



PRESIDENT'S END OF YEAR MESSAGE



The past year has again been an eventful one for the European Union. Perhaps the most significant event for the EU occurred on 29 March when British Prime Minister Theresa May triggered Article 50 and thus set in motion the official separation of the UK from the EU. Negotiations have been ongoing but have proved slow and difficult.

There was the Catalan bid for autonomy from Spain, defeated by the Spanish government but generating resentment which is unlikely to abate. Election in The Netherlands, France, the UK and Germany were watched closely for indications of a trend towards populist positions as seen in US in the election of Donald Trump, and reflected in Brexit in the UK. This did not eventuate but all ruling parties had to concede ground, or as in the case of France, lost office. And while Angela Merkel's Christian Democratic Party (CDU) did not lose office it also does not have a majority and negotiations to form a coalition government have proved difficult, are ongoing, and the idea of a second election has also been raised.

On a more positive note, the Framework Agreement between the European Union and Australia, enhancing cooperation to tackle challenges in foreign and security policy, sustainable development, climate change, and economic and trade matters, was signed by High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy/Vice-President of the European Commission, Federica Mogherini, and Australian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Julie Bishop at Manila, Philippines, on 7 August 2017.

For European Studies in Australia and the region, 2017 has again been a busy year. The European Union Centres put on a number of well attended events, and the EUSA AP brought European Union scholars in the region.

Season's greetings
Associate Professor Bruno Mascitelli
CESAA President



Further information is available via the link below:
[LinkA](#)

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CESAA NEWS

Heading

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AUSTRALIA—EU NEWS

EU urged to engage more in Asia-Pacific

At the Asia-Pacific Regional Conference in Perth 3-5 November the Australian and Singaporean Foreign Ministers called for the European Union to play a larger role in the region. Foreign Minister Julie Bishop stated that the EU should definitely play a more active role as likeminded nations like the US, the EU, Japan, South Korea, India and Singapore needed to uphold the international rules-based order.

Singapore's Minister for Foreign Affairs, Vivian Balakrishnan, stated that Singapore welcomed the EU's participation in the Asia-Pacific.

Further information is available via the link below:

EU NEWS

Brexit

It seems that after months of talks, Phase 2 of the Brexit negotiations may be about to commence.

Transition talks regarding trade and cooperation for the medium-term future, preventing an exodus of business and investment from the U.K., may begin “immediately,” according to European Council President Donald Tusk said.

Further information is available via the links below:

[eu-recommends-brexit-talks-move-to-phase-2/brexit-negotiations-phase-two](#)

Ireland—Meeting Tusk and Varadkar

EU President Trump and Irish Taoiseach Varadkar met to discuss Brexit with a special focus on the border between Ireland and Northern Ireland. Tusk said that he came to Dublin to reassure the Irish people that the EU backs Ireland’s request that there should be no hard border on the island of Ireland after Brexit.

Further information is available via the link below:

[-tusk-meeting-leo-varadkar/](#)

Third Forum on the Mediterranean (Mediterranean Dialogues)

The third forum on the Mediterranean (Mediterranean Dialogues) took place in Rome from 30th November to 2nd December. Questions regarding migration and trans-Mediterranean energy cooperation were the focus of discussions.

Other topics discussed were shared prosperity, shared security and civil society and culture.

Further information is available via the link below:

[Mediterranean Forum](#)

Reception conditions for asylum applicants: Council agrees mandate for negotiations

On 29th November 2017 the European Council adopted a negotiation mandate regarding the directive targeting the establishment of common rules for the reception of asylum seekers. This directive extends to the material conditions of reception and to access to healthcare - it provides that asylum seekers will have access to the labour market within the 9 months following their request.

Further information is available via the link below:

[reception-conditions-for-asylum-applicants](#)

Erasmus+ in 2016

As the celebrations for the 30th anniversary of Erasmus come to an end today, the European Commission has published a report

The 2016 Erasmus+ report on the achievements of the Erasmus+ programme during 2016 showed the role played by the programme in building a more resilient Europe united around common European values.

