Teaching with Twitter

Egle Dagilyte, Anglia Ruskin University

How can Twitter be integrated into teaching and learning? What are the pitfalls and challenges faced when using this medium? Here, Egle Dagilyte, shares advice and tips from UACES social media academic enthusiasts who attended the how-to group session ‘Blogged and Tweeted: Using Social Media in EU Law Classroom’. The session formed part of the 2015 UACES teaching workshop which preceded this year’s annual conference in Bilbao.

In terms of integration of Twitter into teaching and learning, Marjolein Derous (Ghent University) shared her experience of using Twitter on a Masters-level course on Theories of European Integration at Ghent University. Here, students were required to use the hash tag #TEItweet and link the news they found on current affairs to the integration theories taught on the course. Marks were awarded against two marking criteria. Firstly, for the ability to link the news to the contents of the course; secondly, how well the link was made (how insightful the observation was) and how well it was expressed in 140 characters, which is a usual limitation of each Twitter entry. As Marjolein observed, the greatest benefit of using Twitter in such a way is that students must learn how to use language resourcefully, which is a skill they can acquire by thinking of the best way to record their ideas in 140 characters.

As this exercise had been running for the last two years, Marjolein was able to share some advice. She noted that there were some excellent Twitter posts, but also that some students were not very good (too short or too long tweets) or had preconceptions of Twitter as a merely social - rather than professional - knowledge exchange platform.

continued on page 2
In this way, anyone using Twitter for teaching and learning must be aware that this platform can make the gap between the engaged and the non-engaged students even larger than in real life. Next to this, there are ethical dilemmas when setting up such an exercise, because students cannot be ‘forced’ to join Twitter. Thus, tutors may be required to provide an alternative medium of submission for those who wish to protect their privacy (e.g. via email).

Simon Usherwood (University of Surrey) also shared his experience of using Twitter for higher education. This was by way of encouraging his audience (students) to ask questions with the help of a hashtag during a lecture/workshop, which may be useful with large class/audience teaching. According to Simon, the key here is to have - besides the speaker - another person who would be responsible for reacting to all posts posted under that hashtag, as it is usually not practical (or possible) for the speaker to talk and answer Twitter hashtag questions at the same time. In Simon’s experience, students feel less self-conscious if they can send in questions via Twitter at public lectures, as compared to asking a question in the audience. Twitter hashtag also allows filtering of the questions before they are posed to the speaker.

Egle Dagilyte pointed to a number of law academicians, who were using Twitter for exam revision with a set of hashtag. These included Matthew Homewood’s #EULawRocks (University of Nottingham) and Mark Elliott’s #PublicLawExam (University of Cambridge). These hashtags seem to have engaged law students, especially where the tutor was willing to point them to further materials, available on VLE or online (e.g. the tutor’s own blog).

One of the concerns raised at the UACES social media how-to workshop was how to make students aware of the existence of a hashtag in a certain module or course, in order to increase engagement on Twitter. David Nutt (University of Reading) drew the attendees’ attention to the fact that some VLEs, such as Blackboard and Moodle, allowed a Twitter feed to be included on the course landing page, so that non-Twitter users could also see what conversations happen on Twitter. This could be a simple, yet effective, solution, especially if there is a lot of student engagement with the VLE.

There were a number normative questions raised by the workshop attendees about engaging on Twitter as a medium in the first place, or the ways in which such engagement is to be conducted. For example, Twitter is good for exposing students to critical thinking, as it shows that other people have views that may be different from students’ own. As it is an environment where the freedom of expression thrives, students come to know that all knowledge is biased in one way or another; they have to learn to accept and cope with such an environment. As workshop participants observed, in such a wide pool of opinion and information-sharing, it is difficult for tweeters to remain impartial, hence everyone is forced to choose and defend their own view, position, or research findings. Thus Twitter may be a challenging medium not only for students, but also for scholars, as it puts them directly in conversations with those they may be investigating in their research, or with research stakeholders and other scholars. This, of course, may come as a daunting public impact exercise and put off many to begin using Twitter. However, the attendees agreed that it is about becoming comfortable with discomfort, which is an important life skill that both students and academics can learn from tweeting.
Best Book and PhD Prizes

Awarded annually, the UACES Best PhD and Book Prizes celebrate the work that has made the most substantial and original contribution to knowledge in the area of European Studies.

Best Book

Awarded to Kenneth Dyson for his book *States, Debt, and Power: Saints and Sinners in European History and Integration.*

Dyson’s book aims to increase understanding of the ongoing Euro countries sovereign debt crisis in the broader historical context of sovereign financing.

*States, Debt, and Power* argues for the importance of situating our contextually influenced thinking about European states and debt within a commitment to historically informed and critical analysis. It teases out certain broad historical patterns. The book also examines the inescapably difficult and contentious judgements about ‘bad’ and ‘good’ debt and what would constitute sustainable debt. The book further discusses distributive justice at times of sovereign debt crisis. These judgements offer insight into the nature of power and the contingent nature of sovereign creditworthiness.

