

EUI Alumni Association Executive Committee, Elections 2017

Dr. Chris Armbruster
orcid.org/0000-0002-4549-0133
de.linkedin.com/in/chrisarmbruster
Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies, 2004-2006
Jean Monnet Fellow, 2004-2006



I am surprised that no new Executive Committee has been elected in the face of the real possibility that the European Union may become paralyzed or even disintegrate. The current situation already affects us all quite strongly, including all the those that have availed themselves of European opportunities. Therefore, I am willing to serve on the Executive Committee.

Agenda for Executive Committee 2017-19

Firstly, I believe that the role of the EUI Alumni Association in the coming years will be to facilitate discussion on the state and future of Europe. This will be not just a defence of the European project, but also an exploration of its chances of rejuvenation and transformation. We should do this online, and by meeting up. In fact, I believe that all EUI alumni and current members should come together and convene a public discussion.

A second task is to collect and make available all scholarly and personal accounts of the on-going European challenges. This means collecting metadata as well as stories and creating an online repository through which they are freely available to the public.

Professional Development

I am the Director at Data Science Retreat (datascienceretreat.com). DSR trains data scientists at the cutting edge of machine and deep learning, and enables them to build new products. DSR is based in Berlin and powers digital research as well as business. Highlights of my activities in the past ten years include:

- Co-founding and running the Research Network 1989 in preparation of the 20th anniversary of 1989 with more than 150 participants across America, Europe, and Asia; conferences in New York, London, Padua, Florence; numerous publications; and a final book published with Cambridge University Press (The Global 1989).
- Building digital infrastructures for the 80 Max Planck Institutes and its 10.000+ researchers, with a focus on making all scientific data and publications available online for free reading and re-use (open access).
- Mentoring and building 10+ start-ups that have brought to market new scientific products and/or offered new forms of digital higher education.

Languages: English, Polish, Italian, Russian, French, and German