UACES ANNUAL REPORT 2026



UACES University Association for Contemporary European Studies

UACES is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation registered in England and Wales.
Registration number: 1163773. Registered office: Idea Space, 83 Lavender Hill, London, SW11 5QL



ABOUT UACES

UACES (University Association for Contemporary European Studies) is the global membership organisation for academics, students and practitioners who are interested in all aspects of Europe and the European Union.

Our core purpose is to support and empower our community to advance education for the public benefit through the teaching and research of contemporary European Studies.

We support our members by organising events and conferences, including our flagship Annual Conference, providing grants and funding for researchers, publishing JCMS and CEP journals and CES books. Our Graduate Forum continues to grow year on year, providing important opportunities for PhD and Early-Career Researchers to share ideas, network and develop their careers.

Why European Studies Matters

European Studies is vital for understanding Europe's history, politics, economies, societies and how they shape the world and our shared future.

Its interdisciplinary approach offers fresh insights into global challenges like social equity, sustainability, security, trust and digital transformation.

Importantly, European Studies connects academia with society, informing public discourse, guiding policy and tackling complex real-world problems through a multidisciplinary lens.

As a hub for European Studies, **UACES** supports a global community of scholars, educators and practitioners. Together, we advance research, foster collaboration and help society navigate an increasingly complex and interconnected world.

What We Do

Membership
With nearly 1,000 members worldwide, we supports our community at every stage of their academic and professional journey.

Events
We bring scholars together through our flagship Annual Conference, Graduate Forum Research Conference, Doctoral Training Academy and a range of webinars and workshops. These create opportunities to share knowledge, build skills and grow professional networks.

Financial Support
We offers grants, scholarships and funding to help members pursue their studies, research and professional development.

Publishing
We work In partnership with researchers, scholars and institutions to advance the field of contemporary European Studies through leading journals, book series and blogs.

As a not-for-profit organisation, UACES reinvests income from the Journal of Common Market Studies (JCMS) and Contemporary European Politics (CEP) into member activities and the wider scholarly community.

