

The Journal of Southeast European and Black Sea Studies has been included in the ISI Social Science Citation Index (SSCI).

Starting from the issues published in 2007, our publication will be indexed and abstracted in the following: The Social Sciences Citation Index®; Social Scisearch®; and the Journal Citation Reports/ Social Sciences Edition. The Journal will receive its first Impact Factor in 2010.

The Journal covers contemporary and twentieth century developments in the wider Balkan and the Black Sea areas from both an academic and a practical policy-oriented approach. We would like to take this opportunity to encourage submissions from different disciplines aiming to contribute to a deeper and more fruitful understanding of these regions.



UPCOMING EVENTS:

Discussing *Transatlantic Trends 2008 in View of the West-Russia Crisis and the Coming US Elections Athens, 16 September 2008**

Discussion meeting with **Dr. Ian Lesser**, Senior Transatlantic Fellow, The German Marshall Fund of the United States, Washington DC.

* *Transatlantic Trends* is an annual public opinion survey examining American and European attitudes toward the transatlantic relationship.

Where Migration Policies Meet the Migrants: Comparing European and North American Experiences Athens, 3-4 October 2008

This **European Science Foundation (ESF) Exploratory Workshop** is convened by Dr. Anna Triandafyllidou and Dr. Ruby Gropas and will take place at the ELIAMEP premises. Contributions presented at the workshop will explore the interface between migrants' plans and their actions, on the one hand, and state policies (immigration control and immigrant integration policies) on the other. The aim is to investigate whether, how and at what stage these latter affect the former. The workshop brings together 17 migration experts from Europe and North America.

China and India: Asia's Two Emerging Giants and What It Means to the World Athens, 7 October 2008

In cooperation with the Embassy of Japan in Athens ELIAMEP will organise a lecture with **Ambassador (ret.) Sa-**

kutaro Tanino, Former Ambassador of Japan to China and India; Vice President of Japan-China Friendship Center and Adviser to Toshiba Corporation. The event will be held in English on Tuesday October 7th 2008, at 13:00, at The Hotel Grande Bretagne, Grand Ballroom A (Syntagma Square). Participation to the meeting is by invitation only.

American Marshall Memorial Fellows Visit to Greece Thessaloniki, 13-17 October 2008

On 13-17 October 2008 ELIAMEP will host a group of American Marshall Memorial Fellows. Since 2000, ELIAMEP is the coordinator of the **Marshall Memorial Fellowship Program** in Greece. The MMF programme aims at creating a network of young European and American leaders in an attempt to strengthen transatlantic relations.

An EU "fit for purpose" in a global age Hydra, 16-19 October 2008

This conference is organised by the Policy Network in association with the European Institute of the London School of Economics and ELIAMEP in the framework of the project **An EU "fit for purpose" in a global age**. The focus of this interdisciplinary project is to concentrate on areas where consensus is most difficult to establish, not where it is easiest to find. More information on this project is available at: <http://www.progressive-governance.net/researchprogrammes/programme.aspx?id=150>

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RECENT EVENTS:

**Halki International Seminars 2008:
Regional Flashpoints and Transatlantic Policies****Halki-Greece, 25-29 June 2008**

This year's Halki International Seminars commenced by examining the transatlantic alliance in context, and in particular, "high" politics, policies and priorities. The first session assessed past policies and future priorities of the Transatlantic Partners while the second session focused on external perceptions of the EU and NATO, questioning the extent to which the transatlantic alliance contributes today to regional and global security.

The core of the Seminars was devoted to regional challenges and the role of the transatlantic alliance, starting with the situation in Kosovo and the Western Balkans in light of developments that have taken place since the beginning of the year. A shared point was that the stability and future development of countries in the region depends both on their European perspective and NATO membership, as well as the internal strengthening of their institutions and their democratic legitimacy. Russia's influence was also referred to as a crucial factor for the future shape of the Western Balkans due to its economic investments and energy supplies, as well as its position on the Kosovo issue.

Discussions during the second day focused on the "frozen conflicts" in the Black Sea Region and the Caucasus and similarities were drawn with the situation in the Balkans. Moreover, panel discussions were dedicated to the regional challenges in the Middle East, particularly as regards the Kurdish question and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

In discussing the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and the prospects for "peace in our time" all participants held a rather pessimistic view as to the prospect of a solution in the forthcoming future. Naturally, as the sensitive nature of the subject suggests, the views that were expressed varied in character and intensity. Characteristically, all participants agreed on the fact that the inter-

national community has to be actively engaged in order for a peaceful resolution to be plausible, while in the regional context it was expressed that both sides have to focus on their internal problems in order to find common grounds of rapprochement.