With a 7.5% increase in the Erasmus+ budget compared to the previous year, the EU invested a record €2.27 billion to support 725,000 Europeans with mobility grants to study, train, teach, work or volunteer abroad. This brings the total to more than 2 million participants since 2014. In 2016, 21,000 projects received funding involving 79,000 education, training and youth organisations – 15% more projects than in 2015.

Further information is available via the link below:

[Erasmus +](#)

African Union - European Union Summit: Investing in Youth for a Sustainable Future

The 5th African Union - European Union Summit took place on 29-30 November in Abidjan, under the overarching theme of Youth. The Summit brought together leaders from 55 African Union and 28 European Union Member States.

The EU was represented by the President of the European Commission Jean-Claude Juncker and the President of the Council of the EU Donald Tusk, joined by the High Representative of the EU for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy & Vice-President of the European Commission Federica Mogherini, Vice-President responsible for the EU's Digital Single Market Andrus Ansip and Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development Neven Mimica. The African Union was represented by the President of the African Union Alpha Condé and the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, Moussa Faki Mahamat.

In their political declaration, the European and African leaders set out their joint commitment to invest in youth for a sustainable future. Concretely, they committed to focussing their work on four strategic priorities. Mobilising investments for African structural and sustainable transformation

- Mobilising investments for African structural and sustainable transformation
- Investing in people through education, science, technology and skills development
- Strengthening Resilience, Peace, security and governance

- Managing mobility and migration

On this basis, the European and African Union Commission will put forward concrete projects and programmes within three months.

Further information is available via the link below:

[EU Africa Summit](#)

EU budget adopted

On 30 November 2017, the Council and the Parliament adopted the EU's 2018 budget. The appropriations will increase by 8.4% for the Horizon 2020 programme, 12.1% for the Erasmus+ programme and 8.9% for the agencies in the areas of security and citizenship. The pre-membership funds for Turkey have been reduced by 105 million € due to threats that weigh over democracy, the rule of law and Human Rights.

Further information is available via the link below:

[EU Budget](#)

PUBLICATIONS

Journals

Australian and New Zealand Journal of European Studies

Volume 8 (2) is now available.

[anzjes-vol-7-no-2](#)

Newsletters

ECSA World-News

To access the *ECSA World-News* newsletter please use the link below:

[ECSA World-News](#)

EVENTS

Public Lectures & Seminars

18 December 2017—11.00–12.00

Why Paris Will Probably Fail and How to Make It Work: A Systems Perspective

Speaker: Dr Luke Kemp

Location: Australian-German Climate and Energy College, Level 1, 187 Grattan St, Parkville

Current pledges under the Paris Climate Agreement are inadequate, but the agreement is intended to evolve over time. The Paris Agreement is designed to increase action through a ratchet mechanism obligating countries to put forward stronger targets, political pressure and a 'signal' to investors to transition towards low-emissions activities.

This presentation provides an analysis of how Paris could work over time from a systems dynamics perspective. It

shows that there is neither strong evidence nor theoretical grounds to believe that peer-pressure, the ratchet mechanism or the low-emissions investment signal will work. The agreement also contains inbuilt delays which are likely to push agreed global temperature targets out of reach. Paris as an architecture for changing state behaviour in a sufficient timescale is likely to fail. Yet, understanding the Paris Agreement as a system also provides the basis for improving it.

