CALL FOR PAPERS

The Euro-Latin Network on Integration and Trade (ELSNIT) is now accepting proposals for papers examining the causes, consequences, and perspectives of Regionalism along the macroeconomic, microeconomic, institutional, and legal dimensions. In particular, submissions of papers should address questions such as--but not limited to--the following:

- **Historical Perspective:** When can be regionalism considered to have appeared? What factors did contribute to its emergence? How has it evolved over time?

- **Extent and Measurement:** How does the network of regional trade agreements look like? To what extent do they overlap? How deep are their links? What are the level and patterns of regionalism across continents, countries and sectors? How they compare to each other?

- **Determinants:** What are the political economy factors that drive and shape regionalism? What is their relative importance across countries and sectors? What are the economic reasons behind the emergence of regionalism? What are the forces that determine the timing of participation in regional integration initiatives?

- **Implications:** Are trade agreements building or stumbling blocks for global free trade? Do their welfare effects depend on their deepness? Does preferential trade liberalization actually favor the expansion of trade along the extensive margin in terms of both firms and products? Does it facilitate survival of firms in foreign markets? How large are the risks of overall trade diversion? Do regional trade arrangements create an export/internationalization platform for firms in their member countries? What are their impacts on productivity growth and innovation? How do trade arrangements affect the spatial distribution of economic activities across (and the specialization profiles) of member countries and their regions? What are their effects on labor and capital mobility and how do they compare in this respect to global agreements? Does economic integration favor the emergence of regional production networks? Are there specific regulations associated with trade agreements that reinforce or attenuate this effect? How do rules of origin influence firms’ economic decisions?

- **Institutions and Policies:** Is there interdependence among the different disciplines covered by trade arrangements? To what extent macroeconomic, infrastructure, education, competition, and regulation policies affect the way in which trade agreements impact on the member countries? Does integration in regulatory issues make a difference? Should macroeconomic policies be coordinated among partners? Are supranational regional policies justified? Do they work? Is there any role for formal organizations such as customs and export, investment, and innovation promotion agencies in mediating the impacts of integration? What degree of institutionalization is appropriate? Does the design of institutional arrangements matter for the effects of trade agreements? What kind of legal challenges do these agreements create? How can these issues be dealt with?

- **The Way Ahead:** How will the network of trade agreements evolve in the upcoming years? To what extent is a convergence scenario possible? How can it look like? Is there any optimal sequence?
Both theoretical and empirical contributions will be considered, but in all cases priority will be given to papers identifying and shedding light on relevant policy questions such as those outlined above, including case studies of policies followed by national or international organizations, in particular. Furthermore, submission of papers that, in doing this, explicitly contrast successful and failed cases, comparing countries within a certain trade agreement and/or geographical area, is strongly encouraged. Important lessons are expected to be drawn from these contributions for Latin American and Caribbean countries.

The selected papers will be presented along invited contributions at the Seventh Annual ELSNIT Conference to be held in St. Gallen, Switzerland, on October 21-22, 2011.

A recognized expert in the field will comment upon each paper. All the papers and discussions will be circulated as working documents of the network. The authors are free to submit the papers to academic journals, stating that they were presented at the Ninth Annual ELSNIT Conference.

Procedures for Submission of Proposals

All researchers who are associated with a European or Latin American/Caribbean based academic or research institution are eligible to submit papers. While detailed abstracts will be accepted, there is a strong preference for nearly completed papers.

Submission should be accompanied by a statement declaring your institutional affiliation, and your interest to present the paper in the conference indicating the nature of the paper. The papers should be written in English.

Submissions of PDF files should be sent to the following addresses: elsnit@iadb.org (IDB/INTAL), with copy to Simon Evenett (University St. Gallen and CEPR), simon.evenett@unisg.ch; and Christian Volpe Martincus, (IDB/INT), christianv@iadb.org.

The deadline for submissions is April 20, 2011. The final selection of papers will be made by May 20, 2011 by the network coordinators – László Bruszt (EUI), Marise Cremona (EUI), Matthieu Crozet (CEPII and University of Paris 1), Simon Evenett (University St. Gallen and CEPR), Holger Görg (University of Kiel, Kiel Institute for the World Economy, and CEPR), Jacint Jordana (IBEI and UPF), Gianmarco Ottaviano (KITeS-Bocconi University and CEPR), and Christian Volpe Martincus (IDB/INT)—together with Professor Jacques Ziller (UP-FPS, Pavia, Italy) who is an external advisor to the network. The final versions of the papers must be delivered by September 20, 2011.

The selected authors’ and invited discussants’ travel expenditures (economy class) and per diems to participate at the Conference will be reimbursed by the IDB. Detailed guidelines explaining the logistics of the conference will be provided at a later stage. Please circulate this call for papers among your colleagues and other potentially interested parties.
Background Information

The Euro-Latin Study Network on Integration and Trade (ELSNIT) is an initiative of the Inter-American Development Bank to create in Europe a forum on integration and trade issues relevant to Latin America and the Caribbean. The main objectives of the Network are to generate research, studies and debate on these issues, draw on a rich European experience and perspectives and increase interaction between European and Latin American researchers. From this year onwards, the conference will focus on a particular issue each year.

The ELSNIT Network is coordinated by a Steering Committee that currently consists of the Centre d’Etudes Prospectives et d’Informations Internationales (CEPII), Paris, France; the Kiel Institute for the World Economy (IfW), Kiel, Germany; the European University Institute (EUI), Florence, Italy; the Institut Barcelona d’Estudis Internacionals (IBEI), Barcelona, Spain; the University of St. Gallen, St. Gallen, Switzerland; KITeS-Bocconi University, Milan, Italy; the Centre for Economic Policy Research (CEPR), London, United Kingdom; and the IDB (INT and INTAL).