The final day of the seminar started by focusing on Iraq, Iran and the Gulf region, discussing the need for a regional security architecture. A common theme that emerged was that the Iraq war has affected the regional balance of power, enabling Iran to considerably strengthen its position. Nevertheless, it was also argued that Iran itself is heading towards a period of change in its internal balance of power, with a new, transitional, generation of politicians that is expected to trigger change in the system. This forthcoming process of change, while crucial, is not yet understood by analysts outside Iran.

The final session of the seminars was devoted to revisiting the transatlantic initiatives in the regional conflicts discussed during the seminars, including views and perceptions from both Brussels and the regions. An overview of current and future policies was thus provided from the perspective of the EU, the Middle East and the Black Sea, including remarks on the future challenges NATO will be called to address. While the success of certain projects such as the EU initiative "Union for the Mediterranean" remains to be seen, it was asserted that any prospects for conflict resolution in the Middle East depend both on the adoption of common initiatives by Europe and the United States, as well as the adoption of the idea of political liberalization by regimes in the Middle East.

The seminar was organised in cooperation with The Balkan Trust for Democracy, Belgrade and was supported by the German Marshall Fund of the United States (GMFUS), Washington DC, the National Bank of Greece, Athens, Hellenic Aid - Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Athens, OTE S.A. (Hellenic Telecommunications Organisation), Athens, NATO's Public Diplomacy Division, Brussels and the Dodecanese Prefecture, Rhodes.



Opening remarks by Dr. Thanos Dokos, ELIAMEP's Director General and Dr. Ivan Vejvoda, Executive Director of the Balkan Trust of Democracy in Belgrade



View from the recently renovated conference centre in Halki where the seminars take place

More information on the Halki International Seminars 2008 is available at: http://www.eliamep.gr/eliamep/content/home/halki_international_seminars/his_2007/his_2008/en/

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The EU and its Neighbours: In Search of New Forms of Partnership
Sounio - Athens, 3-6 July 2008

Education and Culture DG

At a critical juncture in time, ELIAMEP and the Bertelsmann Foundation brought together around 45 leading thinkers, policy-makers and journalists from 24 different EU and non-EU countries to brainstorm about the future relationship between the European Union and its eastern and southern neighbours. The participants discussed whether the neighbouring countries and the EU have been able to fulfil each other's expectations and deconstructed the strategic objectives that drive cooperation and partnership. The current state of the EU's neighbourhood policy was also assessed. This part of the seminar focused on the deficiencies and the strengths of the existing instruments and fora and asked whether novel approaches are needed or whether the existing ones merely need to be optimised. In more concrete terms, the conference explored the potentials of the new "Union for the Mediterranean" and specifically asked whether this new "Union" has the potential to enhance cooperation between the EU and its neighbours in the South or whether it will rather be nothing more than the old "Barcelona Process" in a new disguise. Potential fields of cooperation between the EU and its neighbouring regions were considered. Particular attention was given to the areas of energy, education, agriculture and migration and to projects which can be mutually beneficial. The conference's final session discussed the perspectives of possible alternatives between full membership and non-membership. This part of the seminar asked whether concepts such as a "privileged membership", "partial membership", "limited membership", "extended associated membership" or a "Pan-European Confederation" are viable options.

The conference was supported by the European Commission, DG Education and Culture, Jean Monnet Programme.

Iranian Nuclear Proliferation
Athens, 28 July 2008

ELIAMEP organised a discussion with **Ambassador Greg Schulte**, Permanent Representative of the US to the International Atomic Energy Agency and the United Nations Office in Vienna.

According to Ambassador Schulte, Iran's nuclear ambitions constitute a major challenge, not because a nuclear-armed Iran would necessarily ever use a nuclear weapon, but because Iran is considered today as a major challenge in the Middle East: a major sponsor of terrorism, an opponent to the Middle East peace process, a country that is fomenting insurgency and violence, in places like Lebanon and Iraq. For these reasons there is much concern about how Iran's leadership would act if it gained access to nuclear weapons.