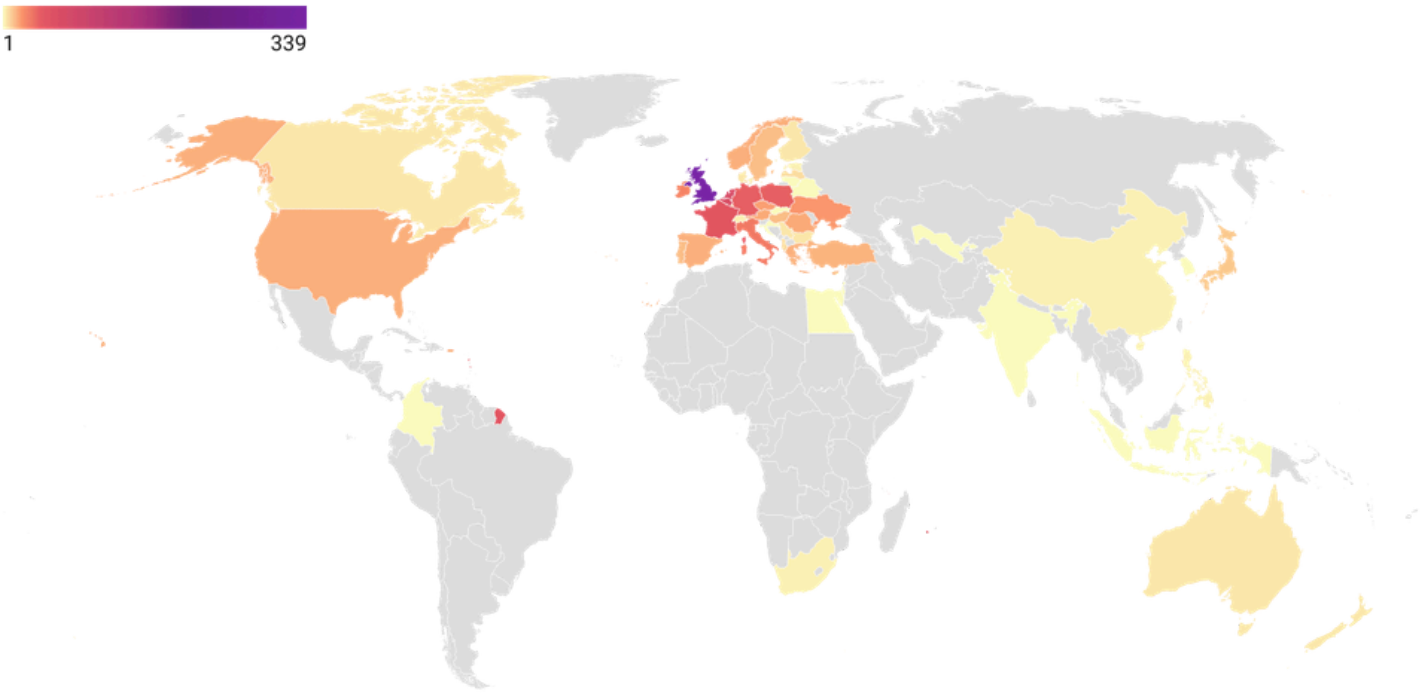
MEMBERSHIP

As of 31 December 2025, UACES proudly supported a vibrant and diverse international community of members. Our membership included:

- 217 Individual Members
- 48 Early Career Researchers
- 92 PhD Researchers
- 17 Students
- 60 Affiliates
- 294 members through 31 Group Member institutions

Notably, 63% of members who provided a location were based outside the UK, reflecting the truly international reach and relevance of European Studies today.

Membership Distribution by Country



Benefits of Membership

In 2025, members benefited directly from discounts and travel funding for some UACES events, grants to support research networks, microgrants, fieldwork scholarships for PhD students, access to our ever-popular email list and newsletter, fully-funded conferences for postgraduate students and indirectly through our journals co-published with Wiley, 'JCMS: Journal of Common Market Studies' and 'Contemporary European Politics'.

A full list of members' benefits is available to **view on the UACES website.**

EVENTS

55th Annual Conference Liverpooli

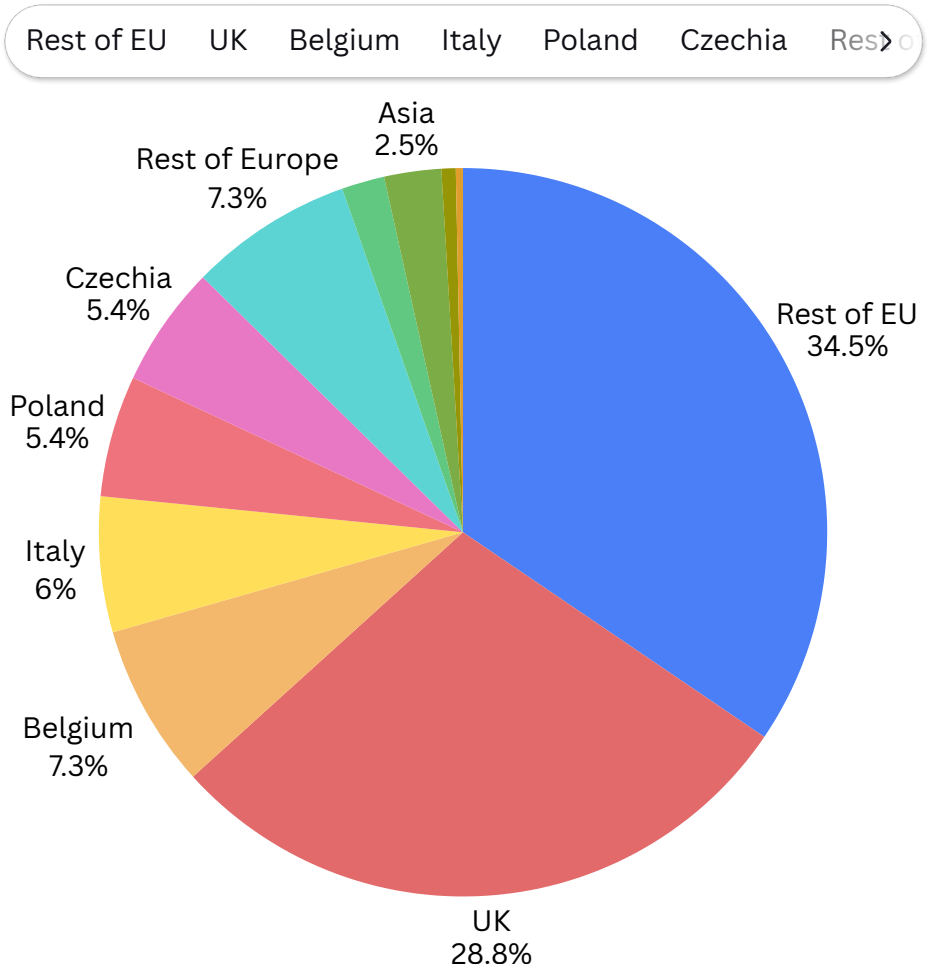
The UACES 55th Annual Conference took place at Liverpool John Moores University, UK, from 1-3 September 2025, followed by a virtual conference day on 12 September 2025, extending the reach and accessibility of the event.

