie
Is the CETA liberalizing? An early assessment of the Canada-EU trade deal

Canada and the European Union reached agreement on key aspects of the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) in October 2013. The full text was released to the public in September 2014 and is currently undergoing a legal ‘scrub’ before ratification across the jurisdictions. The ratification process is complex and expected to take between 18 and 24 months. For the EU the CETA is the first trade agreement with a G8 country and a significant plank in its post-2006 ‘Global Europe’ trade strategy, which moved the focus of EU trade policy towards bilateral deals. For Canada it represents an attempt to cement political and economic ties with the EU and diversify its trade profile, which is otherwise heavily dominated by the United States of America (US). In a joint statement at the time of its release, the EU and Canada referred to the CETA as an ‘ambitious and ground-breaking’ agreement. It is a complex and lengthy text (1634 pages) which took almost five years to negotiate. The agreement is a good example of the ‘new generation’ of trade agreements which seek to address both traditional market access issues and behind the border impediments to trade. CETA’s coverage is broad. This paper assesses the extent to which the CETA is a liberalising agreement. It focuses particularly on those measures which are intended to address ‘behind the border’ trade barriers.
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F to H

FARNWORTH, Steven
The Environmental Liability and Offshore Safety Directives: Environmental Damage from Offshore Oil Exploration and the EU

In the aftermath of the Deepwater Horizon disaster, the EU enacted a new Offshore Directive focussing on safety of oil and gas operations. The Offshore Directive amends the existing European Liability Directive (“ELD”) so that, for the first time, it will apply to offshore oil exploration and extraction operations in the EU’s exclusive economic zone. The aim is to harmonize oil and gas industry safety regulations, and ensure that offshore operators are held accountable for any environmental damage they cause.

The ELD is designed to ensure that operators of hazardous activities will be held strictly liable for environmental damage. This includes making the polluter pay the costs of preventive and remediation measures in relation to water resources, and to land and species covered by the Birds and Habitats Directives. Damages to property or human life are excluded, insurance is optional and there is no EU-wide compensation fund.

The ELD has only been in operation since 2007, and as there have been few major industrial accidents in the interim, it is too soon to tell how well the regime will operate in extremis. Member States have taken advantage of the many optional provisions to take very different approaches to implementation. As a result, the ELD has fragmented instead of harmonizing EU environmental liability law, a process the Offshore Directive looks set to continue.

This paper places the ELD in the context of international environmental liability law and surveys Member State implementing legislation. It then explores potential liability for environmental
damage from offshore oil accidents, and asks whether the new laws provide sufficient protection for both the environment and human victims of oil exploration disasters.

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Steve Farnworth is a PhD Candidate at the University of Waikato, Te Piringa Faculty of Law. His thesis is about environmental liability related to offshore oil exploration, a comparison of the EU’s Environmental Liability Directive and New Zealand’s Maritime Transport Act 1994 and the Resource Management Act 1991.

Born in Te Awamutu, Steven took his first degree, a Bachelors with Honours in History, at Victoria University in Wellington. He took a Diploma in Teaching at Auckland College of Education, and spent several years teaching Mathematics in the South Waikato before beginning his legal studies at Waikato. Highlights of his legal studies included winning the Evans Bailey & Co Prize for Jurisprudence and the LEADR Dispute Resolution Law Prize, and completing the LLB with First Class Honours. He was the first student to take part in the Chicago-Kent Law School exchange programme, spending his final semester in Chicago. He has completed a Masters with Honours on electricity regulation and competition policy with the aid of University of Waikato Masters Research Scholarship, and is a current recipient of the University of Waikato Doctoral Scholarship. In 2014, he took part in the Intercoast Exchange Programme, and travelled to Bremen, Germany, where he lived for 10 months studying EU law. He anticipates completing his PhD and returning to the work force by the beginning of 2016.

Steven was admitted to the Bar in 2008, and has also worked in general practice in Hamilton. His personal interests include movies, reading, cross-fit, world travel, and lately lots of quiz nights.

FU, Limin  
Does Institution Matter? A Comparative Study on Corporate Social Inconsistency in EU, US and Asia

Corporate social responsibility (CSR) is an increasingly pervasive phenomenon on the European, North American and Asian economic and political landscape. In this paper, we combine political science and business strategy in order to address the unresolved question of why firms in EU, US and Asia exhibit different patterns in their social and environmental initiatives. We introduce the concept of corporate social inconsistency (CSI) to describe firms’ varying and uneven treatment of stakeholders by simultaneously engaging in corporate social responsibility (CSR) and corporate social irresponsibility (CSiR). More specifically, drawing on institutional theory, we compare and contrast EU, US and Asia to investigate how the differences are manifested in government policy, corporate strategy, and nongovernmental organization (NGO) activism towards specific issues involving firms’ CSI. Using a sample of 2658 firms and 8290 observations, we find that different institutional structures and political legacies in EU, US and Asia are important factors in explaining firms’ social
practices. This paper extends institutional theory by accommodating stakeholder tradeoffs and extraction in institutional structure and public policy. As a result, our study encourages both policy makers and business managers to be more enlightened in their leadership role in making public policy and developing strategic postures in social initiatives in line with institutional pressures and resource endowments.

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GERMANOS, Carl
Regional Innovators: A new paradigm within the ‘web’ of Knowledge Capital Capacity

Fostering innovation performance is a major priority for economic development and growth across Europeans regions. Productive and competitive regions can improve a nation’s global economic performance. Innovation systems, which build the knowledge capital of regional areas, have greater capacity to forge new economic pathways for local and national prosperity. This paper explains the innovation systems approach used in European policy to strengthen economic capacities and reduce inequalities across Europe, particularly for non-urban regional areas. To strengthen regional innovation is to build ‘knowledge capital’ capacity to be economically competitive on a global platform. The paper draws upon a literature review which highlights innovation performance is reliant on the ability of firms within a region to access and absorb new knowledge and technology. This ability needs to be supported by relevant institutions and organisations as part of an integrated knowledge and learning network (a ‘web’) within an innovation system. The paper will discuss a conceptual methodology for a network assessment of regional innovators that have a high capacity to absorb external knowledge as part of a regional system of innovation. The focus will be upon Small-Medium Enterprises (SMEs). Regional institutions roles will be examined; to include relevant industry platforms and economic policies across the innovation system. The paper demonstrates how spatial and non-spatial networks within an innovation system can inform future economic planning and development of a region. Specifically the model looks a building specific knowledge development and transfer capabilities. This can be achieved with collective learning processes within the regional area. It will be relevant to planning both ‘soft’ and ‘hard’ infrastructure within a regional area to enhance the capacity of ‘knowledge capital’.