Dyson points out the significance of creditor-debtor state relations in defining asymmetry of power. He describes further the context-specific and constructed character of debt, above all in relation to war, as well as the limitations of formal economic reasoning in the face of radical uncertainty.

Dyson’s book was heralded by one member of the jury as ‘the best historical contextualisation of the Eurozone crisis. … It is the work of one of European studies’ finest scholars at his absolute peak.’

Best PhD Thesis


Modern western understandings of citizenship are closely tied to the nation state. This is the political community where members are expected to exercise their freedoms and practice solidarity. When individuals claim rights across borders and move in and out of different polities, the state-centric citizenship model is disturbed. Nowhere is this more pronounced than in the European Union where borders are transformed by transnational migration and internal mobility. Wagner develops an agonistic conception of citizenship and cross-border movement through a heuristic empirical case study of transnational immigration and EU mobility in the Danish family unification dispute.

The jury praised Wagner’s thesis for its ‘high quality of argument’ and for its ‘genuinely original and interesting contribution to the literature.’ As one jury member commented, ‘it’s an interesting piece of ethnography and adds a great deal to more abstract studies of EU citizenship’.

Did you complete your thesis or publish a book in 2015?

Nominations are now being sought for next year’s Best Book and Best PhD awards.

Nomination deadline: 31 January 2016

Further info: www.uaces.org/awards
Deusto Law School proudly hosted the 45th UACES Annual Conference in Bilbao this year. Our local team was thrilled about the idea of opening our doors to more than 450 experts willing to share their insights on the many faces of European governance.

Some colleagues started arriving on Sunday afternoon, in time for the 3rd edition of the Teaching and Learning Conference. I personally consider these exchanges on teaching innovation in an informal setting a very inspiring way to heat engines before the official start of the Conference on Monday. On this year’s agenda was a well-balanced combination of down-to-earth approaches to teaching innovation and a handful of ‘how-to’ workshops which managed to keep the audience’s attention (see page 1, 2, 6, & 7).

Early on Monday morning, the Dean of Deusto Law School warmly welcomed the delegates and then gave the floor to the first plenary session, on the role of the sub-state in EU integration chaired by Simon Bulmer. Lively discussions between Carlos Closa, Justin Greenwood and Leyre Madariaga took place in the magnificent Paraninfo.

The real challenge was yet to come, though. Picking the right panel among the 15-17 running simultaneously has seldom been so hard: all topics and all disciplines were represented in the research sessions! At least the coffee & tea-breaks by the cloisters palm trees helped delegates to regain energy.

In the late afternoon, delegates gathered again at the Paraninfo for the UACES Awards ceremony. We knew that Geoffrey Edwards would get a well-deserved award for his long-lasting contribution to EU Studies (p.15) but the Best Book prize (p.3), awarded to Kenneth Dyson, was successfully kept a secret until the very last moment. The celebration continued with a reception in the Cloisters.

Tuesday morning started with a plenary session on the foreign policy of the European Union chaired by Mariluz Suárez Castiñeira, during which Esther Barbé, Richard Youngs and Borja Lasheras exchanged views on the EU’s challenges and opportunities for global action. Some 20 Deusto researchers took part in the conference as paper-givers. In the evening, the drinks reception at the Maritime Museum offered the visitors the opportunity to learn more about the Basque links with the sea. Surrounded by maritime artefacts of many sorts, including a tender longboat, we savoured pintxos and txakoli in good company.

After the last pair of research sessions, the Annual Conference closed on Wednesday afternoon. The local team wishes to express a special thank you to the University of Deusto for their unconditional support, to UACES for having selected Bilbao as the first venue for the Annual Conference in Spain, and UACES staff, who guided us through thick and thin during the past three years. Judging by the feedback received, the conference seems to have lived up to the expectations of everybody.

See you at #UACES2016 in London!
@VG ravey  Fascinating talk by O. Terzi on how teaching #EUStudies & EU history shows alternative way of doing politics to Turkish students. #UACES2015

@NKapidou  Interesting discussion on party systems and European Integration earlier today at #UACES2015 in beautiful Bilbao.

@RA_Minto  Back to #UACES2015. Super panel on gender yesterday. Great research from @DagostinoSerena on Roma women’s mobilisation. Conf highlight.

@I_Solorio  #UACES2015 was a great experience @ Deusto was a fantastic venue. Superb organization from @UACES @CRN_EU_Energy is a wonderful group of people.

Find out more about the conference
Read a Storify of the event: www.uaces.org/8302
Browse a gallery of photos from the event: www.uaces.org/8303
Visit the dedicated conference website: www.uaces.org/bilbao
Following the tradition of the last two UACES annual conferences, 70 participants gathered on Sunday afternoon for the UACES teaching and learning workshop. The aim was twofold: to critically assess the mode and conditions for successful and sustainable innovation in two roundtables, and to practically experience and share innovation in two workshop slots.

Maxine David (University of Surrey), Philomena Murray (University of Melbourne) and Ludmila Coada (Free University Moldova) opened with the first roundtable on discussing the planning (purpose, scope, benefactors) of innovation but also necessary follow-up conditions of successful implementation and consolidation. The discussion put a critical emphasis on the importance of identifying a clear objective for innovation that is connected to the overall curriculum, but also the added value of showing students the contribution of a European studies perspective in discussing current events. Innovation was highlighted as a useful tool to bring learning beyond the classroom and to share with students our enthusiasm and passion for research.

