

Candidature for the Executive Committee of the EUI Alumni Association
Personal profile and manifesto of Svetlozar A. Andreev

I obtained my PhD at the European University Institute in 2003 with a doctoral dissertation in comparative political science (SPS department), dealing with the democratisation of the former Communist states. Before and after the award of my doctorate I had been visiting lecturer at NYU (Florence), the University of Sienna, the University of Westminster, Sofia University. I was research fellow at St. Anthony's College-Oxford and at CEPC, Spain. I have more than 30 refereed publications in international scientific journals and volumes. Since 2008, I have been working for the Committee of the Regions of the European Union in Brussels.

During the 2010-2012 term of the current Alumni Executive Committee I have been treasurer. During the past two years, the spending of common finances by the Executive Committee members and the Alumni Association (AA) was quite prudent and strategically planned. I am happy to confirm that, at present, we have a surplus on all our accounts and the AA can continue carrying on and further developing its activities.

I am particularly supportive of three initiatives related to the AA:

- opening new alumni chapter across Europe and in the world;
- expanding the alumni rights of using the EUI research facilities and infrastructure (library, archives, labs, canteen, dormitories);
- encouraging the participation of alumni representatives at the EUI academic council and other decision-making bodies.

As one working for a EU institution, and bearing in mind the relatively high number of EUI alumni based in Belgium and the surrounding countries, I consider the (re-)opening of an Institute's office in Brussels of utmost importance. This could facilitate the contacts with EU institutions and provide fresh funding for the Institute's programmes via the Horizon 2020 (FP) financing for the period post-2013.

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Common Electoral Programme for Election: Executive Committee EUI AA 2012-2014

The EUI is now going through a period of institutional uncertainty. On the one hand, the EUI will have for one year an acting-President and will designate a new President whose profile and project will determine the direction of the institution until 2020. On the other hand in the incoming years many of the EUI officials will be replaced due to generational reasons. In two-years time the EUI maybe extremely different from what it has been in the last decades. We would like to say from the outset that we have been convinced by the recent effort of creating a stronger link between academic research and European policy-makers. As most of us are still involved in research activities, we have welcomed the strengthening of the EUI profile as a research-oriented institution. But in times of crisis our institution cannot just be another multinational institution of excellence in the field of humanities and social sciences because many of these institutions exist now with bigger scale than us. We feel that this transition period is the moment for a general, transparent and large debate about the future of the EUI and the current circumstances provide a window of opportunity. For this reason we ask you to re-elect us for another two years. It is clear that we have managed in the last two years to create the instruments to develop the full potential of the Alumni network in terms of circulation of knowledge, exchange of information, and mutual help. The EC commits itself to go from the stage of materialisation to consolidation and delivery of the first results. Changing now our EC may put at risk what we have done so far before they are established and yielding their first results. For example the electronic who's who will only be operational before the end of this year, opening the possibilities for the creation of a genuine EUI community as this will allow the circulation of ideas and initiatives between our members, which include also the former Professors and staff of the EUI. Another central element of our record has been the developing of local branches of the Alumni Association. A new chapter has been created in Warsaw and others are being prepared to take off in Berlin, Paris and New York. The enthusiasm has even grown that we may envisage within one year other initiatives in Barcelona, Luxembourg, the Nordic Countries, Latin-America and Asia as we had Alumni who have recently asked support for this. A substantial change of this EC can create doubts about the long-term material and personal commitment of the Association to these initiatives. The candidates which are supporting this common programme have a clear common objective for qualitatively upgrading the role of the Alumni Association in the EUI. For this reason, and building on the past experience of its members, we encourage you to vote for us (Sigfrido Ramírez, Zoe Bray, Nanette Neuwahl, Chris Armbruster and Svet Andreev).