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Prior to undertaking his higher research degree Carl worked in the education and
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GOULD, Jessica

Norms versus Interests: The Driving Force behind Georgia’s External Relations with the European Union

My current research examines whether Georgia’s external relations with the European Union are more reflective of a relationship based on EU exported norms and values; or strategic interests in the region. This calls into question the motives for the clearly pro-European foreign policy approach that the Georgian Government seems to have taken since 2003.

Georgia has bought into the normative narrative that is promoted by the European Union. It views itself as European in nature and therefore wishes to emulate the EU. It can be argued that Georgia will therefore strive to follow the European Union rhetoric and install particular norms and values that have been characterized as ‘European’ into its own society. However, in other states positioned to the east of the European Union, the prospect of eventual membership has been the primary motivator for such policy. It is unlikely that Georgia should ever become a member-state of the European Union; and, because of a lack of membership prospects it is likely that there are underlying motivations for this behaviour.

Through an examination of key policy areas a clearer picture will emerge indicating the primary motivations behind Georgia’s foreign policy approach since independence. One convincing argument is that Georgia seeks closer relations with the European Union in an effort to protect itself from both its internal and external security threats. Another is that Georgia is pursuing its interests in this way in order to gain closer economic and diplomatic relations with the European Union.

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Initially from Dunedin, I attended the University of Otago for my undergraduate studies and have continued my studies at Otago at the postgraduate level. In 2014 I gained a Bachelor of Arts with Honours, my dissertation examining the effectiveness of the European Union as a global security actor. In 2015 I have continued my studies and am currently working towards the completion of my MA thesis.
GREENLAND, Bérengère

Perceptions of energy in France: Comparison of the framing of nuclear energy in Left wing and Right wing media

France’s reliance on nuclear energy makes it unlike any other European actor. The stability of its nuclear energy program is unique and despite facing very vocal opposition at times, its policy has continued to be pro-nuclear energy. Two reasons have been outlined by scholars to explain France’s unique situation. Many attribute it to the field being led by “technocratic elites.” Others have argued that party politics have not, until very recently, provided for strategic incentives to encourage change. Within the context of renewed anti-nuclear protest after the Fukushima disaster, the French socialist party (the PS) and its leader Francois Hollande promised to reduce France’s dependence on nuclear energy from 75% of the energy mix to 50%, before the 2012 elections. This has been a significant change in French politics today. This paper will turn the lens to France’s external energy policy in order to shed light on external factors that may also have pushed French governments to continue to support nuclear energy. Looking at coverage of external energy policy and in particular that of nuclear energy in left wing and right wing media in France, this research will venture that nuclear energy diplomacy may have provided further incentives to continue with a pro-nuclear policy.

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Bérengère Greenland is a PhD candidate at the University of Canterbury in Christchurch. Her current research focusses on perceptions of global energy governance in France. In 2013, she awarded the EUCN MEP internship scholarship and interned at the European Parliament last year. In the past, Bérengère researched Tunisian perceptions of the EU and Normative Power Europe since the Tunisian revolution. She has also been involved in a research project concerning the ways in which the European Union and Europe appear in New Zealand social studies textbooks and in an international research project on the EU as an international energy player.

GUENTHER, Meike

Consumer preferences for attributes in food and beverages in developed and emerging export markets and their impact on the European Union and New Zealand

Understanding international consumer preferences and attitudes towards food and beverages is important particularly for countries like New Zealand and even the European Union that depend on food exports. New Zealand’s export focus has changed over the past decades from almost all exports going to Europe, to more into Asian markets, especially to China. It is therefore important that different cultures and preferences in these markets are considered and understood. This study examined preferences and attitudes towards a number of food attributes in food and beverages.
The attributes included basic attributes such as price and quality, but also extended to food safety, health benefits, as well as environmental and social attributes. For key attributes, the importance of factors affecting these and the relationships between them were examined in more detail. Method: The study is based on web-based surveys with 1,000 middle and upper income consumers in China, India, Indonesia, Japan and the UK. In addition, the study examined the potential economic impact of varying levels of premiums for food attributes in the EU (European Union-28) and New Zealand using the partial equilibrium Lincoln Trade and Environment Model (LTEM). Results: This study found that consumers from developing countries valued food attributes more than the developed countries. Results further highlighted the importance of food safety and health foods in these markets. Trade model projections showed that the potential economic impact of varying levels of premiums for food attributes on the EU and New Zealand was important.

This paper is co-authored with Caroline Saunders and Peter Tait.

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Meike has been a Research Fellow at the Agribusiness and Economics Research Unit (AERU) at Lincoln University in New Zealand since 2008. Her primary interest is in research focused on regional economic development, but she also has experience in consumer surveying and market watch. Currently, Meike is researching the impacts of changes in diets and various trade policies in China and India on New Zealand trade and the environment. Meike holds a New Zealand Masters in Applied Science and a German Postgraduate Degree in Economics and Social Science (Diplom-Őkonomin). Meike is a member of the New Zealand Agricultural and Resource Economics Society.

HEADLEY, James
Thickening EU Norms: Internal-External Links and Political Implications

The Normative Power Europe (NPE) concept posits the inherent link between the EU’s internal norms and the norms that it promulgates externally. The link is clearest in the enlargement process where acceptance of detailed policy prescriptions apparently based on EU internal norms is a condition of membership. Much of the legislation implemented is of a technical nature to ensure that the acceding state is capable of integrating into the single market, but it also incorporates wider political, economic and social norms, some of which are not established among existing members (e.g. recognition of national minorities). Contrary to some expectations, then, enlargement has not weakened the integration process, since there has been a simultaneous deepening of the EU political community, while the accession process itself has been used to push for standardisation of policies internally.