The in-person conference welcomed 299 delegates from around the world, demonstrating the international nature of the UACES community. The largest groups of attendees came from institutions based in the UK (27%), Belgium (7%), Italy (6%), Poland (5%) and Czechia (5%).

The programme featured three well-attended plenary sessions, each addressing timely and critical issues in contemporary European Studies:

- 75 Years after the Schuman Declaration: Keeping Up with Recent Trends in European Integration History
- Bordered Europe: Immigration, Security and Democracy
- Navigating Transatlantic Turbulence: Europe's Role in a Shifting Global Order

Origin of institutions for the 2025 Conference in Liverpool



EVENTS

Graduate Forum Research Conference

European Futures: What Next Two Decades after the Eastern Enlargement?

In May 2025, UACES hosted the Graduate Forum Research Conference at Panteion University of Social and Political Sciences in Athens, Greece. Entitled Has Democracy Gone Wrong? The Role of EU Values after the 2024 Elections, the conference brought together postgraduate and early-career researchers to explore the state of democracy, the future of EU values and the implications of the 2024 European Parliament elections. Over two days, participants presented research, shared ideas and engaged in debate on some of the most pressing challenges facing Europe today.

Doctoral Training Academy 2025

IIn November 2025, UACES hosted the Doctoral Training Academy at the Autonomous University of Madrid, Spain. The two-day programme, Life after PhD: Tricks, Tips and Ways to Survive in Academia and Beyond, supported doctoral researchers as they prepared for careers inside and outside academia. Sessions focused on career development, professional skills, academic publishing, networking and navigating an increasingly competitive employment landscape.

Webinar Series with IACES

The Future of the European Commission: Challenges and Opportunities for von der Leyen II

In February 2025, UACES and the Irish Association for Contemporary European Studies (IACES) hosted a joint webinar examining the challenges and opportunities facing Ursula von der Leyen's second European Commission. Five years after first taking office as Commission President, von der Leyen began a new term against a backdrop of political change across Europe, shifting dynamics in the European Parliament and growing geopolitical uncertainty.

The webinar brought together academics and policy experts to discuss the future direction of the Commission and the European Union, including questions of economic competitiveness, security, climate policy, support for Ukraine and transatlantic relations

FUNDING

Fieldwork Scholarships

Since 2002, UACES has supported hundreds of postgraduate researchers worldwide, providing them with the opportunity to conduct essential fieldwork in another country. Our PhD fieldwork scholarships help PhD Researcher members explore new perspectives, access valuable resources and gain insights that transform their research.

In 2025, we received applications for fieldwork scholarships to be conducted in 2025-2026. Four PhD researchers were awarded £1,500 scholarships each.