With this more general food for thought in mind participants then split twice in four smaller groups to discuss and share teaching innovation first hand. Various workshop leaders offered insights into the use of new and old technologies (movie-making, e-learning, blogging, tweeting), how to help students grasp theoretical concepts (theoretical theatre), discussed the teaching-research nexus, or the design of capstone courses and field trips (see experiences from participants on the opposite page).

A final roundtable critically assessed the opportunities and challenges offered by project collaboration for innovating teaching and learning. Natalia Timus (Maastricht School of Governance) shared experiences from the INOTLES project (www.inotles.eu) and Karen Heard-Laureote (University of Portsmouth) discussed the lessons learnt from the TYPES project. Christine Neuhold (Maastricht University) and Ben Tonra (University College Dublin) gave a very honest account of their project experience, the latter with the ANTERO project (http://www.eufp.eu/antero). Practical tips included the importance of carefully selecting partners and using one’s network, but also clearly identifying the added value of collaboration for project partners and for any individual research involved. Project collaboration can provide great opportunities, but one must also not underestimate the (administrative) work.

The workshop impressively reflected the enthusiasm and dedication that European Studies scholars bring in terms of offering the best possible learning experience for their students. Even more so, the openness and critical perspective that colleagues offered provide a great insight into the difficulties and challenges that must not be underestimated in delivering teaching and learning innovation. A big thanks to all participants, panellists and workshop givers for making this enjoyable, insightful and enriching Sunday UACES workshop possible.

Visit the workshop website: www.uaces.org/t&l2015

Read Egle Dagilyte’s summary of teaching tips from the social media how-to workshop ‘Blogged and Tweeted: Using Social Media in EU Law Classroom’ featured on page 1 and 2.
“Students have difficulties in understanding abstract social science theories and traditional lecture formats may not always be helpful in teaching complex subjects like the EU. Viviane Gravey and Brendan Moore (University of East Anglia) suggested approaching this problem by embedding theoretical explanations in a theatrical performance. Teachers play the roles of different characters that represent various theories arguing with each other why their character ‘makes more sense’. A great advantage of the theoretical theatre is that it provides more space for debate and argument among the characters and also between the actors and audience (students) in the post-performance Q&A session. Each participant of the workshop had then a chance to brainstorm the application of the theatrical theatre to her/his own field of teaching in EU studies.

Emma Mayhew (University of Reading) discussed the innovative opportunities, which screen capture technologies allow creation of short audio and video casts on various subjects – from essay and exam assessment criteria to paper feedback and group evaluations – that can be delivered to students in an efficient and creative manner. The workshop offered a truly hands-on perspective on how to better engage with and reach out to students via an effective use of modern visual tools.”

“I took part in two workshops, the first one on ‘European studies through the camera lens’. In this one Laura Asarite (University of Flensburg) showed us films made by her students on how European studies also can be conducted via filmmaking. As she explained, uploading self-made videos and movies is part of everyday life for many people, and why not use this development in teaching European studies? We also saw one of the films her students made (on ‘culinary diplomacy’). This film, approximately five minutes long, illustrated how the use of food and cuisine could promote cross-cultural understanding.

The other workshop was on E-learning in EU-studies led by Silviu Piros and Alexandra Mihai (Vrije Universiteit Brussel). The aim of this workshop was to design our own online courses on the EU. The workshop on use of social media and blogging by Egle Daglyte (Anglia Ruskin University) provided me with an important insight into how these new media can be used effectively to appeal to students’ interest. Learning to use Twitter to merge current affairs with theoretical analysis in a limited space of expression can be to the benefit of students, who will need to use words wisely and to the point once they become officials in an age of social media. The workshop on theoretical theatre by Viviane Gravey and Brendan Moore (University of East Anglia) showed how easily theoretical approaches can be adapted to daily issues in a course context.

I feel I have benefitted a lot from taking this extra afternoon of workshops in Bilbao.”
Inaugural workshop of the UACES CRN on the European Energy Policy
Norwich, 25-26 June 2015

*Jenny Fairbrass, Anna Herranz-Surrallés, Israel Solorio*

This two-day workshop was hosted by the Norwich Business School at the University of East Anglia. It brought together researchers from across a range of disciplines of social sciences with the aim of exploring the different challenges related to the EU performance in this fundamental policy area. In particular, the discussions focused on how to deal with the complexity of the European energy policy given its cross-cutting nature. Considering the spectrum of public, private and third sector actors involved in EU policy making and implementation, it is a difficult task to analyze the processes involved. The further discussion was about how to bridge the understanding of the EU energy policy in its internal and external dimensions.

The event opened with a welcoming note from part of the CRN conveners in which the purpose of this research network funded by UACES was set out. The first day of the workshop dealt with topics such as the current difficulties of engaging internal actors and external partners with the EU performance on energy and climate. Papers also dealt with the challenges that this policy brings to EU multi-level governance. The day finished with a panel on the EU renewable energy policy and the problems that the EU strategy of "norm export" is facing with the neighboring countries.