We can now see this process both extending beyond the zone of enlargement and also turning in on the EU internally. Countries in the Eastern Partnership are undergoing norms-based conditionality to
sign Association Agreements and Free Trade Agreements with the EU, even with no real membership prospective, while those that do not subscribe to this set of norms are considered beyond the pale, UnEuropean. At the same time, norms have thickened – meaning that the policy space has narrowed – within the EU itself, particularly in the Eurozone. A detailed set of economic/financial policies are entrenched and, in the case of Greece, even more specific policies have been prescribed as a condition of continued Eurozone membership.

This paper analyses the links between the thickening of EU norms internally and the EU’s normative influence in its neighbourhood, and considers the political implications. It focuses particularly on economic norms, a key area of business for the EU but one often neglected in the NPE literature. It argues that the narrowing of allowable policy options is inherent in the idea of a normative community, something which is often glossed over in the Constructivist literature that celebrates the spread of progressive norms whether through socialisation or instrumental calculations. Intrinsically connected is the fact that decisions over what policies encapsulate EU norms are increasingly made by a select group – an ‘expertocracy’ (Scharpf) or ‘technocracy’.

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HETZ, Heidrun
Dominant and Marginalised Narratives on Asylum in the Context of Australian History, Identity and Desired Future

This review of the literature provides a critical analysis of the voices within the current asylum debate in Australia and identifies three main groups that contribute to the debate: the first group is in support of current harsh government policies on asylum seekers and is largely made up of the two major parties, the mainstream media and large sections of the population; the second group is critical of the current policies and is made up of lawyers, medical professionals, representatives of the alternative media, academics and volunteers; and the third group is made up of those who have arrived in Australia as refugees and asylum seekers. The main argument is that the current debate can be seen as part of a much broader debate on Australia’s history, identity and desired future. It is also argued that the debate is currently dominated by those who are in support of current harsh government policies who see the arrival of asylum seekers as a threat to national sovereignty and national identity and who have a strong focus on deterrence, whereas those who are critical of these
policies as well as the asylum seekers and refugees themselves are largely excluded from the debate. This paper will conclude by briefly contrasting the asylum debate in Australia with the current debate on this topic in Germany, with a particular focus on the concept “Willkommenskultur” (culture of welcome). This paper aims to contribute to the current asylum debates in Australia and Europe by outlining how different interpretations of the arrival of asylum seekers - in regards to the level of their perceived threat to notions of sovereignty and national identity and in regards to what is perceived to be the country’s responsibility towards these arrivals based on the country’s history and desired future - influence policy decisions.

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Heidi Hetz is a PhD student at the Hawke Research Institute at the University of South Australia. Her PhD project, entitled *A Comparative Analysis of the Narratives of Cambodian Refugees and Hazara Afghan Asylum Seekers in Australia*, looks at the impact of the asylum seeker debate in Australia upon individual refugees and asylum seekers, particularly in regards to their recovery from the refugee experience and upon their identity, memory and belonging. In addition to her PhD, Heidi is a research assistant and a tutor in Foundation Studies. Prior to her PhD, Heidi worked and volunteered for ARA Jobs and the Australian Refugee Association for several years.

**HOWE, Sarah**  
*Europe Rebuilding after the Global Financial Crisis: the Unsung Role of Regional Policy in generating a more Competitive Europe; some Early Empirical Evidence from the ‘Smart Specialisation’ Policy Phase (2014-2020)*

There has been increasing concern by European Union (EU) policy makers in particular about the weak industrial base and poor productivity performance in European manufacturing that has continued to deteriorate in comparison to global competitors. Identified economic weaknesses include lowering internal demand that is undermining European companies’ home markets and impacting on intra-EU trade making it subdued after the global financial crisis. A further finding is that investment in research and innovation has remained low, which it is believed has held back the necessary modernisation of the industrial base and thus hampering future EU competitiveness.

In 2014, in response to the EU’s concerns about the underinvestment into research and innovation the EU launched an ambitious re-industrialisation strategy ‘Towards a European Industrial Renaissance’ that outlines a new policy prescription for regions that determines that there must be the creation of ecologies of innovation in a place based context to help increase productivity, resource-efficiency and to enable high value-added products to compete in global markets. The new policy direction is also underpinned by an understanding that industrial reform must be realized hand in hand with a strong industrial manufacturing base. Accordingly, the EU adopted a new multiannual financial framework 2014-2020 where it has aligned industrial and regional policy
priorities. Thus investments in innovation by regional policy now must be guided by the concept of ‘Smart Specialisation’ to allow Member States and regions to concentrate investment on their comparative advantages and to encourage the creation of cross-European value chains. Many of the themes proposed under Smart Specialisation strategies by the Member States and regions are related to strategic areas identified under industrial policy (European Commission, 2014).

This paper considers the implications of the EU policy shift on regional and industrial development, and is interested in providing some early empirical evidence as part of a larger PhD project that demonstrates the extent to which four diverse regions in Europe are engaging with the new policy direction.

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Sarah Howe has completed a Bachelor of Arts degree (Monash University) and a Masters of Public Policy and Management (University of Melbourne) and is currently a PhD candidate based at the European Union centre at RMIT University (enrolled in the School of Global, Social and Urban studies).

The focus of Sarah Howe’s PhD research addresses the impact of EU Regional and Industrial policy in supporting the manufacturing industry and regional development in Europe. Sarah has worked in industrial organisations, political and welfare organisations, government and in academia and has had a long standing interest in political economy, economic development and anti-poverty strategies.

JACKSON, Cherelle
How the EU Visa waiver affects Pacific migration to Europe

When the EU declared Visa Free status for selected Pacific islands to travel to EU member states including Samoa in May 28th 2015, it signaled matured relations between Europe and the Pacific and a level of trust that has not been afforded to the small islands by closer developed nations New Zealand and Australia.