The recipients of the 2024 UACES Scholarships and their PhD research topics were:

- **Yingtao Li**, King's College London: Tech giants' roles in global governance amid geopolitical tension.
- **Benedetta Morari**, LSE – London School of Economics and Political Science: Reshaping (Dis)Unity: How Internal Dissent Fuels the European Union's Global Engagement
- **Giovanni Parente**, Maynooth University: The European Union at sea: a historical and geopolitical analysis of EU maritime operations and their impact on maritime governance and security, 2008–2024
- **Elena Pro,** LSE – London School of Economics and Political Science: The relationship between institutions, actions, and political identities in Europe

UACES Research Networks

UACES Research Networks play a vital role in supporting our members and the broader European Studies community. Details on the funding available and selection criteria are available on the UACES **website**

Current Research Networks

- Securing Europe (2024-2025)
- Rethinking Europe's East-West Divide (2024-2025)
- EUFutures (2022-2025) [Funded by the James Madison Charitable Trust]
- European Studies in a Relational Universe (2022-2025)
- Trade Implementation and Enforcement Research Network (TIER) (2022-2025)

FUNDING

Microgrants

The UACES Microgrants scheme supports research for our PhD Researcher, Early-Career and Individual Members.

The scheme provides grants of between £100 and £500 to UACES members to assist them in covering the costs of undertaking their research.

The grants are designed to recognise the challenges facing researchers and can be used for various purposes including travel and accommodation costs, conference registration fees, professional training, hiring research assistants, creating online communities, childcare costs for academic work and video conferencing subscriptions.

Microgrants were awarded to the following members in 2025:

- **Elyssa Shea** - Research trip to Bonn and Koblenz
- **Brigitte Leucht** - Research trip to Brussels
- **Sanja Tepavcevic** - Research trip to Belgrade
- **Giovanni Parente** – Research trip to Brussels
- **Wendy Kwaku Yeboah** – Research trip to Leuven

PRIZES AND AWARDS

Best Book and PhD Thesis

Since 2005, UACES has awarded each year a prize for the Best Book and Best PhD Thesis in contemporary European Studies.

These prestigious awards recognise outstanding and original contributions to knowledge in the field and celebrating excellence in both established and emerging scholarship.

The prizes are awarded to UACES members whose work demonstrates substantial innovation, rigorous research and significant impact on contemporary European Studies. The awards are traditionally presented at the Annual Conference, where winners are invited as guests of UACES to collect their prize and share their research with the wider community.

The 2025 Book Prize winners were: **Fiona Costello, Catherine Barnard and Sarah Fraser Butlin** for *Low Paid EU Migrant Workers: the House, the Street, the Town.*

The 2025 Best Thesis Prize winner was: **Laura Nordström**, University of Helsinki for *Power of Experts in the EU: Birth of the Troika and Resilience of EMU Paradigm in the European Debt Crisis of 2010*

A full list of previous winners of the Best Book Prize is available **Here**
A full list of previous winners of Best PhD Thesis Prize is available **Here**





PRIZES AND AWARDS

Lifetime Achievement Award

The UACES Lifetime Achievement Award is presented to individuals who have made a substantial and enduring contribution to the development of European Studies as a discipline.

This prestigious award recognises a wide range of contributions to the profession, including traditional academic achievements such as research, publications and teaching, as well as non-traditional accomplishments that have significantly impacted the field.

In 2025, UACES was delighted to honour **Professor Michelle Cini** with the Lifetime Achievement Award.

Professor Cini has made an outstanding contribution to European Studies over more than three decades. A Professor of European Politics at the University of Bristol, her research has significantly shaped understanding of EU governance, particularly in the areas of administrative culture, competition policy and public ethics. She is also the editor of the widely used textbook European Union Politics, now in its eighth edition. A dedicated member of UACES since the late 1980s, Professor Cini has played a central role in the Association's development, serving as a Committee member, Secretary, member of the Book and Thesis Prize Committees, founding co-editor of the Contemporary European Studies (CES) book series and co-editor of JCMS: Journal of Common Market Studies.

A full list of previous Lifetime Achievement Award winners is available **Here**



PUBLICATIONS

JCMS: Journal of Common Market Studies

Editors-in-Chief: Professor Paul James Cardwell, Professor Roberta Guerrina and Professor Gabriel Siles-Brügge.
Annual Review Editors: Professor Gianfranco Baldini, Professor Elena Baracani and Dr Sorina Soare
ISSN: 0021-9886 (print), 1468-5965 (online).