The second day discussion focused on the rationale for the EU compulsion of creating an internal energy market and promoting its rules abroad taking into account a context where geopolitics dictate the behavior of main international energy actors like Russia, China or the United States. The workshop finished with a roundtable where the participants discussed the CRN's publication and research projects.

Further info: www.uaces.org/energy

The Politics of Knowledge
Cambridge, 16-17 July 2015

In July 2015, UACES’s European Research Area CRN held its second workshop at the Department of Politics and International Studies (POLIS) in Cambridge. Knowledge policies continue to be at the forefront of contemporary global politics. There is an accepted belief among policymakers that knowledge is the foundation on which societies coalesce and economies thrive. Indeed, the competition for knowledge can be said to be driving the global race for talent. Building on the theme of the CRN's first workshop, which explored the diverse roles of the ‘four I’s’ – ideas, interests, instruments and institutions in the ‘knowledge area building exercise’, this workshop invited contributions to examine the politics of knowledge policies in Europe and beyond.

Opening the session on ‘International policies, norms and knowledge policies’, Hannes Hansen-Magnusson (University of Hamburg) proposed a way to account for knowledge in practices of responsibility. In this co-authored paper (with Antje Wiener and Antje Vetterlein), he argued that researchers should uncover meso-level norms in order to ‘increase long-term sustainable normativity under conditions of globalisation’.

Is education policy an ‘Internal consolidator or foreign policy vehicle? Amelia Hadfield (Canterbury Christ Church University) and Robert Summerby-Murray (Saint Mary’s University) asked. Using the EU and Canada as their examples, they highlighted how education policy has been co-opted to serve multiple purposes— as the modus operandi for cultivating notions of statehood and belonging, and as an extension to others of prevailing national cultural norms and understanding.

Turning to the session on ‘Regions and the re-configuration of knowledge policy areas: Examples from Canada, Europe and South East Asia’, Hannah Moscovitz (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev) compared how Quebec and Wallonia used higher education as a tool for identity promotion. She found that their approaches were distinct: whereas Quebec used knowledge policies to consolidate and foster its distinct identity, Wallonia used higher education policies as a promotional tool (the image of ‘Wallonia-Brussels’) to place itself on the global higher education map.

Offering another comparative perspective, Meng-Hsuan Chou (NTU Singapore) and Pauline Ravinet (Université Lille 2) (see picture) discussed the rise of what they called ‘higher education regionalisms’ around the world. They showed how the supranational and national policy actors in Europe and
South East Asia articulated their ambitions to establish common higher education areas in similar ways, but ultimately they adopt very different institutional arrangements for achieving their goals. Chou and Ravinet argued that there are varieties of ‘higher education regionalisms’ around the world and encouraged researchers to examine them empirically.

In the session ‘Studying Europe’s open labour market for researchers’, Inga Ulnicane (University of Vienna) presented the research design for a commissioned study for the European Parliament. Her study will combine academic research and published studies to identify the shortcomings and gaps in three priority areas of the European Research Area: effective national research systems, transnational cooperation and competition, and open labour market for researchers.

In the penultimate session—‘Knowledge policy instrumentation: from failure to reform?’—Péter Erdélyi (Bournemouth University) discussed the rise and fall of UK’s Business Link, a policy instrument the government adopted for furthering its knowledge economy. In this co-authored paper (with Edgar Whitley), he showed the implementation challenges associated with Business Link the UK government faced in its attempts to address market failures impeding the growth of SMEs.

Examining the relationship between ideas and instruments, Mitchell Young (Charles University in Prague) argued that policy instruments embed politics. Using the cases of the new Swedish and Czech performance-based funding tools, along with EU’s framework programmes, he showed how studying policy instruments reveal the ideas and narratives steering politics.

Is there standardisation in higher education? Mari Elken (NIFU and University of Oslo) asked. Taking the case of the European Qualifications Framework (EQF) and its subsequent translation through National Qualifications Framework (NQF), she showed how the EQF has generated standardisation pressures across Europe. The most surprising element, Elken revealed, has been the voluntary nature of the instrument.

Closing the workshop with the session ‘The institutional design and implementation for excellence’, Thomas König (Institute for Advanced Studies, Vienna) presented three aspects concerning peer reviewing: (1) how it is defined; (2) when it entered the world of research funding; and (3) how the notion is applied in academia and research funding. He showed that peer review plays a very different role in research funding than in academia. In research funding, peer review is used to legitimise funding decisions and is greatly valued for its procedural flexibility.

Finally, in a co-authored paper (with Alberto Benitez-Amado), Luis Sanz-Menendez and Laura Cruz-Castro (both CSIC Institute of Public Goods and Policies) analysed the participation of Spanish universities in the European Research Council (ERC) funding calls. Studying a representative sample of eighteen universities across Spain, they found that Spanish higher education institutions did not respond to the calls in the same way. Put simply, there is homogeneity in how Spanish universities approach ERC funding calls.

The European Research Area CRN would like to thank UACES and POLIS, University of Cambridge, for their generous support in the hosting of this workshop.

