



Saving Europe

2nd term seminar 2017-2018

14:00 - 18:00

Organised by Philipp Genschel and Anton Hemerijck

Register [online](#)

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Description

A standard justification of the European Union is that it solves problems that the member states and their citizens cannot solve on their own. The recent string of crises has raised doubts about this justification. No matter whether you look at the Eurozone crisis, the migration crisis, Brexit, the crisis of youth unemployment in peripheral member states, or various foreign policy failures, the EU looks less like a solution and more like a part of European problems and failures. How to turn the EU into a solution once again?

The objective of the seminar is to produce a collective pamphlet for the 2018 *EUI State of the Union* conference (10- 11th May 2018) sketching politically plausible solutions for four to five (depending on student numbers) crises of the EU: Eurozone, migration, Brexit, social cohesion, and foreign policy. This will be a joint effort of all seminar participants. The seminar emphasizes group work and cooperation. It draws extensively on the grey literature promulgated by think tanks and governments, in addition to the standard academic literature on the topic of crises and responses. It aims for policy relevance and resonance rather than mere methodological rigor. This aim informs the structure of the seminar.

We start the first session by discussing some exemplary policy papers on the crises. This serves to introduce the substance of the seminar but also to analyze the form and style of this particular type of publication. Students self-select into four or five working groups of 3-4 students each, and start working on 'their' crisis. The first task is to prepare a joint 2-3 page note on the policy problems causing the respective crisis. What are the issues at stake? Who are the relevant actors? What are the interests and conflicts involved? The notes are then distributed to the instructors

and to fellow students ahead of the second session together with a short background reading of the working group's choice. During that session, each group will present its analysis and discuss it with the rest of the class. Next, each working group prepares a note sketching a possible proposal (or menu of proposals) for crisis solution. Again, the notes will be distributed ahead of the third session together with suggestions for background reading, and then be presented and discussed in class. For the fourth meeting, each working group integrates its notes on causes and solutions into one policy paper of about 8 pages length. The form and substance of the papers will be discussed in class. The discussion will focus not only on the substance but also the form and style of the papers. Students agree on a format for the collective pamphlet and revise their policy papers accordingly. During the fifth session, we collectively work on an introduction and conclusion for the pamphlet. The pamphlet is then printed for the State of the Union conference. Perhaps we also come up with other ideas to market our findings.

The following crises will be discussed and can be chosen by the working groups:

Eurocrisis

The single currency was designed as the natural solution to spill-over problems created by the single market. However, in the wake of global financial crisis, the Euro turned into a problem of its own right. Thanks to ECB-crisis management the single currency is on a safer footing today but many unresolved tensions remain. How can EMU be made more equitable and resilient?

Brexit crisis

The Brexit divorce incurs costs that are difficult to quantify, generates uncertainty about the new relationship between Britain and the Continent, and creates spillback effects on the remaining member states and those that still aspire to join the club in the future. What should the EU do to minimize the economic, political and social fall-out of Brexit?

Migration crisis

The recent surge of refugees and migrants from Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan increased tensions within the EU. The idea to share the 'refugee burden' between the member states through central relocation mechanisms fueled animosity. The deals struck with Turkey and Libya are contested and fragile. How can the EU's migration policy be put on a realistic and politically viable basis?

Foreign policy crisis

The rise of Putin and Erdogan, the election of 'America first' Donald Trump in the US, war and conflict in the middle east, migration from Africa and terrorist attacks at home, have pressed policy makers to improve European cooperation on security. Yet, most cooperation initiatives founder on disunity. How can the EU gain foreign policy agency despite divergent foreign policy preferences and priorities in the member states?

Social crisis

Lackluster growth and competitive divergences have brought to the fore deep social imbalances across the EU and especially the Eurozone, with mass (youth) unemployment, rising poverty and a widening intergenerational divide. Unable to deliver on economic prosperity *and* social progress, policy makers in Brussels and in national capitals face Euroscepticism and anti-establishment populism. What can be done to win back the hearts and minds of the real or perceived losers of integration and economic modernization?

Requirements

Participants are supposed to attend the seminars, actively participate and contribute. The work for the pamphlet will count as the term paper.

Only researchers who want to write the term paper (i.e. work on the pamphlet) can participate.

This seminar is worth 20 credits.

Access to Readings

All the readings will be uploaded on the seminar's Collab page.

Objectives

Researchers who have successfully completed this course should be able to:

- Produce well-structured policy papers, drawing on a broad range of sources in the academic and grey think-tank literature;
- Make concise presentations of findings and proposals;
- Engage in productive group work;
- Engage with audiences beyond the academy.

Syllabus

Session 1 (15 January 2018 – Room Emeroteca) – Introduction: Europe in crisis

We start the first session by discussing some exemplary policy papers on the crises. This serves to introduce the substance of the seminar but also to analyze the form and style of this particular type of publication. Students self-select into four or five working groups of 3-4 students each, and start working on 'their' crisis. The first task is to prepare a joint 2-3 page note on the policy problems causing the respective crisis. What are the issues at stake? Who are the relevant actors? What are the interests and conflicts involved? The notes are then distributed to the instructors and to fellow students ahead of the second session together with a short background reading of the working group's choice.

Readings:

-F.W. Scharpf (1997), *Games Real Actors Play*, Boulder Co: Westview Press, Introduction, pp. 1-18.

-J.C. Juncker (2017), *Commission White Paper on the Future of Europe: Five Scenarios*. Brussels: European Commission.

-Sapir and D. Schoemaker (2017), *THE TIME IS RIGHT FOR A EUROPEAN MONETARY FUND*, Brussels: Bruegel.

-D. Rinaldi, *A NEW START FOR SOCIAL EUROPE* (2017), Jacques Delors Institute, pp. 29-60.

-Morera-Martinez (2016), Why Schengen Matters and how to keep it. A five point plan. Center for European Reform

-M. Emerson (2017), Stocktaking after Theresa May's Brexit speech in Florence. Key point – the transition, key omission – the future relationship, CEPS, Brussels

Session 2 (29 January 2018 – Room Emeroteca) - Crisis diagnostics: what is the problem?

Each group will present its analysis and discuss it with the rest of the class. For the next session, each working group prepares a note sketching a possible proposal (or menu of proposals) for crisis solution. The notes will be distributed ahead of the third session together with suggestions for background readings.

Session 3 (12 February 2018 – Seminar Room 3) - Crisis solutions

The notes of each working group on a possible solution for their crisis will be presented and discussed. For the fourth meeting, each working group integrates its notes on causes and solutions into one policy paper of about 8 pages length.

Session 4 (26 February 2018 – Seminar Room 3) - First draft policy proposal papers

The form and substance of the policy papers will be discussed in class. The discussion will focus not only on the substance but also the form and style of the papers. Students agree on a format for the collective pamphlet and revise their policy papers accordingly.

Session 5 (12 March 2018 – Room Emeroteca) - Putting together the State of the Union pamphlet

During the fifth session, we collectively work on an introduction and conclusion for the pamphlet. The pamphlet is then printed for the State of the Union conference. Perhaps we also come up with other ideas to market our findings.