Further information is available via the links below:

[-why-paris-will-probably-fail-and-how-to-make-it](#)

18 December 2017—12.00–13.30

China's Foreign Policy under Xi Jinping

Speaker: Professor You Ji is professor of international relations and head of Department of Government, University of Macau

Location: Room 310, China Studies Centre, Old Teachers College, The University of Sydney, NSW 2006

Xi Jinping's dream of Chinese national revival stimulates him to add achieving a 'Major Power Status' as a key component of China's post Jiang national goal: strong economy and powerful military. His assertive foreign policy reflects his great ambition to lift China's international profile and influence. On the other hand he has been dialectical on wielding the country's newly gained power. He is firm on the matters of sovereignty and at the same time his is resolute on war/confrontation avoidance. The latter is also Xi's emphasis as China's core national interests. His foreign policy orientation after the 19th Congress will continue to evolve around this dialectical political leadership.

Further information is available via the link below:

[chinas-foreign-policy-under-xi-jinping](#)

Call for Papers/Entries

Title

Closing date: xxx

Location: xxx

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Further information is available via the link below:

[hyperlink](#)

Workshops

National

08–12 January 2018

Melbourne Masterclass: Paris is the World

Speakers Dr Sophie Matthiesson, curator of International Art at the National Gallery of Victoria; Emeritus Professor

Peter McPhee, previously Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) at the University of Melbourne (appointed 2003), the University's first Provost (2007-09), Fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities (1997) and the Academy of Social Sciences (2003); Professor Allan Potofsky is a Professor of Atlantic and French history at the Université Paris Diderot-Paris 7

Location: Forum Theatre, Arts West, Parkville

“Paris is the world,” wrote Marivaux in 1734. “The rest of the earth is merely its suburbs.” His soaring elegy to the French capital captured the city’s central place in the imagination of the Enlightenment. This masterclass will examine how Paris became synonymous with gleaming architectural wonders, harmonious facades and numerous public squares, in the context of France’s social, political and cultural upheavals during the 17th and 18th centuries.

Beginning with Henri IV’s and Louis le Grand’s search for urban grandeur, Paris was transformed by and for its elites into a new Rome. At the same time, a Paris of the people, particularly in the overcrowded ghettos of the city centre, was repeatedly condemned as insalubrious and ripe only for the spread of infectious disease and seditious ideas. This other Paris was repeatedly condemned as a new Babylon. For the heart of Paris was still a horribly medieval city, wrote Voltaire in 1749, in which the creations of France’s greatest architects were marred by narrow, filthy streets and crumbling houses worthy of “barbarians and vandals”. At the time of the French Revolution, Parisians revolted against these social ills that were those of modernity itself.

Presented by internationally renowned historians and notable curator of International Art from the National Gallery of Victoria (NGV), this Melbourne Masterclass is held at the University of Melbourne and the NGV over five consecutive days with a combination of lectures, interactive and facilitated discussions, with the integration of objects and artworks in select presentations.

08–15 January 2018

German Summer School 2018

Location: Goethe-Institut Sydney, 90 Ocean Street, Woollahra, 2025 Sydney

The German Summer School is a course running for 8 days designed to rapidly improve German language skills and increase understanding of the cultural life of German speaking countries. It offers tuition in the mornings, a choice of stimulating special interest workshops in the afternoons, and a wide spectrum of activities and excursions outside core hours.

Further information is available via the link below:

[Goethe German Summer School](#)

15 January—16 January 2018—9.00–17.00

2018 Summer school for secondary school teachers: 'What now for the European Union? Moving forward after Brexit and uncertainty – Implications for Australia'

Location: Immigration Museum Melbourne, 400 Flinders Street, Melbourne, VIC 3000 3000

It seems like a world away when in 2016 Britain voted to leave the European Union. In that year of uncertainty including the victory of Trump in the White House and the rise of nationalism across many member states, the European Union made clear it was not willing to halt the process of European Integration. Nor have the EU's challenges diminished since 2016 as migration, terrorism and populism continue to raise their heads and test out the unity and integration of the European Union.

This summer school on the European Union seeks to bring out the issues faced by contemporary Europe and address their consequences and the solutions. More this state of affairs confronting the EU has major implications for other nations, as the EU leaders continue to seek a major role in external affairs, and to develop stronger relationships with countries in other parts of the world. Australia has a stake in these matters not only in the current Free Trade Agreement with the EU but also in working with a potentially separate UK. What might all of this mean for our region?