For further information: www.uaces.org/era

Financial Accountability in the European Union

Bilbao, 7-9 September 2015

The 45th UACES Annual Conference provided an opportunity for 9 researchers from the newly approved CRN on Financial Accountability in the European Union (EUFINACCO) to meet up and present papers. The three panels brought together the network’s coordinators - from academic institutions in Bilbao, Maastricht, Berlin - academics from the UK and Poland, as well a researcher from the German Development Institute and a long-serving practitioner from the European Court of Auditors. Having started out as a small nucleus of researchers working primarily on audit, it was satisfying to see the network grow and broaden its intellectual scope to other areas, including absorption, error, corruption, scrutiny, public prosecution and new economic governance. It was also rewarding to attract new audience members and meet others who are working on related issues. EUFINACCO continues to grow and seeks new members. It intends to hold its first workshop in Spring 2016 in Maastricht.

Contact: p.stephenson@maastrichtuniversity.nl
Further info: www.uaces.org/eufinacco

UACES CRNs between 2012-2015 are supported by the Lifelong Learning Programme of the European Union
December...

**EU Exchange Wales - Law**
Cardiff, 1 December 2015
www.uaces.org/1769

**Policy Learning on the Bologna Process in Ukraine**
Edinburgh, 2 December 2015
www.uaces.org/1754

**Places and Non-Places of Modernity: Movement, Memory and Imagination in Contemporary Europe**
Stockholm, 3-4 December 2015
www.uaces.org/1566

**Digital Single Market**
London, 4 December 2015
www.uaces.org/1770

**Challenges for Europe and Germany: a view from the German Council of Economic Advisors**
Brussels, 4 December 2015
www.uaces.org/1771

**Addressing the Needs of Teaching, Education and Research in EU Foreign Policy Meeting**
Brussels, 9-11 December 2015
www.uaces.org/1750

**SSEES Conference: Socialism, Capitalism and the Alternatives: Lessons from Russia and Eastern Europe**
London, 14-16 December 2015
www.uaces.org/1757

January...

**UACES Student Forum Seminars: Teaching European Studies in Crisis**
Europa Institute at the University of Edinburgh
8 January 2016
www.uaces.org/sfseminars

**Institute of European Law Annual Lecture 2016**
Birmingham, 18 January 2016
www.uaces.org/1760

**Recovering from the Crisis? The Uncertain State of the EU**
Paris, 21-22 January 2016
www.uaces.org/1778

**European Union Health Law and Policy: The State of the Art and Direction of Travel**
Brussels, 28 January 2016
www.uaces.org/1743

**UACES 46th Annual Conference**
London
5-7 September 2016
www.uaces.org/London
February...

Trust, Social Capital and Networks: A different perspective on International Courts
Copenhagen, 4-5 February 2016
www.uaces.org/1773

EU Law, Policy and Practice on Solidarity and Responsibility-Sharing for Asylum and Refugee Protection
London, 4 February 2016
www.uaces.org/1790

17th EU Studies Fair
Brussels, 5-6 February 2016
www.uaces.org/1749

Parliamentary Cooperation and Diplomacy in Europe and beyond - Theories, Practices and Comparisons
Brussels, 18-19 February 2016
www.uaces.org/1751

ESC Graduate Student Conference 2016 - The EU for Whom? Democracy and Demography in a Shifting Europe
Pittsburgh, February 26-27 2016
www.uaces.org/1783

March...

The Front National and the Disappearing Gender Gap
London, 3 March 2016
www.uaces.org/1775

Communication, Peace and Security in the 21st Century
Atlanta, 15 March 2016
www.uaces.org/1780

ISA 57th Annual Convention
Atlanta, 16-19 March 2016
www.uaces.org/606

EU Asylum Law and Disabled Refugees - Is the UK Reservation to the CRPD in the Context of Asylum Law Redundant?
London, 16 March 2016
www.uaces.org/1791

PSA Annual International Conference 2016
Brighton, 21-23 March 2016
www.uaces.org/1224

Central European Law Conference for Students
Maribor, 31 March - 2 April 2016
www.uaces.org/1752

Small Event grants: proposals invited
Up to 1,000 GBP is available to support one-off events.
Application deadline: 29 January 2016
Further info: www.uaces.org/small
Recent Books

TTIP: The Truth about the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership
*Ferdi De Ville & Gabriel Siles-Brugge*
Polity Press
ISBN: 9781509501021 (pb)
GBP: 9.19

The Actors of Postnational Rule-Making: Contemporary Challenges of European and International Law
*Elaine Fahey (ed)*
Routledge
ISBN: 9781138856660
GBP: 90.00

European Union Enlargement Conditionality
*Eli Gateva*
Palgrave Macmillan
ISBN: 9781137482433
GBP: 68.00

The European Union’s Broader Neighbourhood: Challenges and Opportunities for Cooperation beyond the European Neighbourhood Policy
*Sieglinde Gstöhl & Erwan Lannon (eds)*
Routledge
ISBN: 9781138776715
GBP: 68.00