This paper explores how the Visa Waiver affects migration of Pacific islanders to EU member states, and specifically frequent travelers, mainly Leaders to the EU. Thousands of Pacific islanders travel to Europe on an annual basis, and as such the Visa Waiver affects these temporary migrants for work, study and tourism.

A case study of one Pacific Islander will be used to illustrate the economic impact of the Visa waiver on one person and how this affects temporary migration by other Pacific islanders.
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Lagipoiva Cherelle Jackson is an independent researcher from Samoa, she studied Climate Change Journalism at the University of Oxford and is currently pursuing a Masters in Development Studies from the Center of Samoan Studies in Samoa. She is currently working for the International Labour Organization as a Project Coordinator.

KELLY, Serena
Charting the EU’s local salience: how the EU is portrayed in the local NZ print media

The role of the media in playing an important local agenda-setting role has been widely acknowledged (Verčič and Vučković 2010). Pertaining to foreign entities in particular, Wanta et al noted that high local coverage of a foreign country was understood by readers to equate to its importance. Likewise, “[t]he more negative coverage a nation received, the more likely respondents were to think negatively about the nation, supporting the second level of agenda-setting” (2004, p. 364). This paper will analyse how an important global actor, the European Union (EU), has been portrayed in the New Zealand print media over the past 5 years. Taking into consideration the key themes of this conference: Greece and the Euro; The UK referendum; Migration and refugees; and Post-MDG Development policy, the paper will consider what factors have influenced the way the EU has been portrayed in the NZ print media, as well as possible implications for how it has been framed. Particular emphasis will be placed on editorials about the EU since it has been noted that editorials have the “power to set the dominant political agenda, as elaborated over weeks, months and years … In this capacity the institutions of the press take the lead in establishing the dominant interpretative frameworks within which ongoing political events are made sense of” (McNair 2000, p.30).

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Dr Serena Kelly has published extensively on EU external relations both individually and with colleagues in international peer reviewed journals. Dr Kelly’s PhD was the first in-depth study to explore the potential impact of the EU’s post-Lisbon European External Action Service. Since completing her PhD, Dr Kelly has worked on a number of interdisciplinary and international projects, most notably making a key contribution to the NCRE’s flagship Perceptions of the EU project. She is currently undertaking research looking at perceptions of the EU in New Zealand.
LADY, Matt

A Global Governance Approach to Addressing Anti-Corruption Enforcement Asymmetry in the EU

Both the European Union (EU) and the United States (US) have devoted significant political leadership to enacting measures aimed at reducing the incidence of foreign bribery in international business transactions. However, in the EU these laws are not enforced with equal vigour due to challenges of collective action. In sum, the political, economic and national interest considerations of certain Member States undermine the robust enforcement of anti-bribery laws across the EU. This outcome influences other Member States to pursue a similar path of weak enforcement. The US, however, does not suffer from this problem of collective action as it has a different historical rationale for prohibiting foreign bribery that is rooted in foreign policy objectives. This paper draws on the historical basis for the prohibition of foreign bribery in the US and contrasts this with the rationale of EU nations to provide a comparative analysis of the political economy of enforcement of anti-bribery laws in these nations. To this end, the paper utilises case studies involving firms in the EU and the US that have been involved in foreign bribery in order to contextualise the argument and highlight the differing incentives that affect these nations’ willingness to enforce anti-bribery laws. This paper concludes with recommendations to incentivise EU Member States to enforce foreign bribery laws more effectively. It advocates for the adoption of expansive jurisdictional claims by Member States to address the problem of collective action. And finally, it argues this course of action will lay the foundation for greater integration of EU values, economies, and peoples while providing needed leadership in developing a global architecture for international legal co-operation against corruption.

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LAZAROU, Athanasios

Greece and the Referendum: Mapping the Space of Public Assembly Within European Membership

There is no time like the present crisis.

When occupy Frankfurt protestors camped outside the European Central Bank in 2011, the image of a makeshift city located underneath the European Union logo marked a new era of European politics. Since 2011, public space, politics and protest have questioned the role of the EU and the politics of inclusion.

In July this year tens of thousands of Greeks assembled outside parliament in Syntagma Square, Athens, to show their support for the various positions of the referendum. The assemblies alternated day by day, with the ‘Oxi’ (no) and the ‘Nai’ (yes) camps sharing the public square. There have now been 6 public votes in 6 years in Greece that have sought to redefine Greece’s role within the EU.

Formed as an inquiry into the present conditions, possibilities and limits of politics and space, the paper presents a spatial discussion of the event of the Greek referendum. It explores the the complex relations present at the site of the crisis in Syntagma Square, Athens, before questioning how spatial narratives engender the political role of the EU. This socio-political realism is engaged in a series of exercises that collect and classify the numerous spatial actions and political stages of the referendum, before expanding to assess the role of the European Union membership itself. The paper interrogates the relationships present within the public square – where people and architecture become linked by their contextual dependency – before critically reflecting on the visible role of architecture in facilitating events; in essence, the story of the architectural turns of the referendum. These overlapping questions are approached strategically through a series of mapping exercises that document the political campaign of the referendum, before questioning the larger role space plays in representing abstract political movements.

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Athanasios (Nasi) Lazarou is currently studying a PhD at the University of Adelaide on the intersection between architectural space and politics during the Greek-crisis. He has spoken at numerous international conferences and is a theorist, practitioner, teacher and contributor of all things architecture. When he’s not dying his hair grey he loves to listen to 90’s Bowie.

