

## Curriculum Vitae: Wim Van Aken

### Correspondence:

Rue des Mèlèzes, 81  
1050 Brussels  
Belgium

Date of birth: 1972  
Nationality: Belgian

E-mail: [Wim.VanAken@iue.it](mailto:Wim.VanAken@iue.it)  
Mob: 0032(0)498.35.43.60

## Education

- '07 Ph.D. Political Science (Department of Social and Political Sciences) at the European University Institute: EUI (Italy)  
  
Dissertation: Mediating Membership: Sectors, States, and Strategies: EU Enlargement Negotiations in Central Europe (1998-2004)  
The Logic of Constructive and Destructive Interference  
  
Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Martin Rhodes (EUI)  
Jury: Prof. Dr. James Caporaso (University of Washington), Prof. Dr. Adrienne Héritier (RSCAS/EUI), Prof. Dr. Willem Buitier (LSE)
- '04 Visiting Scholar at New York University (Department of Politics): NYU (US) – co-operation Prof. Dr. F. McGillivray and Prof. Dr. M. Gilligan
- '99 MSc Political Economy of Transition in Europe (European Institute) at London School of Economics and Political Science: LSE (UK) – distinction Political Economy of Transition in Europe
- '98 MA Modern History at the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven: KUL (Belgium) – first class honours
- '98 School of Education (aggregation) at the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven: KUL (Belgium)
- '97 Erasmus Exchange Programme History and Politics at the University of Exeter (UK) – first class honours
- '95 BA History at Universitaire Faculteiten Sint-Ignatius – UFSIA (Belgium)

## Working Experience

- '03-05 Research Assistant to the Director of the Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies: RSCAS (Florence, Italy)
- '02-03 Research Assistant to Wim Kok (former Prime Minister of the Netherlands) and Graham Avery (Chief Advisor to Gunter Verheugen, former European Commissioner for Enlargement) at the Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies: RSCAS (Florence, Italy)
- '00-01 Junior Political Counsellor for Central and Eastern Europe at the Chief Economist Office of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development: EBRD (London, UK)
- '99 Internship at the European Commission with the Forward Studies Unit: EC/FSU (Brussels, Belgium)

## Teaching Experience

In 1998 I obtained a School of Education (Aggregation) degree in Belgium. The degree comprised courses in general pedagogy and the composition of a syllabus followed by teaching courses to classes of 25-30 people at different levels. I have the following specific teaching experience:

- '04 Lectures at Collegium Civitas, Warsaw, on Intra-, Inter- and Extra-EU negotiation processes and strategies
- '04 Informal dissertation supervision at College of Europe (Natolin, Warsaw)
- '98 Lectures on the history of socialism and liberalism to obtain the degree of School of Education and Pedagogy (Agrégation) in Belgium

I have a strong commitment to working with young people. I was student representative for the MSc Political Economy of Transition in Europe (LSE) and I am co-founder and former chairman of a youth club in Belgium, which counted over a 1000 members and continues to provide opportunities to young people.

## Published, Unpublished and Ongoing Research

### Published

- HAYES-RENSHAW, F., VAN AKEN, W. and WALLACE, H., When and Why the Council of Ministers of the EU Votes Explicitly, in: *Journal of Common Market studies*, 44:1 (March 2006). A preliminary version was presented at the EUSA-US Biennial Conference, Austin, Texas, 31 March-2 April 2005. A revised version was published in the RSCAS Working Paper Series, RSCAS no. 2005/25.
- GRAFE C., LAGO, R. and VAN AKEN, W., *A cost Benefit Analysis of EU accession with Special emphasis of the political economy aspects of their distribution*, in: *Revue d'Economie financière*, Nr. 72, 2003, pp. 45-72.
- (co-authored with Graham Avery (EC) and Will Phelan (Harvard University) KOK, W., *Special Report on Enlargement of the European Union for the European Commission: Report of Wim*

*Kok to the European Commission, Enlarging the European Union, Achievements and Challenges*, Florence, 2003 – rapport called for by Romano Prodi, former President of the European Commission, to accompany the referenda on the fifth EU enlargement in the applicant states.

- (contributions to) EBRD, *Transition Report*, London, 2000 and 2001.

### **Unpublished and Completed**

- VAN AKEN, W., *Mediating Membership: Sectors, States and Strategies: The EU Enlargement Negotiations (1998-2003). A Quantitative and Qualitative analysis of the EU accession negotiations for the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Slovakia and the EU*, dissertation and works completed, Florence, 2006 (7 chapters, 350 pages).

### **In Progress**

- VAN AKEN, W., *Sectoral Voting Behaviour in the Council of Ministers of the EU*, conference paper in preparation for 2007.
- VAN AKEN, W., *Strategies in Negotiating EU Membership (1998-2002)*, working paper forthcoming 2007 (based on chapter 7 of the PhD dissertation).
- VAN AKEN, W., *States and Institutions: Constructive and Destructive Interference in the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia (1998-2004)*, working paper forthcoming 2007 (based on chapter 6 of the PhD dissertation).
- VAN AKEN, W., *Sectoral Conflicts and Political Mobilisation in the EU enlargement process in the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia (1989-2003)*, working paper forthcoming (based on chapters 3,4 and 5 of the PhD dissertation).

