



EXECUTIVE TRAINING SEMINAR

Protecting Liberal Democracy in Illiberal Times: Policy Experiences from Europe, Latin America and Africa

Florence, 15th-17th November 2017

Scientific Coordinator: Carlos Closa Montero | European University Institute and Instituto de Políticas y Bienes Públicos (IPP)

Venue: Sala Europa, Villa Schifanoia, European University Institute

■ ABSTRACT

A significant number of regional, international and global organisations across the globe have equipped themselves with mechanisms for protecting democracy and the rule of law, assuming liberal-representative democracy as a standard condition for membership. Today, organisations such as the European Union, the Organization of American States, and the African Union are increasingly challenged by the rise of populist political discourses and the coexistence of a variety of authoritarianisms and defective democracies in their regions of influence. Participants in this Executive Training Seminar will acquire first-hand knowledge about the substantive content of the different mechanisms for the protection of democracy in regional organisations in Europe, America and Africa. They will also actively learn about the internal functioning of these organisations and the policy effects of their application by examining concrete case studies. Throughout the Executive Training Seminar, participants will have the opportunity to network with a set of top officials and experts from regional and international organisations, such as the African Union and Organization of American States, as well as with senior practitioners from NGOs and like-minded colleagues from all over the world.

■ PROGRAMME

15 November 2017

Chair

Carlos Closa Montero | EUI and IPP

9.00 - 9.30

Institutional Greetings and Presentation of the Executive Training Seminar

Renaud Dehousse | President of the European University Institute
Fabrizio Tassinari | Executive Coordinator of the School of Transnational Governance
Carlos Closa Montero | EUI and IPP

9.30 - 11.00

Key Note Speech

Suspending States from Regional Organisations for Breaches of Human Rights and Democracy: Is the Practice Legitimate?

Alison Duxbury | Melbourne Law School

11.00 - 11.30

Coffee break (Sala Bandiere)

11.30 - 13.00

The Role of the Organization of American States in Recent Democratic Crises in the Americas

Jean Michel Arrighi | OAS Secretary of Legal Affairs

13.00 - 14.00

Lunch (Sala Bandiere)

14.00 - 15.30

Regional Organisations and Democratic Clauses: the Challenges Facing Latin American Democracies in Crisis

Jorge E. Taiana | MERCOSUR and CIEP-UNSAM

15.30 – 16.00

Coffee break (Sala Bandiere)

16.00-17.30

Training Session: Is the Right to Democracy Enforceable? Focus on Hard Cases in the Interamerican System

Stefano Palestini | Freie Universität Berlin

17.30 - 19.00

Training Session: Shopping around for Democracy-Protection: the Overlap between OAS, UNASUR and MERCOSUR

Stefano Palestini | Freie Universität Berlin

20:00 *Welcome Dinner* at “Hotel Baglioni”
(Restaurant, top floor) Piazza dell'Unità Italiana, 6, Florence
Tel. +39 055 23580

16 November 2017

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9.00 - 10.30 **Development, Democracy and Peace in Africa: Current Challenges and Opportunities**
Baso Sangqu | Southafrican Ambassador to the Kingdom of Belgium, the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and the Mission to the European Union

10.30 - 11.00 *Coffee break (Sala Bandiere)*

11.00 - 12.30 Training Session: **The African Union and Democratic Consolidation in Africa: Bridging the Gaps between Policy and Actions**
Samuel O. Oloruntoba | University of South Africa

12.30 - 13.30 *Lunch (Sala Bandiere)*

13.30 - 15.00 **ECOWAS Democratic Governance Trends: Opportunities and Prospects**
Eyesan E. Okorodudu | Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)

15.00 - 16.30 Training Session: **Consolidating Democracy in West Africa: the ECOWAS Experience**
Babatunde T. Afolabi | Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue

17 November 2017

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9.00 - 10.30 **A Focus on the European Union**
Danuta Hübner | European Parliament

10.30 - 11.00 *Coffee break (Sala Bandiere)*

11.00 - 12.30 Training Session: **Learning from Past and Present Failures to Prevent Illiberal Regimes from Consolidating within the EU**
Laurent Pech | Middlesex University London

12.30 - 13.30 *Farewell Lunch (Sala Bandiere)*

13.30 - 15.30 Round Table

Chair: Miguel Poiares Maduro | Director of the School of Transnational Governance

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15.30 - 16.00 **Final Remarks and Award of Certificates**

16.00 - 17.00 *Farewell Cocktail (Sala Bandiere)*

■ FACULTY

Babatunde T. Afolabi	Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue, Switzerland
Jean Michel Arrighi	Organization of American States, United States of America
Carlos Closa Montero	European University Institute and Instituto de Políticas y Bienes Públicos, Italy and Spain
Alison Duxbury	Melbourne Law School, Australia
Danuta Hübner	European Parliament (Poland), Belgium
Miguel Poiares Maduro	European University Institute, Italy
Eyesan E. Okorodudu	Economic Community of West African States, Nigeria
Samuel O. Oloruntoba	University of South Africa, South Africa
Stefano Palestini	Freie Universität Berlin, Germany
Laurent Pech	Middlesex University London, United Kingdom
Baso Sangqu	South African Ambassador to the Kingdom of Belgium, the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and the Mission to the European Union, Belgium and Luxembourg
Jorge E. Taiana	MERCOSUR and Centro Internacional de Estudios Políticos (CIEP) and Universidad Nacional de San Martín (UNSAM), Argentina

■ PARTICIPANTS

Marwa Al-Towaitee	Yıldırım beyazıt University, Turkey
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Hannah Bagdasar	University of Berkeley, United States of America
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Tom Gerald Daly	Melbourne Law School, Australia
Cassandra Emmons	University of Princeton, United States of America

Théo Fournier	European University Institute, Italy
Alfonsina Gomez Martin	Universidad Nacional de Rosario, Argentina
Gaye Gungor	Migration Systems, Germany
Nyadera Nyaburi Israel	Ankara Yildirim Beyazit University, Turkey
Diana Kawenda	Tendai Biti Law Hmb Chambers, Zimbabwe
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Bruno Theodoro Luciano	University of Birmingham, United Kingdom
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Augustine Magolowondo	Netherlands Institute for Multiparty Democracy (NIMD)'s Africa Regional Representative, Malawi
Michal Matlak	European Parliament, Belgium
Soumano Moumouni	Executive Director of the Centre for Multi-Party Democracy, Mali
Mwende Mutua	Community Aid International (CAI), Kenya
Michael Otieno Kisaka	Hacettepe University, Turkey
Carolina Parada Hernández	Vote Watch Europe, Belgium
Yana Popkostova	STG Fellow, European University Institute, Italy
Benedita Queiroz	European University Institute, Italy
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Micha Wiebusch	United Nations University Institute on Comparative Regional Integration Studies, Belgium