This workshop is hosted by European Union Centre at RMIT.

Further information is available via the link below:

[2018-summer-school-for-secondary-school-teachers](#)



Conferences

National

16 February 2018

Second Australian Political Theory and Philosophy Conference 2018

Location: Abercrombie Business School, University of Sydney

Keynote speakers will be:

Professor Philip Pettit (ANU/Princeton University)

Professor Danielle Celermajer (University of Sydney)

Further information is available via the link below:
[second-australian-political-theory-and-philosophy-conference-2018](#)

21–26 July 2018

Borders and Margins—25th IPSA World Congress of Political Science

Location: Brisbane

The Congress will integrate the annual conference of the Australian Political Studies Association and the biennial Oceanic Conference on International Studies.

The Congress theme is Borders and Margins. The acceleration of globalisation and the consequences of the 9/11 terrorist attacks have had profound effects on borders. These include empirical borders, such as state, regional, security and “glocal” boundaries, and also conceptual ones, such as social, cultural, economic, religious, ethnic, sexual and linguistic distinctions that discipline and divide human populations through identity politics and bio-political management.

These borders create margins, through which administrative and military bureaucracies, as well as NGOs, activists, “networks” and more-or-less organized criminals and terrorists operate, empirically and conceptually. Borders between recognized states, de-facto states, sub-states, occupied territories and supra-national governance authorities are spatial creations defined through lines that separate one country, state, province, zone, “union” etc. from another, while borderlands appear to be critical zones at the margins of state control and governing institutions.

However, borders are not simply territorial lines. They have a dynamic character arising from their formal or informal functions and impacts. At a time when entire regions have been destabilized by the implosion of borders – often imposed by former and current imperialisms rather than arising through freely negotiated or democratic means – these margins are now conflict zones and flash points in national and international politics. Such conflicts and controversies are currently presenting very serious challenges to the international governance of human rights derived from the Universal Declaration of 1948, which reaches its 70th anniversary in 2018.

The evolution of information technologies has transformed the traditional “border as a barrier” by virtually enclosing people into groups with common identities and interests. These groups are dispersed throughout the globe, and so lack any form of territorial compactness or contiguity. Electronic “connectedness” challenges the imposition of physical barriers, bureaucratized checks and migration controls in starkly political terms. The challenges posed by these global developments – which make headline news when violence erupts or powerful politicians are exposed – invite us to explore the fundamental dynamics of

inclusion and exclusion under an all-encompassing theme “Borders and Margins.”

Along with those who constitute the current majority/minority or other identity “mix” within a state, there are also those caught in marginal zones, such as immigrant groups that are physically “inside” but are said by some not to “belong.” They are typically central to a politics of multiculturalism/cosmopolitanism, or nationalism/assimilation, or expulsion/genocide. The politics of “Borders and Margins” has a common centre of gravity: that of “otherness” or “otherisation,” which, in turn, determines the borders and creates marginalizations. It is these practices which further determine inequalities of wealth and power, now very extreme in global terms. “Borders and Margins” offers participants in IPSA’s 25th World Congress broad scientific possibilities within the ethical dimensions through which the discipline operates.

These conjunctions of empirical activities and conceptual claims generate new methodologies in cognate disciplines that political scientists are keen to adopt. The Congress theme should be taken to include further perspectives including history, geography, international relations, international law, philosophy, sociology, political psychology, cultural studies, feminist and gender studies, queer perspectives, security studies and similarly engaged forms of scientific enquiry. In these fields there are crucial debates on sovereignty and identity, rights and obligations, just and unjust warfare and “interventions,” democratic theory and practice, and international governance, among other areas of concern.

