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Foreword

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FOREWORD

The European Union Center of California hosted the joint Claremont-University of California Undergraduate Research Conference on the European Union on April 17-18, 2008, at Scripps College in Claremont, California. Our largest conference yet, a total of 42 students presented papers written on various topics related to the European Union. These students represented thirteen different schools: Brigham Young University, Claremont McKenna College, Drexel University, Harvard University, Harvey Mudd College, Pitzer College, Pomona College, San Francisco State University, Scripps College, UC Berkeley, UC Los Angeles, the University of Pennsylvania, and the University of Rome Tor Vergata. This volume is a compilation of the top papers presented at the conference.

The student conference was modeled on professional academic conferences. Each student presented her or his own research to a panel moderated by a faculty discussant whose primary tasks included providing constructive feedback and stimulating discussion of the issues at hand. The conference was designed with specific goals in mind. One such goal was to promote the visibility of European Union Studies and expose the participants to different intellectual and academic traditions within this field. Another was to motivate student research and hone analytical, writing and presentation skills. A third goal was to strengthen the curriculum on European Union Studies at participating campuses by encouraging faculty interaction with students, not only with respect to their expertise in particular research areas but also by conveying general knowledge about contemporary Europe to students. Hence, the research presented in this volume reflects a collaborative effort to involve students in academic research and policy debates on issues vital to the European Union in a manner that both strengthens curriculum and facilitates interactions between students and faculty.

The subject matter in the papers reflects the diversity of the candidates. **Mia Bennett** performs a comparative analysis of Norway and Finland, discussing the various political pressures that have led Finland to join the European

Union while Norway has twice rejected membership in the EU. **Sarah Boman** looks at possible roles that NATO can occupy now that the Cold War has ended, while **Yigit Canay** examines another aspect of the NATO's post-Cold War challenges: the future trajectory of European policies toward Russia. **Andrew Christensen** challenges immigration policies in Denmark, while **Elizabeth DeGori** looks at potential solutions to majority voting controversies in the EU. The US and France have long had an interesting relationship, and **David Drake** examines how President Sarkozy changes the dynamic. A topic especially relevant in these days, **Guadalupe Garcia** takes a look at how the arrival of the euro has impacted economic relations between the US and the EU. **Brianna Hand** similarly examines EU-US relations, focusing on policies developed to deal with climate change such as the Kyoto Protocol. **Aleksandra Lencznarowicz** asks why the proposed US missile defense system has met with such mixed reactions in Europe. Turning to sports, **Kayla McCulley** analyzes key aspects of the European Union's anti-doping framework. Finally, **Lauren Sims** explores two different approaches to inclusion within the European Union.

I would be remiss if I failed to mention the financial and administrative support of the Institute of European Studies at UC Berkeley, without which this conference would not have been possible.

We are likewise grateful to our keynote speaker for sharing his expertise and knowledge on environmental issues for the European Union. Ian Clark, Head of the Research, Science, and Innovation unit in the European Commission's Directorate General for Environment, delivered a timely address on sustainable development, touching on key issues like climate change and biodiversity.

As ever, the conference owes a debt of gratitude to the faculty discussants who donated their time and expertise to participate in the conference. These individuals included Hilary Appel, David Arase, Nigel Boyle, Richard Burdekin, Elizabeth Crighton, Donald Crone, Patricia Dillon, Thomas Ilgen,

and Wade Jacoby. Our keynote speaker, Ian Clark, also served as a panel discussant, as did Katerina Veverkova of the European Union Center of California. Together, this distinguished group established a high standard for the students at the conference.

Finally, the administration of the conference by Katerina Veverkova, administrative director of the EU Center of California, was indispensable to its success; and the fine editing of this volume by Polly Baranco allows us to share the results of the conference with a wider audience.

But it is the student participants to whom is owed the greatest debt of gratitude. Their outstanding contributions demonstrated serious intellectual maturity and genuine research skills, and resulted in a conference that was both successful and stimulating.

David M. Andrews, Director
European Union Center of California