LIANG, C-M

EU between internal and external challenges

This article scrutinises the internal constraints and external challenges that the EU faces. The new EU leaders have strived to cope with internal and external challenges since October 2014. One year
after their inauguration, it's good time to draw a general report on the resilient performance of the EU in an age of uncertainty. We have identified 5 issues concerning internal constraints and 4 issues with regard to external challenges, for the new EU collective leadership. The internal constraints include Greek sovereign debt crisis (Grexit), UK independence referendum (Brexit), EU migration and refugee policy, EU economic and social situation (low growth and high unemployment), and finally, the creation of a political union (Eurozone Federal Union) repeatedly urged by the French President François Hollande. The external or global challenges comprise EU-Russia relations (Crimea annexation and Ukrainian civil war), ISIS terror attacks, Post-MDG Development policy and environment protection with the opening of the international climate conference at Le Bourget (Paris) from November 30 to December 11. All these issues generated an unusual intensity and high expectation for the first State of the Union which will be delivered by the European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker on 9 September. On this occasion, the European Commission’s 2015 Work Programme will be also enquired by MEPs. We will try to analyse all these internal and external challenges of the EU from a democratic governance/democratic crisis perspective.

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M to O

MASCITELLI, Bruno
The EU and its new leadership - An unexpected development - Discussions for a Free Trade Agreement with Australia

Trade remains a key aspect of the global economy, globalisation and the road to global prosperity. Modern States pursue their trade agenda for their own national interest including for entities like the European Union. Under the current new leadership of the European Union, trade and trade agreements is no less important than it has been in the past. In some respects it is more important. The European Union and most of its member states have been major players in the trade space.
Until recently the World Trade Organization (WTO) the successor in 1995 of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), met most of the pressing needs for a smooth functioning global trading system. The Doha Round of the WTO has dampened enthusiasm and forced many countries to reassess their trade approach given the paralysis of the Doha Round. Like most of the major economies in the post 2000 period, the EU engaged in the pursuance of bilateral and regional agreements at the expense of multilateral. Australia was no different with a range of free trade agreements approved since 2003. However lack of a trade dialogue between the EU and Australia was understandable was still out of place. As a result of this contrast over agricultural subsidies over the decades this dialogue with Australia was half hearted. The EU-Australia trade relationship on the whole remained frozen within the controversies of the past. Only in 2008 was there a breakthrough between the EU and Australia and only in a limited way through the EU-Australia Framework Treaty. A circuit breaker between the EU-Australia occurred in 2013 which overturned the historic standoff and placed on the agenda a most unexpected free trade dialogue. The aim of this paper is to assess and explore the circuit breaker in the trade relations between the EU and Australia and assess the merits and issues which will emerge in this possible free trade discussion.

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Bruno before joining academia in 2000 was employed by Australian Consulate in Milan, Italy for more than 17 years. On returning to Australia he joined the US Consulate in Melbourne until he joined Swinburne University. He is President of the European Studies Association of Australia (CESAA) and also School Council President of the Victorian School of Languages. He has published in areas of International Business, Italian migration and expatriate voting.

MASOCHA, Shepard
“This is about our hearts and our heads” Representations of compassion in parliamentary discourses relating to UK government’s response to the refugee crisis

The unfolding refugee crisis represents the worst humanitarian crisis and the largest refugee movement since the Second World War. European governments have responded in very different ways to the on-going crisis. Of particular interest is the significant shift in the public’s attitudes and responses to the plight of refugees as denoted by public displays of compassion and generosity. This paper focuses on the UK’s policy response, paying attention to the ways in which compassion was drawn on as a discursive resource in policy debates. The paper draws its data from two sites, namely; David Cameron’s speech to the UK parliament on 7th September 2015, and the emergence parliamentary session called on 8th September 2015 to debate the refugee crisis. This paper uses discursive psychology (Potter and Wetherell, 1987) to identify and analyse compassion as a key interpretative repertoire that was used in the ways in which debates relating to the current refugee crisis were being framed. The paper illuminates the specific ways in which politicians drew on notions of compassion to legitimate as well as challenge the government’s policy response to the unfolding refugee crisis.
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I am a Lecturer in the School of Psychology, Social Work and Social Policy and part of the Hawke EU Centre for Mobilities, Migrations and Cultural Transformations at the University of South Australia. My research explores the ways in which social workers enact their discourses in everyday practice through language use taking into cognisance that these local meanings are situated in wider discourses. My current research focuses on the critical study of social work with ethnic minorities, immigrants, refugees and asylum seekers, and the intersecting discourses of race, racism, culture and social citizenship. I recently published a book entitled *Asylum Seekers, Social Work and Racism* with Palgrave Macmillan in May 2015.

MASSELOT, Annick  
The Impact of the EU Social Investment Package on Childcare: Going Beyond the Economic Imperative?

The importance of accessible, affordable, flexible and high quality childcare facilities is acknowledged by the European Union (EU) as an essential element to achieving gender equality and full employment for parents. However, legal and policy development in this area has been slow and without coherence. Following the 2008 financial crisis, EU intervention on childcare issues appears to have been dictated by economic priorities and by the rights of the child. The early underpinning of childcare policy with the principle of gender equality is fading fast. This paper argues that childcare policy is dominated by rhetoric: the targets set are far from being achieved, disparities between Member States continue to occur, and women in Europe continue to disproportionately bear the cost of reproduction. The paper also argues that the recent EU actions under the Social Investment Package (2013) focus on economic priorities, excluding the Treaty values, in particular gender equality. It concludes that childcare remains gendered, unvalued, unaccounted for and often unpaid.

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In this paper we explore the evolution of the Greek crisis taking a longer-term perspective and contrast it with other examples of the bargaining process between creditors and sovereign debtors. This paper forms part of the research programme of two parallel projects, one as part of the current EUCN work package on The Future on Monetary and Financial Integration in the EU funded by the EU and the other, funded by the Norwegian Research Council, on how the EU is fragmenting and unifying under the stresses of the global financial crisis and other geo-political pressures under the label EURODIV.

Using process-tracing the research looks at how the various bargaining positions evolved and the role of the main players not just in Greece but in other EU countries, the EU institutions and the IMF as well. We embed this in a discussion not just of the economics or monetary unions but also of previous negotiations between sovereign debtors and creditors in periods of crisis focusing in particular on the period after the first world war when it was Germany that was the debtor nation and Italy and particularly France took a strong position, going as far as invading the Rhineland. We also contrast the position of Greece in monetary union with Iceland outside it in the same time period and with the gold standard to explore the options and consequences.

