

Keynote lecture

Simon Hix: The State of European Democracy After Lisbon

The lecture

The issue of the democratic legitimacy of the European Union has been prominent in national debates across Europe in recent years. The Lisbon Treaty contains many apparent remedies to the EU's "democratic deficit", including a strengthened European Parliament, a bigger role for national parliaments in legislative scrutiny and a new citizens' initiative. Professor Hix will analyse the relevance and efficacy of these measures in addressing the democratic deficit and also address the broader issue of what can be done to make the EU a truly democratic political space.

The speaker

Professor Simon Hix is Director of the Political Science and Political Economy Group at the LSE and the co-editor of the journal *European Union Politics*. He has written several books on EU and comparative politics, including most recently *What's Wrong With the EU and How to Fix It* (2008) and *Democratic Politics in the European Parliament* (2007).

A leading expert on European Union politics and policy, Professor Hix has held visiting appointments at several top universities, including Stanford, Berkeley, UC San Diego, Sciences-Po in Paris, the Hertie School of Governance in Berlin, the College of Europe in Bruges, and the Korean Institute for International Economic Policy in Seoul. He has extensive consultancy experience, including for the UK Cabinet Office and Foreign and Commonwealth Office, the European Parliament, the European Commission, the European Policy Centre, and the Asian Development Bank.