

Claremont-UC Undergraduate Research Conference on the European Union

Volume 2009 *Claremont-UC Undergraduate Research Conference on the European Union*

Article 2

March 2012

Foreword

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Recommended Citation

(2009) "Foreword," *Claremont-UC Undergraduate Research Conference on the European Union*: Vol. 2009, Article 2. DOI: 10.5642/urceu.200901.02
Available at: <https://scholarship.claremont.edu/urceu/vol2009/iss1/2>

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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 16-17, 2009, at Scripps College in Claremont, California. Our largest conference yet, a total of 53 students presented papers written on various topics related to the European Union. These students represented 22 different schools: Baylor University, Brigham Young University, Christopher Newport University, Claremont McKenna College, Colgate University, Eastern Washington University, Florida International University, Illinois Wesleyan University, Northwestern University, Pitzer College, Pomona College, Skidmore College, UC Berkeley, UC Davis, UC Santa Barbara, UC Los Angeles, the University of Colorado Denver, the University of Koblenz Landau in Germany, the University of Mississippi, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, the University of Trento in Italy, and the University of Washington. 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 his or her 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: to promote the visibility of European Union Studies and expose the participants to different intellectual and academic traditions within this field; to motivate student research and hone analytical, writing and presentation skills; and 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 involving the European Union.

The subject matter in the papers reflects the diversity of the student authors. **Arielle Badger** discusses the Kosovo status question and suggests alternative routes towards a peaceful resolution of the conflicts between Serbia and Kosovo. **Kristiana Brix** analyzes the relationship between gender equality and national identity in Danish government policy and the integration of ethnic minority women into the Danish labor market. **Megan Campbell** examines the institutional factors that contribute to the democratic deficit of

the European Union and analyzes the extent to which current proposals will decrease the deficit. **Benjamin Forster** determines NATO's current capabilities in fighting and deterring transnational terrorism, while **Evan Jaroff** explores the history of NATO expansion in order to understand how future enlargement will occur. **Sam Jubelirer** analyzes the NATO-EU military relationship after the Cold War and uses case studies to address the complicated development of military agreements between the two organizations. **Marco Meissner** looks at the working mechanisms of active labor market policy from the perspective of psychology. Turning to environmental politics, **Marco Piovan** examines the development of the European Union Emission Trading Scheme, and analyzes its mechanisms. **Helen Pollock** analyzes the hard power and soft power capabilities of the European Union as a whole with a case study of the nuclear negotiations in Iran. Finally, **Elizabeth Schmitz-Robinson** analyzes both the motivations behind Poland's steadfast support of the United States on matters pertaining to national security and foreign affairs in the 21st century, as well as the causes of a decline in the intensity of this backing after 2004.

The conference was hosted by the European Union Center of California, and the administration of the conference by Zaynah Rahman and Harason Horowitz was indispensable to its success. But we owe a great debt of gratitude for the financial and administrative support provided by the European Union Center of Excellence at UC Berkeley; the Institute of European Studies at UC Berkeley; and the European Union Center of Excellence at the University of Washington.

We are grateful to our keynote speaker for sharing his expertise and knowledge regarding environmental issues for the European Union. Nicholas Hanley, Head of Governance and Communications in the European Commission's Directorate General for Environment, delivered a timely address on "Challenges for an Expanded Europe: Can We Green the Economy?"

Special thanks are also due to the faculty discussants who donated their time and expertise with the students, including Hilary Appel, *Claremont McKenna College*; Nigel Boyle, *University of Koblenz Landau*; Patricia Dillon, *Scripps College*; Christopher Jones, *Brigham Young University*; Joseph Jupille, *University of Colorado*; Stuart McConnell, *Pitzer College*; Valentina Padula, *UC Santa Barbara*; Jeff Pennington, *UC Berkeley*; Brian Rathbun, *University of Southern California*; Slavi Slavov, *Pomona College*; and Jennifer Taw, *Claremont McKenna College*. They were joined by Nicholas Hanley, who, in addition to his role as

keynote speaker, also served as a panel discussant. The participation of these individuals established a high standard for, and enriched the experience of, the students at the conference. The fine editing of this volume by Zaynah Rahman allows us to share the results of the conference with a wider audience.

The student participants are 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