

# European Political Identity at the Crossroads: Whither European Integration?

**EucA Summer School - 7th edition** 

Newnham College, University of Cambridge August 30<sup>th</sup> – September 14<sup>th</sup> 2016

## Context

#### Article 1

This Treaty marks a new stage in the process of creating an ever closer union among the peoples of Europe, in which decisions are taken as openly as possible and as closely as possible to the citizen.

#### Article 2

The Union is founded on the values of respect for human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law and respect for human rights, including the rights of persons belonging to minorities. These values are common to the Member States in a society in which pluralism, non-discrimination, tolerance, justice, solidarity and equality between women and men prevail.

### Treaty on European Union

The ring of instability around Europe is putting our continent under stress. To confront this challenge together, European countries need to be able to trust each other – and that means sticking to our fundamental values, first and foremost the rule of law. The European Union may have proven itself in fair weather, but the serious test is how it performs in foul weather. Freedom, equality and pluralism are the sources of our strength. That lesson is as important to our governments and citizens as it is to migrants hoping to make Europe their new home.

# Dutch Foreign Minister Bert Koenders on 2 February 2016

« Britain will be permanently out of ever-closer union – never part of a European superstate.

There will be tough new restrictions on access to our welfare system for EU migrants – no more something for nothing. Britain will never join the euro. And we have secured vital protections for our economy and full say over the rules of the free trade single market while remaining outside of the euro. I believe it is enough for me to recommend that the United Kingdom remain in the European Union – having the best of both worlds.

We will be in the parts of Europe that work for us, influencing the decisions that affect us in the driving seat of the world's biggest market and with the ability to take action to keep people safe.

And we will be out of the parts of Europe that don't work for us. Out of the open borders. Out of the

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bailouts. Out of the euro. And out of all those schemes in which Britain wants no part. »

# UK Prime Minister David Cameron following the European Council meeting on 19 February 2016

If there is a crisis of democracy, it has not been created by the populists now bestriding Europe's hollowed-out political centre. The crisis is about the growing gap between elites and electorates; it is about a widening cultural divide between the worldview of Europe's elites and the values of Europe's voters; and it is about a gaping big hole at the heart of European politics where big ideas should be.

The Economist Intelligence Unit – Democracy on the edge report, 2015

What future for the European political project? À la carte? Multispeed?

How do we uphold our values in difficult times? How can we reconcile solidarity with responsibility?

How to overcome the distrust between political elites and ever-disengaged voters?

EucA aims to bring together around 20 students with scholars, decision makers, and artists from all around Europe to discuss the state and future of the European integration process. And even though simple solutions will be in short supply, the journey into exploring them thoroughly is worth taking!

# **EucA Cambridge Summer School**

Faculty will give **three seminars** per day, but the debate will continue informally during meals and **networking receptions**. All the students will be accommodated in Newnham College, in single rooms; all the meals will be taken in the College canteen.

Part of the program are several **non formal activities**, such as a British Parliamentary Debate, simulations of the EU decision-making process or current international negotiations, **aimed at developing soft skills** such as public speaking, team-working, presentation and critical thinking skills, just to name a few. The program includes also recreational activities such as touring Cambridge, punting on the river Cam, and, for those who wish, a trip to London.

The overall experience in Cambridge can be like a roller coast ride: it can leave you breathless for the fast pace of experiences in and outside the classroom; it can also be terribly exciting, but at the same time a bit daunting because of all the challenges you will have to face. Successful applicants will be intellectually curious students who are motivated to actively take part in all activities.

There will be a Diploma Ceremony on the last day in Cambridge after a Formal Dinner in Newnham's Victorian Dining Hall.

# Faculty and seminar topics

Dr. Thomas D'Andrea, University of Cambridge. The European Social Democratic Project: Philosophical

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and Theological Foundations.

**Prof. Andreas Kinneging**, University of Leiden. *United We Stand, Divided We Fall: A Case for the United States of Europe.* 

**Prof. Harald Wydra**, University of Cambridge. Two or more Europes? Memory, Identity and History.

**Mr. Riccardo Ribera d'Alcalá**, Director-General for Internal Policies of the Union, European Parliament

Dynamics of the European Integration Process - Insights from the European Parliament

**Dr. Mustafa Cenap Aydin**, Director of Tevere Institute, Rome. Muslim Integration in Europe: Can a Muslim be a European Citizen?

