EU Enlargement and Institution-Building in Central Eastern and South Eastern Europe

2 – 3 June, Seminar Room 2 (Badia)

Organisers: Nisida Gjoksi and Ludvig Lundstedt
Sponsor: László Bruszt

(10 credits)

Please register with Mariana.Spratley@eui.eu

Abstract

The literature on development and comparative politics has increasingly come to focus on state institutions, and the crucial role they play in fostering not only democratic consolidation and economic growth, but also delivering a range of public goods and services that provide societal benefits. While existing accounts have provided convincing evidence on why the state is important there are conflicting accounts on the question how autonomous states, capable of providing public goods and services, emerge and how this process is influenced by regional organizations. The focal point in this workshop is the role played by European Union in the creation of new state institutions and the strengthening and transformation of existing ones. The Balkan countries together with the Central and Eastern European ones provide a great opportunity for researchers to test theories on, and specify mechanisms of state building that involve the interplay between domestic and transnational actors. This is also the aim of the workshop: to shed light on the process of rebuilding the state and the role played by domestic and international factors in creating and strengthening institutions at the domestic level.

Requirements

To receive 10 credits for this course, researchers should attend all sessions and take an active part in the discussions.
Programme

Monday, June 2nd: Paper presentations

9.00 Welcome and opening remarks

9.15 State-building or State Capture? Institutional Change in the Balkans on the Road to the EU
Milada Vachudova (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill)
Discussant: Nisida Gjoksi

10.0 Resisting foreign state-builders: party organization, IGO conditionality and civil service reform in Croatia, 2000-2012
Lorenzo Cecchi (EUI)
Discussant: Anna-Gryzmala Busse

10.45 Coffee break

11.15 Protecting the State or Losing Sovereignty? The Influence of Leading Economic Sectors on Post-Socialist States
Wade Jacoby (Brigham Young University)
Discussant: László Bruszt

12.00 Building formal states from outside and party patronage from inside: contested civil service reforms in Albania and Macedonia
Nisida Gjoksi (EUI)
Discussant: Milada Vachudova

12:45 Lunch break

14.30 The politicization of the senior civil service in Central and Eastern Europe and the Western Balkans: Mapping the boundary between politics and administration
Jan-Hinrik Meyer-Sahling (Nottingham University)
Discussant: Ludvig Lundstedt

15.15 Reform Capacity in South, Central Eastern Europe
Ludvig Lundstedt (EUI)
Discussant: Wade Jacoby

16.00 Coffee break

16.15 Variety of backyard management: EU integration and the evolution of economic state capacities in the Southern and Eastern periphery of Europe
Visnja Vukov (EUI)
Discussant: Jan-Hinrik Meyer-Sahling

20.00 Dinner (venue tbc)
Tuesday, June 3rd: Keynote address and roundtable

10.00  Backlash and backsliding? Populism and the state in the post-2004 members
Anna Grzymala-Busse (University of Michigan)
Discussant: Lorenzo Cecchi

11.00  Roundtable and debate
Pierre Mirel (Honorary Director-General of the European Commission on Rule of
Law in the EU Accession Process)
Giulio Venneri (Policy Officer, European Commission Enlargement Directorate)
Q & A session: Ludvig Lundstedt
Moderator: Lásló Bruszt

13.00  Lunch break

14.00  Concluding discussion and remarks

The workshop is scheduled to conclude at 15.30.