The New Intergovernmentalism: States and Supranational Actors in the Post-Maastricht Era
*Dermot Hodson, Chris Bickerton & Uwe Puetter*
Oxford University Press
ISBN: 9780198703617
GBP: 55.00

Europe in the Time of Crisis
*Stanislaw Konopacki (ed)*
Columbia University Press
ISBN: 9788323338093 (pb)
GBP: 30.95

Research Methods in European Union Studies
*Kennet Lynggaard, Ian Manners and Karl Löfgren (eds)*
Palgrave Macmillan
ISBN: 9780230363052
GBP: 73.00

The European Commission
*Neill Nugent & Mark Rhinard*
Palgrave Macmillan
ISBN: 9780230220591 (pb)
GBP: 29.96

The Sub-national Dimension of the EU. A Legal Study of Multilevel Governance
*Carlo Panara*
Springer
ISBN: 9783319145884
GBP: 72.00

Normative Power Europe Meets Israel: Perceptions and Realities
*Sharon Pardo*
Lexington Books
ISBN: 9780739195666
GBP: 52.95

European Climate Leadership in Question: Policies toward China and India
*Diarmuid Torney*
MIT Press
ISBN: 9780262527828 (pb)
GBP: 20.95

The European Council
*Wolfgang Wessels*
Palgrave Macmillan
ISBN: 9780333587478 (pb)
GBP: 29.99

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UACES Membership Benefits

UACES has different types of memberships, Group Membership for Departments, Centres, Schools or Faculties and an Individual Membership for academics, researchers or practitioners, with a 50% discount to subscription rate for Student members.

Benefits for all members include the UACES members’ email list, a searchable expert directory Experts on Europe and funding for Small Events, as well as discounts on books and journals. These discounts are currently being reviewed to ensure discounts are accessible in an easy way.

UACES Membership offers a variety of benefits tailored to the different needs of early career and established academics. For Student members, UACES has travel support for selected events, competitive fieldwork scholarships, and the Best PhD Thesis Prize. Specifically for our individual members there is funding for Collaborative Research Networks, the UACES Best Book Prize and the Lifetime Achievement Award.

Membership Renewals

The end of 2015 is already in sight, for those who will need to renew their membership, UACES will send a reminder email in November, so please keep an eye out and make sure you renew your membership in time to take advantage of your membership from the beginning of 2016!

Further info: www.uaces.org/renew
Uladzislau BELAVUSAU, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, has been awarded the Marco Biagi Award for the best paper in labour law from the International Association of Labour Law Journals.

Sven BISCOP, Egmont - Royal Institute for International Relations & Ghent University, has been awarded an Honorary Fellowship of the European Security and Defence College (ESDC), on the occasion of its 10th anniversary, alongside Ambassador Pierre Vimont, the first Executive Secretary-General of the European External Action Service, and Lt-Col Hans-Bernhard Weisserth, the first Head of the ESDC.

Egle DAGILYTE has been appointed Senior Lecturer in Law at Anglia Law School at Anglia Ruskin University.

Narine GHAZARYAN has been appointed Assistant Professor at the School of Law at University of Nottingham.

Christos KOURTELIS has been appointed Lecturer of International Relations at the Department of Political Science at Maastricht University.

Albert SANCHEZ-GRAELLS has been appointed Senior Lecturer in Law at University of Bristol Law School.

Joanna SZOSTEK has been appointed Marie Skłodowska-Curie Research Fellow at the Department of Politics and International Relations at Royal Holloway, University of London.

Ebru TURHAN has been appointed Assistant Professor at the Department of Political Science & Public Administration at the Turkish - German University.

David YURATICH has been appointed Lecturer in Law at the School of Law at Royal Holloway University of London.

Benedetta VOLTOLINI has been appointed Marie Skłodowska-Curie Research Fellow at the Centre d’études européennes at Sciences Po.

Rebecca ZAHN has been appointed Lecturer in Law at the University of Strathclyde.

UACES Elections 2016

Nominations are now invited from individual members of UACES for election to the UACES committee. We are looking for two committee members and a new Treasurer.

Committee Members

UACES committee members make a contribution to the development of the European Studies field. They shape the concerns of the Association as a whole and help to organise events and activities.

There is no ideal candidate. We are looking for individuals with familiarity of and commitment to UACES. As a committee member you will have a chance to shape the future of your association and ensure that we continue to deliver for our members.

Treasurer

The role of UACES Treasurer is essential to the smooth-running of the association. The Treasurer is one of the Officers of UACES and, together with the Secretary and the Chair s/he will make an important contribution to UACES governance. The Treasurer must be experienced, of sound judgement and have established contacts. A financial background is not essential.

If you would like to have a significant impact on the running of the association and help shape its future direction, we’d love to hear from you.

If you have any questions regarding either the role of committee member or Treasurer, please contact Emily Linnemann: admin@uaces.org or visit www.uaces.org/elections.

JCMS: Call for Editors

UACES and Wiley invite applications for the positions of Editors of JCMS: Journal of Common Market Studies.

We are seeking to appoint an interdisciplinary editorial team of scholars of international standing, that have clear strategic objectives and a credible delivery plan for their realisation.