**Ms. Naema Tahir**, British-Dutch-Pakistani Human rights lawyer, author, broadcaster and expert in Islamic affairs. - Muslim Integration in Europe: Focus on Women's Role and Interreligious relationship.

**Ms. Victoria Martín de la Torre**, Press Officer of S&D Group, European Parliament and author of the book "Europe, a Leap into the Unknown". *Discovering the Founding Fathers of the European Union*.

**Mr. Andrei Zolotov**, **Jr**, Executive Editor (Europe) of Russia Direct. How Europeans can understand better Russia.

More speakers to be announced.

#### Venue

The Summer School will take place at the Newnham College, one of the 31 Colleges of the University of Cambridge. Students will be accommodated in single rooms. Newnham College was established in 1871 as a house in which young women could reside while attending lectures in Cambridge. For more information please visit <a href="https://www.newn.cam.ac.uk">www.newn.cam.ac.uk</a>.

#### Who can participate?

The EucA Summer School is open to around 20 students from EucA Colleges and partner countries. Students' pre-selection will be based on their application containing the following documents that **must be submitted in English and .pdf format**:

- 1. Curriculum vitae;
- **2. One-minute video** where the applicants are required to explain why they want to take part in the Summer School, and what they hope to achieve by participating;
- **3. Review** based on one of the articles proposed by EucA (between 800/1000 words). You can find the list of articles at the end of this document.

Preselected candidates will be interviewed via Skype by the EucA staff to know better their academic record, personal interests, motivation and linguistic competences. The best applications will be sent to

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the Director of the Summer School, Dr. Thomas D'Andrea, for the final selection.

Applications should be sent to info@euca.eu

Please send your application documents as soon as possible, and no later than May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2016. There is an on-going selection process that works on a first-come-first-served basis, safeguarding though the academic interest and motivation of students.

#### **Participation Fee**

Students are required to contribute to the costs of the Summer School by paying a quota of 950,00 EUR if they come from Western European countries or 400,00 EUR if they come from Central and Eastern European countries and from countries that are not members of the European Union.

Students from European Eastern Countries normally pay a lower fee, since they have normally higher travel costs and sometimes even visa expenses to cover, besides the obvious differences in cost of life between European countries.

The total costs paid by EucA for each participant of the Summer School are about 3.500 Euro. Of course, most students - even if really motivated - would have problems in affording these costs and that is the reason why our association tries to cover most of them (mainly through grants, EucA members' contributions and scholarships from private sponsors).

Students who may experience some hardship in financing their quota, EucA can provide a letter that will help them in their fundraising.

The fee covers tuition, accommodation, all meals, insurance, receptions and the chamber music concert.

Travel costs and other week-end activities (trip to London, punting on the river Cam etc) are not included in the participation fee and they are not mandatory for students. EucA will offer advice and assistance in organizing them.

#### **Contact information**

For any additional request for information please contact:

**EucA Brussels Office** 

- contact people: Mirela Mazalu, Giulia Ferrero.

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#### **ARTICLE REVIEW**

The applicant is invited to write a review (between 800/1000 words) of ONE of the articles listed below. The review must be a critical assessment of the ideas or arguments of the chosen article, not necessarily their endorsement. Applicants are invited to assess whether the arguments are relevant, if there are wider implications, misconceptions etc., and if they agree or disagree with the author of

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Littoz-Monnet, A. - Europeanizing Institutional Memory or Supranationalizing Domestic Memory Struggles?

http://www.fondation-pierredubois.ch/en/Papiers-d-actualite/europeanising-institutional-memory.html

Bugajski, J. - Russia's European Battleground

http://cepa.org/index/?id=3ec598af99b9d4aaebf70720aac3b5d4

Grant, C. - The Global Case for Staying in the EU

https://www.cer.org.uk/in-the-press/global-case-staying-eu

Kirchick, J. - Angela Merkel's Sultanic Bargain

http://www.politico.eu/article/angela-merkel-sultanic-bargain-jan-bohmermann-recept-tayyiperdogan/

Dujardin, P. - Brussels, In Search of Counter-Narratives

http://www.politico.eu/article/brussels-search-for-counter-narratives-after-terror-attacks-art-culture-society-not-propaganda/

NB: If students use a bibliography or they are quoting someone else's work, the bibliographic reference must be mentioned. It will be excluded from the word count. For quoting, we recommend to use the quotation marks ("...", «...») and footnotes. A final bibliography will be highly appreciated, if used. Evaluators are fully able to detect plagiarism.