

Claremont-UC Undergraduate Research Conference on the European Union

Volume 2015

Article 1

2015

Foreword

Follow this and additional works at: <http://scholarship.claremont.edu/urceu>



Part of the [International and Area Studies Commons](#), and the [International Relations Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

(2016) "Foreword," *Claremont-UC Undergraduate Research Conference on the European Union*: Vol. 2015, Article 1.

Available at: <http://scholarship.claremont.edu/urceu/vol2015/iss1/1>

This Forward is brought to you for free and open access by the Journals at Claremont at Scholarship @ Claremont. It has been accepted for inclusion in Claremont-UC Undergraduate Research Conference on the European Union by an authorized administrator of Scholarship @ Claremont. For more information, please contact scholarship@cuc.claremont.edu.

FOREWORD

On April 9–10, 2015, the European Union Center of California hosted the joint Claremont–University of California Undergraduate Research Conference on the European Union at Scripps College in Claremont, California. Over 30 students presented papers on topics related to the European Union and transatlantic relations. These students represented Brigham Young University, UC Berkeley, George Washington University, UC Santa Barbara, UC Riverside, the University of Arizona, the University of Washington, the University of Idaho, Lewis–Clark State University, and The Claremont Colleges. This volume is a compilation of the top papers presented at the conference.

Modeled on professional academic conferences, each student presented his or her own research on a panel moderated by a faculty discussant. The discussants provided constructive feedback and stimulated discussion of the issues raised. The conference was designed with three specific goals in mind. First, we aimed to promote the visibility of European Union Studies and to expose participants to different intellectual and academic traditions within the field. Second, we wanted to motivate student research and hone their analytical, writing, and presentation skills. Above all, we sought to strengthen the curriculum on European Union Studies at participating campuses by encouraging faculty interaction with students. Hence, the research presented in this volume reflects a collaborative effort to involve students in academic research and policy debates involving the European Union.

The subject matter in the papers reflects the diversity of the student authors and their interests. To begin, **Kelly Ancharski** explores gender dynamics in the German labor market to uncover the sources of the continued reinforcement of the historical division of labor. In the aftermath of Japan’s Fukushima nuclear accident, **Jie Ming Chong** compares the influences on energy policy in Germany and France. Using Hungary and the United Kingdom as case studies, **Jon Collier & Joseph Bebel**, explore the roots of Euroscepticism. **Elie Katzenson** analyses Turkish immigration as a tool to shed light on the social and economic changes that could occur with Turkish membership to the EU. **Katherine Schroeder** examines the varying perspectives of Pussy Riot’s “Punk Prayer” performance and the subsequent fallout. Through interviews and analysis, **Nikolina Stoykova** questions the continuation of the shuttle trade market between Bulgaria and Turkey. **Kai Stern** considers the intersection between the EU budget and public opinion of the EU. Finally, **Anahita Vasudevan, Kevin Ratama Patumwat & Kevin Fulgham** investigate North African immigration to France with attention to the implications for the French model of integration and the policies of other EU states.

The conference was hosted by the European Union Center of California, and the administration of the conference by the Center’s staff was indispensable to its success. Rachel Tie Morrison’s editing of this volume allows us to share the results of the conference with a wider audience. In addition, we owe a debt of gratitude for the financial and administrative support provided by the Institute of European Studies at UC Berkeley; the European Union Center of Excellence at UC Berkeley; the Institute

of Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies at UC Berkeley; the David M. Kennedy Center at Brigham Young University; the Brigham Young University Center for the Study of Europe; the European Union Center of Excellence at the University of Washington; and, the Colorado European Union Center of Excellence at the University of Colorado at Boulder.

We are grateful to our keynote speaker Alicia Hinarejos, a University Lecturer in Law at the University of Cambridge and a Fellow and Director of Studies at Downing College. Dr. Hinarejos delivered a timely and engaging presentation entitled “Constitutional Aspects of the Euro Area Crisis”.

Special thanks are due as well to the faculty discussants who donated their time and expertise to the students, including Alison Johnston (Oregon State University), Tobias Hofmann (University of Utah), Branislav Radeljic (University of East London), Jeffery Pennington (University of California, Berkeley), Alicia Hinarejos (University of Cambridge), Maja Stroinska (Scripps College), Menna Bizuneh (Pitzer College), and Elizabeta Jevtic-Somlai (Brigham Young University). The participation of these individuals established a high standard for the conference, and greatly enriched the experience of the students.

Ultimately, the success of the conference was due to the outstanding contributions of the student participants. As the selections in this volume make clear, their papers demonstrated both serious intellectual maturity and genuine research skills. The result was a conference that was both thoughtful and stimulating.

David M. Andrews, Director
European Union Center of California