We avoid the debate about emotive terms such as austerity as far as possible and draw conclusions for how the euro area might progress as the crisis matures and the position of Greece may need renegotiation possibly along the lines suggested by the IMF.

Prof David Mayes
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David Mayes is Professor of Banking and Financial Institutions at the University of Auckland and a former Director of their Europe Institute. He was previously Advisor to the Board at the Bank of Finland and Chief Manager at the Reserve Bank of New Zealand. He is leading a work package on The Future of Financial and Monetary Integration in Europe as part of the current EUCN grant. He is currently Guest researcher at ARENA Centre for European Studies at the University of Oslo and his latest book on Banking Union in the EU: Challenges and Prospects will be published by Routledge in December.

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Dr Giannoula Karamichailidou is a Research Fellow at the Europe Institute, University of Auckland, which she joined in December 2013. She was previously in the Department of Accounting and Finance. Over the last year, Giannoula has been working with Professor Mayes on a research project.
entitled ‘The Future of Monetary and Financial Integration in the EU’, which is funded by the EU as part of its grant to the EU Centres Network in New Zealand. Among others, this research has covered topics on the prospects and challenges of a banking union in the EU, plausible living wills for systemically important financial institutions, early warning systems to detect financial distress, and lessons that can be learnt from the integration in other countries such as Australia and New Zealand.

McMILLAN, Kate
External voting among New Zealanders in Australia: normative and policy implications

The question of voting rights for immigrants and emigrants continues to increase in salience as the number of international and regional migrants continues to rise. With respect to emigrants’ voting rights, much of the literature has focused on normative arguments as to why emigrants ought or ought not to enjoy voting rights in their country of origin. Another, growing focus of this literature seeks to explain why so many countries have begun to extend voting rights to their citizens abroad, as well as the electoral effects of this extension. Few studies, however, have actually looked at whether and why expatriates continue to participate in the elections of a country in which they no longer live. Using the results of a survey of New Zealanders resident in Australia, this paper asks how many New Zealanders continue to participate in New Zealand elections while they are resident in Australia, and what factors influence whether they choose to exercise their NZ voting rights or not. The paper then identifies the study’s implications for normative and policy arguments about the desirability of extending voting rights to non-resident citizens.

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MEZYK, Robert
Stability of the Eurozone – a new fundamental principle of the EU law?

Stability of the Eurozone is a principle of the EU’s legal and economic system which emerged only during the financial crisis, nevertheless it has managed to acquire significant position among other values of the EU. Therefore it is crucial to ask for the specific meaning of this ever-present term and
for its practical consequences for the functioning of the community.

Although before amendment of art. 136 TFEU in 2013 “Stability of the Eurozone” hadn’t appeared in the European treaties even once, already since 2010 it has dominated the numerous agreements, declarations and memoranda agreed or issued by member states while fighting with the financial turmoil. Stability of the Eurozone (or its close variations of this term such as “Financial stability of the Eurozone” or “Stability of the common currency area”) has been used in the mentioned documents as a judgement for actions of the EU or as their ultimate goal. Also, the term has been used as justification of specific actions performed within the financial support programs. At the same time these documents or acts dominated the recent developments of the EU.

The crisis presents therefore various examples of interplay among previous principles of the EU and the emerging principle of the financial stability of the Eurozone. The analysis of these relations leads to the conclusion that the financial stability of the Eurozone is not only the newest, but also one of the most important principles of the community. Its interaction with principles of economic self-responsibility of the member states or with principle of subsidiarity presents a new image of the EU system of governance.

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He completed a Master of Law, and a Master of Philosophy, both at Jagiellonian University, Poland, as well as a Magister Legum (LL.M) at Johannes Gutenberg Universität Mainz, Germany. Robert is currently undertaking his PhD at Humbolt University, Germany researching the conditional lending within the European Union during the financial crisis. Before undertaking his PhD he worked as a corporate lawyer.
MILTON, Tom
Freedom of Movement Within the European Union: Explaining Britain and Germany’s differing Interests and Approaches

Earlier this year, British Prime Minister David Cameron stated that he would only support Britain remaining in the EU if it could reduce the number of European migrant workers entering Britain. Germany, on the other hand, wants Britain to remain in the EU but is unwilling to alter one of the core principles of European integration – freedom of movement. As a result, freedom of movement has become the litmus test for the future trajectory of European integration. This presentation attempts to answer why Britain and Germany perceive freedom of movement within the EU differently. It will be argued that Germany favours freedom of movement because it conceives of European integration as a political project whereas Britain is more skeptical about freedom of movement because it views European integration as an economic project.

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MITTAG, Juergen
From governmental to parliamentary leadership in the European Union? The 2014 EP election and its implications for party politics at the European level

The 2014 elections of the European Parliament mark a historic milestone in the division of powers between the Member States and the European Parliament: The provisions of the Lisbon Treaties offered leeway for the EP and its party groups to nominate leading candidates, so-called “Spitzenkandidaten”, for the position of the Commission President.

The principal idea was to provide European political parties with a substantial task in order to benefit from the increased attention given to the electoral campaign and to increase the voter turnout in the 2014 elections. Due to the media awareness and the public attention the candidates received the European Council was eventually forced to nominate Jean Claude Juncker as new president of the European Commission. This paper analyses the perspectives of political parties at the European level in view of the question whether they will play a more substantial role in European politics acquiring new leadership in institutional terms.