JCMS is among the top 10 journals in International Relations, the top 20 in Political Science and the top 50 in Economics.

In a given year JCMS publishes six issues plus the Annual Review.

Further info: www.uaces.org/jcmscall

A thank you from UACES

UACES would like to thank Mary Farrell and Simon Usherwood who have served on the UACES Committee, and who came to the end of their elected terms in September.

As part of her role on the committee, Mary sat on the events committee and was key in the smooth selection and running of UACES events.

Simon sat on the engagement group and has spearheaded UACES digital development, such as Ideas on Europe. Simon will still have a role in the committee as a co-opted member.
Lifetime Achievement Award 2015

UACES was delighted to be able to honour Geoffrey Edwards as the winner of the 2015 Lifetime Achievement Award for his contribution to the development of European Studies as a discipline. The award was presented by Chair of UACES Helen Drake during the UACES Annual Conference at Deusto Law School.

Krakow 2017

UACES is very pleased to announce the venue for the 47th annual conference.

Our hosts for the conference will be the Institute of European Studies based at the Jagiellonian University.

The University just celebrated its 650th anniversary, reaffirming its status as a leading academic institution, with an academically rich heritage and a cosmopolitan environment. It is at the core of cultural and academic life in Krakow.

More details to be announced soon.
Panel and Paper Proposals now Invited

The call for panels and papers for London is now open. The deadline for submissions is **22 January 2016**

Further info: [www.uaces.org/london](http://www.uaces.org/london)
Arena 2.0

The UACES Arena was sponsored from 2012 until September 2015 by the Lifelong Learning Programme of the European Union, which has now come to an end.

Moving forward UACES will continue to provide its members with the opportunity to present their innovative research-in-progress to a broad, multidisciplinary audience of mainly Brussels-based practitioners of EU policy making, with an interest in policy-relevant research.

Edelman The Centre will remain the host of this platform. The selection process is likely to change, more information will follow in this regard. The first opportunity to present in Brussels with a UACES Arena Bursary will be in spring, with an application deadline on the 12th February.

'Small is Beautiful, Increasing Democracy in Europe at the Local Level'

Ben Duke, Keele University, presented his research at the Edelman Centre in Brussels on 17 June 2015. He discussed the extent to which European citizens consider democracy at the local level. As well as how relevant this subject is to people, the man and woman in the street.

He set out five different types of democratisation process. Ben demonstrated that higher education is fundamental to democratisation processes being a success, as well as to combat the perennial issue of democratic deficit. Via video, Professor Paraskevas Nikiforos Diamandouros gave his view that as part of democratisation and citizen participation, the European Union (EU) needs to make sure that its institutions and administration are functioning and do not encroach on citizens’ rights.

Localism is a democratisation tool, which is usually used by people living in a nation state, people who do not wish to leave their parent country. Instead they want to have much more local ownership of decisions at the local level. Politic of localism has been introduced in the UK by legislation, in the form of the Localism Act 2011.

Another tactic is an emphasis on local ownership and local control of key issues regarding the social infrastructure of any area. This devolution means there would be local accountable control when taking over the duties, responsibilities and budget, now devolved from central government, to local people.

Hard Choices: Increase Counter-Terrorism Surveillance Powers or Risk Further Terrorist Attacks

In 2015, we have seen the devastating results of terrorist acts in a number of European states. While acts of terrorism in Europe are not new, we are witnessing a change in how terrorist groups use electronic communications to radicalise, communicate and plan acts of terror.

Dr David Lowe, lecturer at Liverpool John Moores University, examined in his presentation at the Arena Seminars on June 2nd, the legal systems governing surveillance, in particular those related to counter-terrorism investigations. He furthermore argued that there is a requirement for the reintroduction of the 2011 EU Directive on passenger data as well as an EU Regulation that encourages international cooperation between the EU member states’ counter-terrorism agencies, similar agencies in third countries, and with regards to Internet Service Providers.

The key theme of his presentation addressed how such laws can be introduced while remaining compatible with the protection of personal data. The non-exclusivity of national security needs and individual rights underpin his argument. David suggested, rather, that they are inclusive and a balance is needed to protect the lives of EU citizens and their right to privacy. The session was moderated by Ryan Heath, Senior Correspondent, Politico Europe and Claude Moniquet, Chief Executive Officer, European Strategic Intelligence and Security Center discussed his research.

To read a paper arising from David’s presentation, visit www.uaces.org/8304
UACES Student Forum
Research Conference
Belfast, 29-30 June 2015

Rachael Dickson & Viviane Gravey

At the end of June a delegation of 31 students from across Europe convened in a surprisingly summery Belfast for the 16th annual Student Forum conference, ‘Ever Challenged EU: Exploring Ways Out of the Crises’. On the Sunday, a group met for a tour of the University Quarter, taking in the main sites of the university, the botanic gardens and the Ulster Museum. The tour rounded up in a local pub to break the ice and allow everyone to experience Belfast’s hospitality.