Volume 3 was published in 2025, comprising:

- Issues 1-4, 6: General Issues.
- Issue 5: Special Issue: Tracing Frame Trajectories in Policy Debates: Placing the EU in Global Discourse Networks. Guest edited by Professor Ece Özlem Atikcan, Professor Anna Holzscheiter, Professor Jean-Frédéric Morin and Dr Tim Henrichsen
- The JCMS Annual Review of the European Union in 2025: https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/14685965/2025/63/S1

The JCMS Annual Lecture 2025 took place in Philadelphia, USA on 25 June 2025 at the Council for European Studies (CES) International Conference of Europeanists. The lecture, entitled "Europe Adrift: The Future of the EU, the Global Economy, and World Order in an Era of Uncertainty", was delivered by Professor Mark Copelovitch

The JCMS Annual Review Lecture 2025 took place at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) on 5 June 2025. The lecture was entitled "Nationalism and War in 21st Century Europe". It featured keynote speaker Professor Siniša Malešević, discussants Professor Maya Tudor and Professor Dragović-Soso, and was chaired by Dr Vesna Popovski.

There were 629,300 Full Text Views of JCMS articles in 2025.

The Top 5 Most Accessed Articles in 2024 Were:

- *The EU's Geoeconomic Turn: From Policy Laggard to Institutional Innovator, Sarah Bauerle Danzman & Sophie Meunier, 62:4* https://doi.org/10.1111/jcms.13599
- *The Colonial Imaginary of Europe in the EU's Asymmetrical Response to the Russian and Israeli Aggressions: Ukraine as a Member of the Family Whilst Othering Palestine, Álvaro Oleart & Juan Roch, 63:6* https://doi.org/10.1111/jcms.13719
- *Normative Power Europe: A Contradiction in Terms?, Ian Manners, 40:2* https://doi.org/10.1111/1468-5965.00353
- *Reassessing Legitimacy in the European Union, Andrew Moravcsik, 40:4* https://doi.org/10.1111/1468-5965.00390
- *The European Union and the Securitization of Migration, Jef Huysmans, 38:5* https://doi.org/10.1111/1468-5965.00263

Connect with JCMS:
Website: https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/14685965
Bluesky: https://bsky.app/profile/jcms-eu.bsky.social
LinkedIn: linkedin.com/company/jcms-journal-of-common-market-studies/

PUBLICATIONS

Contemporary European Politics

Contemporary European Politics is a multidisciplinary journal co-published by UACES and Wiley that advances scholarly understanding of contemporary European politics and society.

The journal publishes high-quality research across a wide range of topics related to European governance, institutions, political processes, and societal challenges. As an open-access journal, it provides a platform for innovative scholarship that is accessible to researchers, practitioners, and policymakers worldwide.

Editors-in-Chief: Dr Christopher Huggins, Dr Natasza Styczynska and Dr Bruno Theodoro Luciano.

There were 13,250 Full Text Views of CEP articles in 2025.

Volume 3 was published in 2025, comprising:

- Issues 3-4: General Issues.

The Top 5 Most Accessed Articles in 2024 Were:

- *The Football Effect: Comparing European Identity Between Fans and Non-Fans, Tobias Finger, Jonas Biel, Arne Niemann, Vincent Reinke, Radosław Kossakowski, Daniel Stockemer, Ramon Llopis-Goig, Jens Jungblut and Dobrosław Mańkowski, 3:2* https://doi.org/10.1002/cep4.70003
- *Frontex Goes Global: A Two-Level Experimentalist Governance Analysis of Frontex's International Action and Its Role Within the Externalisation of EU Borders, Yichen Zhong and Helena Carrapico, 2:1* https://doi.org/10.1002/cep4.7
- *Exploring Mercosur-EU Interregionalism: A Multifaceted Analysis of Its Past, Present and Future Functions and Dynamics, María V. Alvarez, 2:2* https://doi.org/10.1002/cep4.12
- *Sources of the European Union's Regulatory Influence on Digital Platform Firms: Lessons from Three Google Antitrust Cases, Hikaru Yoshizawa, 2:2* https://doi.org/10.1002/cep4.13
- *Political Violence in Far-Right Memory: Fratelli d'Italia's Remembrance of the Primavalle Arson, Maeve Marchese and Pier Domenico Tortola, 2:1* https://doi.org/10.1002/cep4.9

Connect with Contemporary European Politics:
Website: https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/28330188
LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/company/cep-journal

PUBLICATIONS

Routledge - UACES Contemporary European Studies series

Established in 2006, the Contemporary European Studies book series is an internationally renowned outlet for the publication of first-rate research in European Union Studies.