Against the backdrop of a brief overview on the development and structures of political parties at the European level recent changes will be analysed in detail: The new party statute agreed at the end of the 7th parliamentary term, further debates to improve the financial support of the parties at the European level and the competitive nomination of candidates for the Commission presidency will be taken into consideration in particular in view of future run-ups to elections. However, the analysis will also reflect on the limits of a further institutional increase of the role of political parties at the European level. Especially the simultaneous increase of Eurosceptical parties and the need of the pro-European parties to cooperate more closely and to take decisions in an ever broader grand coalition will be scrutinised.
MOIR, Hazel

Geographic Indications: reducing anti-competitive impacts

Geographic indications (GIs) are a major new plank in European agricultural policy, but, like all forms of intellectual property protection, raise concerns about anti-competitive effects. The EU’s policy stand on GIs also creates impediments to the success of international trade negotiations. This paper critically assesses the consumer protection rationales generally used to support GIs and concludes producer protections are more persuasive. But such producer privileges, although couched in terms of rural development and sustainability, raise competition concerns. These are drawn out using material from case law and GI registrations for foodstuffs in the European Union. These materials identify the concentrated usage of GIs and the principal competition issues: defining boundaries and generic names and the strength of the granted privileges.

The key sticking point in global GI negotiations is "strong-form" GIs which extend producer privileges substantially beyond those provided by trademarks. All uses of the registered word are prohibited, including uses which provide clear and precise information for consumers. Options for tackling this major area of disagreement are identified, drawing on the analysis of competition concerns and alternative approaches used in Australia. This identification of the key issues in the conflict between Old and New Worlds over legal privileges for geographical indications might be the basis for agreeing an approach acceptable to both blocks. This would reduce impediments to trade agreements. Such approaches might also allow the EU to reduce the conflict between its single market pro-competition goals and the anti-competitive effects of the current GI system.
MOIR, Hazel

The European Patent Office: a rogue organisation?

The European Patent Office (EPO) is not an EU institution. But all EU members are signatories to the EPC – so too are Iceland, Turkey and a number of small European nations. Established in 1977, it processes applications for European patents, though specific action is needed to activate a granted patent in each country. The EPO was established under the European Patent Convention (EPC), and is supervised by an Administrative Council, composed of the representatives of the EPO member states.

There is substantial evidence that the EPO does not properly implement the EPC. Several important examples of how the EPO undermines the spirit and intent of the EPC are presented and discussed. This evidence is then assessed to understand what drives the EPO to provide patents contrary to the provisions of the EPC. The evidence suggests capture of the EPO by interests which favour a broader scope and lower standards for the grant of patents. Clearly existing governance arrangements have been inadequate to monitor and control the EPO. In particular the EPO’s refusal to substantively address a question referred to it by the then President of the Administrative Council suggests that the EPO operates not just independently of the Administrative Council, but contrary to its express views. Is it feasible to re-vitalise existing governing structures and ensure that the EPO properly implements the EPC? To what extent do proposals for a Community patent provide an effective avenue for eliminating the rogue activities of the EPO? Would a Community patent simply make matters worse, with the granting body fully captured by pro-patent stakeholders?

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Hazel Moir is an Adjunct Associate Professor at the ANU’s Centre for European Studies where her work focuses on the “intellectual property” dimensions of possible trade agreements, including with the European Union. Her academic background is in economics (Cambridge) and demography (Brown). After brief stints in the private sector and in overseas aid, she spent 20 years in the Australian Public Service and followed this with a second PhD in public policy. Hazel has made a number of submissions to government enquiries into aspects of patents, copyright and trade policy. More recently she has written several papers on geographical indications.

MURRAY, Philomena

Europe’s Asylum Crisis – a crisis of legitimacy and leadership?

The EU is undergoing a crisis of legitimacy that is evident in a lack of leadership, a path dependency of decision-making and a gap of competences. This has been evident in the Euro crisis. However, this paper argues that the current refugee crisis constitutes a situation that brings to the fore many inherent problems of the EU’s design, solidarity and norms. The dire position of immigrants and the
reputation of the EU are worsened by interstate bickering over immigration border controls and acceptance of Syrian refugees. Recent scenes of migrant desperation in Calais, Hungary, Austria and elsewhere do not engender confidence that the EU has the measure of the crisis, although Germany has responded in a manner that was not evident in the Euro crisis. The crisis is revealing the many internal shortcomings of the EU’s policy. There are deficits of leadership, solidarity and social justice in the EU as refugees continue to be politically instrumentalised in the face of discord and disagreement among member states. Internal cleavages in many states – the rise of populism and xenophobic politics – provide further complications as far-right populist political parties in some member states continue to exploit growing societal insecurity with great effect. This further undermine EU values and stability Finally, we assess the extent to which this crisis constitutes a test of the EU’s legitimacy.

This paper is co-authored with Associate Professor Michael Longo.

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P to Z

PETROVIC, Milenko
Powerful Norms or Powerful Politics
The EU’s normative power and the EUropeanisation of the post-communist Western Balkans

Despite the relatively early offer of the opportunity for EU accession to the Western Balkan states, there is a wide scholarly and political consensus that the current candidates and potential candidates for EU membership from the Western Balkans still have much to do in redesigning their political and socio-economic systems to meet the standards and norms required by EU accession conditions. This paper argues that the main reasons for the slow adoption of EU standards and norms, i.e. the further democratisation and progress in economic reforms of these states vis-à-vis their post-communist counterparts which joined the EU in 2004 or 2007, do not primarily stem from the structural inabilities of the Western Balkan states to adopt the EU (‘Western’) values and norms,
as is claimed by some scholars and EU officials, but rather from debilitating agent-driven political actions.

While the late start with post-communist reforms and very slow initial progress in the EU accession process in all the Balkan states (including Romania and Bulgaria) during the 1990s was primarily caused by the wrong decisions made by their local political elites who did not then express a strong desire for reform or respect for EU standards and norms, the postponed Europeanisation of these countries after their ‘second’ democratisation in the early 2000s is mainly due to EU policy-makers. Like most other EU and member-state foreign policy actions, the EU policy incentives introduced to the Western Balkan states over the last decade, were not based on the well-prepared and coherent policy strategy that would rely on internationally-recognised and in the EU internally practised universal norms and legal rules, but were rather the result of particular current interests of the most influential EU member states at the time. As such these incentives, particularly those related to the ever increasing number and toughness of accession conditions, were often arbitrary and inconsistent. They were more of an additional hindrance than a form of constructive assistance for these states in consolidating their democratic institutions and coping with economic reforms according to EU standards and norms.