On Monday morning, the conference opened with an introduction by Viviane Gravey (UACES SF committee chair), presenting the work of the UACES SF committee and different possibilities for students to become involved with UACES. The formal proceedings then kicked off with a keynote speaker from the host university, Dr Lee McGowan. He addressed the main challenges currently facing the EU and discussed potential implications of a ‘Brexit’, particularly on Northern Ireland, the only region of the UK to share a land border with the EU. His talk was the starting point for a lively discussion with the audience, moving away from a London-centric view on the EU referendum, to take into consideration perspectives from other parts of the UK – and of Europe more broadly.

This was followed by the breakout sessions with panels on EU Trade Policy and Identity. Other breakout sessions on the first day covered topics such as the EU neighbourhood, the Eurozone, education, climate change policies, the Ukraine and citizenship/civil society. The diversity of panels – and within panels, of theoretical approaches followed by the students – showcases the breadth of the European studies field and of the UACES SF membership. This diversity in topics and approaches sparked off discussions, providing paper givers with feedback from the audience and the conversation often spilled over into the breaks. Students were offered the opportunity to chair and discuss papers. This proved very fruitful, with the discussants learning new skills and the presenters benefiting from detailed feedback, as well as providing a structured discussion with the audience. The day was rounded off with drinks and nibbles at a local bar with those still to present heading back for an early night.

The final breakout session of the conference started on day two with panels on the political nature of the European Parliament; Member States and national policies; and EU human rights issues, with students receiving feedback from both fellow attendees, staff from Queen’s University Belfast, and panel speakers. Following morning coffee, the conference reached its climax with a roundtable discussion, ‘One Year On: Assessing the New Commission, European Council and European Parliament’.

We had three illustrious panel members: Professor Michael Shackleton (Maastricht University); Andrew Duff (former MEP for East of England between 1999 and 2014); and Professor Dagmar Schiek (Queen’s University Belfast). Each panellist gave their thoughts on the changes to the institutions and to their leadership as well as on the issues these new institutions would have to face urgently. Discussions touched notably on what could be changed within the existing Treaties, and what would necessitate (distant) Treaty change, the leeway the new Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker would have in dealing with the ongoing crises, and the role the European Parliament could play. The floor was then opened up for delegates to ask questions. With the Greek debt crisis reaching its pinnacle, the discussions were particularly pertinent.

The delegates and panellists had lunch before departing for home, allowing the discussions to continue in a more informal setting, drawing the 2015 research conference to a close. The conference not only gave students from a diverse range of backgrounds an opportunity to present and discuss their research but also to expand their skill set by chairing panels and acting as discussants. We would like to express our thanks to the School of Politics, International Studies, and Philosophy at Queen’s University for hosting and engaging with the students throughout the conference.

The conference was co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union, under the framework of the TYPES project (Teaching Young People European Studies).
The JCMS Annual Review Lecture: Imagining Europe: The Cultural Foundations of EU Governance

Paris, 10 July 2015

Tim Haughton, University of Birmingham

‘Scholars have long probed into how material and functional elements matter for the evolution of the EU’, argued Kathleen McNamara in this year’s JCMS Annual Review lecture, lamenting that ‘we have spent much less time examining the cultural underpinnings of the EU’s governance’.

The audience at the Council for European Studies (CES) conference who had eschewed the temptations of an early evening glass of wine on a warm and sunny Parisian Friday in July, were treated to an intellectual tour de force in which McNamara demonstrated the need to look to how broader cultural dynamics have shaped the EU’s basic construction as a legitimate political authority in order to understand fully the challenges the EU faces today. Moreover, the EU’s particular ‘banal authority’, she maintained suggests that ‘any institutional fixes to improve EU democracy will need to work hand in hand with changes in the cultural infrastructure of European governance’.

McNamara’s wide-ranging lecture, which was co-hosted by the CES European Integration & Global Political Economy Research Network, provoked firstly a lively discussion between Kate and her two discussants, Ben Rosamond and Alan Cafruny, and then a succession of penetrating questions and comments from leading scholars of the EU in the audience. All agreed that whatever the cultural foundations of EU governance may be, it was hard to imagine a better way of ending the CES conference than listening to Kate’s insightful and thought-provoking lecture.

The JCMS Annual Review of the European Union in 2014

More information on the Annual Review can be found on the publisher’s website, where the volume can also be purchased.

Further info: www.uaces.org/8306

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What is UACES?

UACES is an active, international network of over 1,000 members. It provides an independent, interdisciplinary forum for the exchange of ideas and debate on European issues.

UACES promotes research and teaching in European Studies, bringing together academics with practitioners active in European affairs.

UACES: the University Association for Contemporary European Studies.

Journals and Publications

Journal of Common Market Studies (JCMS)
Journal of Contemporary European Research (JCER)
UACES-Routledge Contemporary European Studies book series
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Commentary


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Call for Guest Editors

JCER is pleased to announce an open call for guest editors for a special issue to be published in 2017 (Volume 13, Issue 2). Applications are invited for themed issues within the broad scope of the journal. The issue would be published under the general supervision of the JCER editors.

Proposals should be for 8-12 articles of 7,000-8,000 words, plus an introductory, contextualising editorial of 3,000-5,000 words.

The deadline for submission of proposals is 15 December 2015.

Further information: www.uaces.org/special2017