It aims to reflect the fast-moving and multifaceted character of the European Union as a political, economic, social, cultural, security, and technological actor and to represent novel and diverse approaches to European Union Studies.

Book Editors: Helena Farrand Carrapico, Benjamin Martill and Monika Brusenbauch Meislová

In 2025, eight new books were published in the series:

- *The Political Role of the European Commission in Regulating State Aid Policy.* Elena Escalante-Block
- *The Territorial Dimension of EU Knowledge Policies*. Alina J. Felder-Stindt
- *Rethinking EU Law-making Policy on Confiscation of the Proceeds of Crime*. Ariadna H. Ochnio
- *Differentiated Integration in a Nordic Perspective*. Anne Pintsch, Tor-Inge Harbo and Lars Oxelheim
- *European Central Bank Reform After the Financial Crisis*. Sebastian Heidebrecht
- *Ideological Flexibility of Political Parties in the Era of Transnational Cleavage*. Alessio Scopelliti
- *The Development of Energy Policy in the European Union*. Ingmar Versolmann
- *The European Universities Initiative and the 'Euro-internationalisation' of European Higher Education.* Alexander Frame and Barbara Curyło

For more information about the books in the series, visit the Routledge website at https://www.routledge.com/RoutledgeUACES-Contemporary-European-Studies/book-series/UACES.

UACES COMMITTEE

UACES is governed by a committee which includes a Chair, a Secretary, a Treasurer and an Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Officer. In addition to the Committee, there are working groups which undertake specific tasks. The Student and Early-Career members of the Association are represented by the UACES Graduate Forum.

Officers in 2025

- Chair: Professor Toni Haastrup (term commenced 1 September 2024)
- Treasurer: Dr. Rosa Maria Fernandez Martin (term ended 31 August 2025). Dr Charlotte Galpin (term commenced 1 September 2025)
- Secretary: Dr. Viviane Gravey (term ended 30 November 2025). Dr Maria Garcia (term commenced 1 December 2025)
- Equality, Diversity & Inclusion: Dr. Koen Slootmaeckers (term commenced 1 September 2023).

The Officers, through their leadership, are responsible for enabling the UACES Committee and staff to fulfil their responsibilities in the governance and strategic direction of the Association. The Officers also have specific responsibilities with regards to the provision of banking services and investments.

Committee

The Committee comprises four elected Officers, six elected Committee members and a number of co-opted Committee members. The editors of the Journal of Common Market Studies, the editors of the Journal of Contemporary European Research and the Chair of the UACES Graduate Forum all sit on the Committee in an ex-officio capacity.

Responsibilities of the Committee include:

- Membership issues (promoting contemporary European Studies, recruitment, retention, delivering benefits, supporting the activities of members).
- Publications (including the JCMS, JCER, CES book series, UACES News and the UACES Blog).
- Encouraging and developing the next generation (including the evaluation and selection of UACES Scholarships).
- Delivering projects funded by grant-making bodies (e.g. the EC funded Jean Monnet grants).

A list of all the Committee members and Working Groups can be found at www.uaces.org/about/committee-and-staff.

UACES FINANCES

Statement of Financial Activities

1 January 2025 - 31 December 2025

In line with Charity Commission requirements, the accounts for 2025 have been independently examined.

Balance at 1 January 2025 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 December 2025 £
591,358	311,169	(308,017)	594,510

Balance at 1 January 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 December 2024 £
532,934	394,365	(335,941)	591,358
-	21,251	(21,251)	-
532,934	415,616	(357,192)	591,358

	Unrestricted funds	Total funds at 31 December 2025
	General £	£
Tangible fixed assets	5,567	5,567
Current assets	659,065	659,065
Current liabilities	(70,122)	(70,122)
Total net assets	594,510	594,510