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SAUNDERS, Caroline

Consumer preferences for attributes in food and beverages in developed and emerging export markets and their impact on the European Union and New Zealand

Understanding international consumer preferences and attitudes towards food and beverages is important particularly for countries like New Zealand that depend heavily on food exports. New Zealand’s export focus has changed over the past decades from almost all exports going to Europe, to more into Asian markets, especially to China. It is therefore important that different cultures and preferences in these markets are considered and understood. This study examined preferences and attitudes towards a number of food attributes in food and beverages. The attributes included basic attributes such as price and quality, but also extended to food safety, health benefits, as well as environmental and social attributes. For key attributes, the importance of factors affecting these and the relationships between them were examined in more detail. Method: The study is based on web-
based surveys with 1,000 middle and upper income consumers in China, India, Indonesia, Japan and the UK. In addition, the study examined the potential economic impact of varying levels of premiums for food attributes in the EU (European Union-28) and New Zealand using the partial equilibrium Lincoln Trade and Environment Model (LTEM). Results: This study found that consumers from developing countries valued food attributes more than the developed countries. Results further highlighted the importance of food safety and health foods in these markets. Trade model projections showed that the potential economic impact of varying levels of premiums for food attributes on the EU and New Zealand was important.

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Dr Caroline Saunders has 30 years research expertise in the UK and New Zealand. She has over 300 publications specialising in sustainable economic development. Her current research includes an assessment of international markets and their policies and their impact on development. She has undertaken research for a wider range of private and public bodies both in NZ and overseas. These include the EU Commission, DEFRA, FAO, OECD, MPI, MFAT, Treasury, MFE, MBIE, Fonterra Industry and various other sector groups and firms. She is on the Biosecurity Ministerial Advisory Committee and the Council of the Royal Society.

She was awarded economist of the year in 2007 and made an officer of the NZ order of merit in 2009.

**SMITH, Nicholas**
The complexities of the Russia-Ukrain-EU energy relationship: Short term cooperation, long term competition?

This paper examines a puzzle at the centre of the Russia-Ukraine-EU energy relationship: why has there been ongoing cooperation in the gas sector despite deterioration of the triangular relationship in the realms of diplomacy, economics and security? An argument is made that, despite clear rhetoric to the contrary on all sides, the high levels of interdependency in the Russia-Ukraine-EU gas partnership has strongly mediated the relationship and necessitated ongoing cooperation despite a clear breakdown of relations elsewhere. However, solely invoking high levels of interdependency as an explanation for the positive-sum outcome of the relationship masks the inherent competition between the EU and Russia in their long-term energy strategies, which are both focussed on reducing their vulnerability and sensitivity on the other (as a buyer or supplier). Consequently, a two-level game is occurring in the relationship. On one level, the relationship remains cooperative and positive-sum, but on the other, a veiled contest between the EU and Russia to gain asymmetrical advantage in the interdependent gas relationship is occurring, with Ukraine side-lined in the middle.
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Nicholas Ross Smith is a foreign policy analyst with a specific focus on the EU’s and Russia’s foreign policies in the context of Eurasia, especially Ukraine. In 2015 he has published a journal article (with European Security) assessing the competitiveness of the EU’s and Russia’s regime promotion policies in Ukraine and another with International Relations which examines the EU’s foreign policy action through the lens of neoclassical realism. An upcoming article in Thesis 11 makes a rational case for Russia’s action in Ukraine through looking at the interplay of identity and perceptions. For a complete list of publications, please visit: https://auckland.academia.edu/nrsmith.

WILSON, Bruce  
Regional Innovation, Economic Futures and the Eurozone: New Leadership, New Directions  

In assuming the Presidency of the EU in 2014, Jean Claude Juncker committed the new College to a growth agenda for Europe. This was a crucial step towards alleviating the economic crisis and promoting employment growth. Research and Innovation were critical components of the initiative, along with a revitalised approach to Regional Policy and the structural funds. In the latter respect, the development of a ‘smart specialisation strategy’ (RIS3) is required for EU regions to be eligible for access to structural innovation funds in the 2014-20 period. Despite the challenges for many regions in responding to the new policy framework, more than 200 regional and national RIS3 plans have been prepared in the first 18 months of the revised program. In addition, considerable emphasis has been placed on sharing learning amongst the regions. More than 150 regions have registered with the S3 Platform at the European Commission’s Joint Research Centre and participated in their activities. This paper will examine some of the assumptions underpinning the new direction in Regional Policy and in the leadership provided in its implementation. It will explore its potential impact on growth in Europe, making some comparisons with experience in Asia and Australia.

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The business interactions underpinning a European-New Zealand free trade agreement

Post the Doha Round of the World Trade Organisation, Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) have become the strategic trade policy preference, and with the number of FTAs increasing, they need to be understood and utilised by firms. The potential uptake of such business opportunities highlights the need to understand the influence of progressive market integration on international business and the internationalisation behaviour of firms within FTA member countries. Using a cross-sectional survey and case studies, we explore these issues in the context of New Zealand (NZ)-Europe business relations.

In June/July 2015, we have conducted an exploratory survey among 27 members of the New Zealand Europe Business Council, mostly European companies operating in New Zealand. The respondents were both large multinational companies and small and medium sized enterprises including a large number of importers from Europe. They have links with many EU countries, and mention: Austria, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Spain, Sweden, and the UK. Some important findings include the range of goods and services in which respondents are active, and that links with the EU are well-established (the vast majority of them have been in place for more than 5 years).

The key strengths of business relationships with their EU partners relate to the sophistication of the EU market, including product quality, R & D, maintaining competitiveness through customer responsiveness and long-term connections with innovative companies. The respondents also stressed good cultural fit, long term and historical relationships, deep personal relationships and overall good co-operation without major frictions. The overall impression is of positive benefits from trade links between the EU and New Zealand, with some regulatory issues to address. In summary, our survey is important for highlighting the wider benefits which would accrue to NZ-based European organisations from deeper links between the EU and New Zealand.

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This project has received funding from the European Commission.