Further information is available via the link below:
[2018 IPSA Congress](#)

International

16-18 May 2018

Protecting and Projecting Europe

Location: Brussels, Belgium

In the current difficult environment, will the EU be able to protect its citizens while also projecting its values into the world? In what ways has the EU's international role and standing been subject to change? We invite paper abstracts and panel proposals (deadline 23 October) for the sixth European Union in International Affairs (#EUIA18) conference (16 - 18 May 2018 in Brussels), a multidisciplinary biannual event at which international studies scholars and policy practitioners debate the role of the EU in the turbulent realm of international affairs. In 2018 it will focus on the theme of 'Protecting and Projecting Europe'. We look forward to receiving your fascinating abstracts and proposals!

Further information is available via the link below:
[Protecting & Projecting Europe](#)

3-5 September 2018

UACES 48th Annual Conference

Bath, United Kingdom

A three-day interdisciplinary conference covering all aspects of European Studies, at which over 450 research papers will be presented.

Please note: call for papers opens in October 2017.

Further information is available via the link below:

<http://uaces.org/events/conferences/bath/>

Further information is available via the link below:

<http://eusaap.org/12-events/eusa-ap-events/21-2017-call-for-papers>



FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Other

Horizon 2020

Closing date: project dependent

The European Commission has presented the final Work Programme for Horizon 2020, covering the budgetary years 2018, 2019 and 2020 and representing an investment of around €30 billion.

The vast majority of this funding is allocated on the basis of competitive calls which are open to applications from researchers, businesses and other interested organisations located in Australia as an associated country to Horizon 2020. Organisations from third countries can also participate in the projects, subject to certain conditions. All funding opportunities and related information is available on a single portal.

Further information is available via the links below:

[horizon-2020-30-bl-euro-working-programme-released_en portal](#)

Institute of Cultural Diplomacy (ICD)—Internship Opportunities

Closing date: Internship dependent

The ICD in Berlin, Germany offers internship opportunities to individuals who would like to gain practical experience working for a non-governmental organisation in the field of Cultural Diplomacy in the following areas:

- Political Science
- Marketing & PR
- Business & Economics
- Journalism & Communication
- Computer Science and Webdesign
- Cinema, Music, Photography and the Arts
- Administration and Event Management

Further information is available via the link below:

[ICD Internship](#)

Erasmus+ Programme—2016

Closing date: project dependent

The 2016 call for proposals for Erasmus+, the European Union Programme for education, training, youth and sport is now open. As a general rule, organisations participating in Erasmus+ projects must be established in a Programme Country. However, some Actions are also open to participating organisations from Partner Countries such as Australia. The specific conditions for participating in an Erasmus+ project depend on the type of Action supported. Please consult the Erasmus+ Programme Guide for more details.

Further information is available via the links below:

[erasmus-plus-programme-guide_en.pdf](#)

[Official Journal of the European Union C2015/347/06](#)

Call for Expressions of Interest - 'Business Cooperation Centres' in third countries for the Enterprise Europe Network (2015 - 2020)

Closing date: No specific deadline

This call for expressions of interest addresses leading business and innovation support organisations located in third countries other than those participating in the Programme for the Competitiveness of Enterprises and Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (COSME).

The objective is to establish 'Business Cooperation Centres' for the Enterprise Europe Network in international markets in order to form a unique international network of excellence facilitating business cooperation, technology transfer and research collaboration.

Further information is available via the link below:

[Call for EOI](#)

CESAA MEMBERSHIP

2018 CESAA Membership

Individual, student and institutional memberships to CESAA for 2018 will become available soon. Annual membership to CESAA entitles you to:

- annual subscription to the Australian and New Zealand Journal of European Studies (ANZJES)
- notification of CESAA and European Studies activities in Australia and around the world
- discounted registration at all CESAA-sponsored events.

For further information on joining CESAA, including the membership form, see the CESAA website:

[CESAA membership form](#)



CONTRIBUTIONS

Please forward any items you would like considered for inclusion in the next issue of the CESAA Bulletin to cesaamail@gmail.com by the 20th of each month.

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