Ambassador Schulte also expressed concerns about whether Iran's neighbours may also decide to pursue nuclear weapons, or at least a nuclear weapons capability, resulting in a possible nuclear arms race in the region. The goal of the US along with European governments is to achieve a diplomatic settlement, which means convincing Tehran to abandon pursuit of technologies needed to build nuclear weapons.

At present, negotiations are based on a dual track strategy combining negotiations with sanctions and isolation. The US diplomat underlined that both approaches are required for a successful diplomatic endeavour. He argued that the negotiation process could start with a freeze for a freeze. This is the idea of their freezing the installation of additional centrifuges for uranium enrichment. And at the same time the Security Council would freeze additional sanctions.

Ambassador Schulte concluded by pointing out that this is not a dispute between Iran and the US, rather it is a dispute between Iran's leadership and the rest of the world.

The full text of Ambassador Schulte's presentation is available at: http://www.eliamep.gr/eliamep/content/home/events/events_2008/iranian_nuclear_proliferation/en/



Conference participants discussing topics related to the EU and its neighbours at the high-level meeting at Sounio

A series of papers was written in preparation of the conference. For these papers and additional information about the conference see http://www.eliamep.gr/eliamep/content/home/events/eliamep_conference/eu_and_its_neighbours/en/



Ambassador Greg Schulte and ELIAMEP's Director General Dr. Thanos Dokos in the centre discussing with a group of experts at ELIAMEP premises

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RESEARCH PROJECTS:

The Strasbourg Court, Democracy and the Human Rights of Individuals and Communities: Patterns of Litigation, State Implementation and Domestic Reform—JURISTRAS

The next **JURISTRAS** project meeting will take place on 30/10/2008-2/11/2008 in Istanbul. It will be hosted by Yildiz Technical University and will comparatively explore processes of human rights litigation and state implementation of the judgments of the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR). Comparative analysis will build on nine case studies conducted in Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Germany, Greece, Italy, Romania, Turkey and the UK.

The case studies discuss the significance of the Strasbourg Court and the European Convention on Human Rights as a subsidiary system of human rights review in the countries under study, inquire into litigation and legal mobilisation by analysing the resources and structures of support for individuals resorting to the Court, and identify instances of strategic litigation. They further describe the mechanisms and processes of implementing Strasbourg judgments, review the individual and general measures adopted to that purpose, and evaluate the overall approach of the main actors and institutions involved in implementation. Attention is finally afforded to the factors conditioning effective implementation of ECtHR judgments, exploring whether the attitude of government elites, party politics, legal culture, judicial politics, and social and interest-group mobilisation by non-state actors influence state implementation performance.

A collective volume (*Protecting Individuals from Non-Majoritarian Groups in the European Court of Human Rights: Litigation and Jurisprudence in Nine Countries*), edited by Dr. Dia Anagnostou and Dr. Evangelia Psychogiopoulou, will be published by Martinus Nijhoff Publishers/Brill in 2009. The volume builds on Juristras work and will provide an overview of litigation.

**Third IDEA project meeting
Prague, 2-5 September 2008**

The third **IDEA** project meeting will be convened by Charles University with the participation of all the IDEA partners including the ELIAMEP team (Dr. Anna Triandafyllidou, Ms. Marina Niko-lova, Ms. Michaela Marouf, Ms. Daria Lazarescu). The IDEA consortium will discuss the evolution of migration flows and policies in Southern and Central Eastern European countries. A draft scenario seeking to forecast migration flows in Europe in the years to come will be presented and discussed. More information is available at: <http://www.idea6fp.uw.edu.pl/>

**Second CLANDESTINO project
meeting
Hambourg, 17-19 September 2008**

The second **CLANDESTINO** project meeting will be convened by the Hamburg Institute of Economics (HWWI). The meeting will discuss the size and trends of irregular migration in Europe looking at 12 EU countries across Europe that face important undocumented migration flows as well as 3 transit countries that are neighbouring with the EU, notably Ukraine, Turkey and Morocco. More information is available at: http://www.eliamep.gr/eliamep/content/home/research/research_projects/clandestino/en/

PUBLICATIONS:

Natural Gas Corridors in Southeastern Europe, ELIAMEP Thesis No.2
Ioannis N. Grigoriadis, July 2008

Other recent publication by ELIAMEP's research team:

Religious America, Secular Europe?

A Theme and Variations

Peter Berger, Grace Davie and Effie Fokas, Ashgate 2008



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