### **Unpublished**

- EBRD, *Research Bulletin*, 1999-2001 (Monthly internal newsletter with analysis covering the transition process in Central and Eastern Europe) by Wim Van Aken and Christopher Cviic.
- W., VAN AKEN, *Labour Mobility in an Enlarged EU*, London 2001 (Paper accompanying brown bag discussion series at the EBRD on the transitional agreements proposed by the EU in the fifth EU enlargement process).

### **Compilation of Databases**

- Voting behaviour database on the Council of Ministers (1998-), ongoing compilation on the basis of Open Source software and the website of the Council of the EU.
- Sectoral and Institutional Indicators for Central and Eastern Europe (1998-2003), database accompanying chapters 3,4,5 and 6 on the basis of 82 structural interviews carried out in Central Europe and Brussels, Ph.D. dissertation, completed 2005.
- Negotiation Indicators for the EU accession negotiations (1998-2003), database accompanying chapter 7 on strategies, Ph.D. dissertation, completed 2006.
- Decision making in the EU, Voting behaviour in the Council of Ministers (1994-2004), completed in co-operation with the Secretariat of the Council of the EU in 2005.
- Elections and democratisation in Central and Eastern Europe, former S.U. and Central Asia (1989-2000), completed in co-operation with the OSCE for Transition Report 2001.

## Conferences, Presentations and Workshops

- '05 Paper presented at the Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik, Berlin: Europapolitik im System des Rates der Europäischen Union, Abstimmungsverhalten im Ministerrat, June 2005
- '05 Paper presented at the EUSA-US Biennale Conference, Austin, Texas, Panel: Contestation in the Council of Ministers, When and Why the Council of Ministers of the EU Votes Explicitly, April 2005
- '03 Paper presented and main speaker at the National Europe Conference Centre, Australian National University, Canberra: EU Enlargement: Implications for the EU and Australia. The Strategic Policy case for EU Enlargement covering the main benefits of enlargement and the potential costs to the EU of non-enlargement, April 2003
- '03 Preparation of four conferences and workshops for the W. Kok Report on EU enlargement, EUI, RSCAS, Florence – EC, Brussels, January-March 2003
- '02 Political Economy Working Group Seminars organised by Martin Rhodes, David Andrews and Bob Hancké, EUI-RSCAS, Florence 2002-2003
- '00-01 EBRD, workshops related to the transition process in Central and Eastern Europe and EU integration, 2000-2001

## Research Missions

- '04-05 Field work in Brussels (interviews with industry confederations and associations as well as the respective European Commission DGs and EU negotiators)
- '04 Visiting scholar Politics Department, New York University – supervision and course work (quantitative comparative methods and international relations and political economy)
- '03 Visiting scholar International Relations and European Studies Department, Central European University (CEU, Budapest) – course work political economy and field work (interviews with sectoral trade unions and employers, at the respective ministries and with members of the government and chief negotiator) in Hungary and Slovakia
- '03 Prague and Bohemia – field work (interviews with sectoral trade unions and employers, at the respective ministries and with members of the government and chief negotiator)
- '03 Visiting scholar Collège d'Europe, Natolin (Warsaw, Poland) – field work (interviews with sectoral trade unions and employers, at the respective ministries and with members of the government and chief negotiator)

## Grants and Awards

- Completion grant awarded by the Department of Social and Political Sciences, EUI, 2004-2005
- Exchange Grant awarded for the EUI/US exchange programme by the European University Institute, EUI, for studies at New York University, New York, 2004
- Annual grant awarded by the Department of Social and Political Sciences, EUI, 2003-2004
- Five mission grants, Department of Social and Political Sciences, EUI, for empirical field research in Hungary, Slovakia, Czech Republic, Poland and Brussels resulting in 88 structured interviews, 2003-2005
- Grant awarded by the London School of Economics and Political Science for studies at the LSE, MSc Political Economy of Transition in Europe, 1998
- EU Exchange grant awarded for the academic year 1997-1998 for studies in the UK

## **Languages**

- English: fluent – speaking, reading, writing
- Dutch: fluent – speaking, reading, writing
- French: fluent – speaking, reading, writing
- German: moderate
- Italian: moderate

## **Political Science Software**

- SPSS
- Stata

## **Membership**

- EUSA (European Union Studies Association), Pittsburg, US
- European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR) by membership of the EUI

## **Extra Curricular Activities**

- Long distance running, cycling (as a means of transport), tango, travelling
- Former student representative for the MSc Political Economy of Transition in Europe (LSE)
- Founder and former chairman of a youth club in Belgium, which counted over a 1000 members.