

ΕΛΙΑΜΕΠ
ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΟ ΙΔΡΥΜΑ ΕΥΡΩΠΑΪΚΗΣ
& ΕΞΩΤΕΡΙΚΗΣ ΠΟΛΙΤΙΚΗΣ



ELIAMEP
HELLENIC FOUNDATION
FOR EUROPEAN & FOREIGN POLICY

FORTHCOMING EVENTS DIARY

24-26 Nov, Athens

Conference on **"Solving the Security Puzzle in the Mediterranean and the broader Middle East"** is organised by ELIAMEP under the auspices of the Hellenic Ministry of Foreign Affairs and with the support of the Hellenic National Defence General Staff.

Foreign Affairs Minister Ms. Dora Bakoyanni will deliver the conference's key-note speech.

1 Dec, Athens

"Greek - German Relations from 1949 up to the present," organised by the Danish Institute in Athens in cooperation with ELIAMEP

1 Dec, Thessaloniki

Workshop on **"Sustainable agriculture and communities: the future of rural Europe"** organised by the British Embassy in Athens in cooperation with ELIAMEP



ELIAMEP's Policy Paper and the full detailed presentation of ELIAMEP's research on higher education can be downloaded from ELIAMEP's website www.eliamep.gr

This information is available in Greek only.

ELIAMEP's Policy Proposals on Higher Education Reform in Greece

The Hellenic Foundation for European and Foreign Policy (ELIAMEP) conducted a wide empirical research on the state of higher education in Greece in order to contribute to the current debate for the reform of the public universities.

This research, conducted between September 2005 and June 2006, is based on the collection and analysis of statistical data; interviews with relevant stakeholders in universities across Greece; public opinion polls and surveys focused specifically on students, recent alumni and employers. It also includes a comparative analysis of the experience of other European countries.

The main findings and conclusions of the research as well as specific policy proposals for the reform of higher education in Greece are included in **ELIAMEP's Policy Paper** entitled: **"Higher Education in Greece in the New European and International Environment,"** edited by Professor **Loukas Tsoukalis**, President of the Board of Directors of ELIAMEP.

The policy paper was presented at a well attended event which took place at the amphitheatre of the Megaron Karatza of the National Bank of Greece, on the 9th of November. Among others, the event was attended by the former President of the Hellenic Republic Mr. **Costis Stefanopoulos**, MPs **Nikos Georgiadis**, **Anna Diamantopoulou**, **Stefanos Manos** and **Georgios Floridis**, the President of the Supreme Court, Mr. **Romylos Kedikoglou**, the Economic Adviser to the Prime Minister of Greece, Prof. **Eleniouri**, the President of the National Committee on Education, Prof. **Thanos Veremis**, the President of the Federation of Greek Industries, Mr. **Dimitris Daskalopoulos**, as well as representatives of the academic world and civil society organizations.

In his presentation, Professor Tsoukalis emphasised that "the higher educational system in Greece is characterised by intrusive state control with systematic interventions on behalf of the political parties; a lack of transparency; inefficient internal controls; and lack of social accountability. It is also characterised by unique features such as the university administration's electoral process, the so-called 'eternal students,' the single and free-of-charge textbook, and the abuse of the university asylum institution. No other country follows Greece's paradigm. The reform of the public universities of this country is imperative."

"ELIAMEP's proposals can be summarised in three key words: higher autonomy for the universities, greater competition among them, and systematic evaluation of their performance, in combination with the effective use of increased public and private funds.

A necessary precondition would be a complete change in the way the state regulates and manages higher education in our country, substantial self-administration for the universities combined with a meaningful performance-based incentive and 'penalty' system. ELIAMEP's policy proposals are also referring to the need of the Greek universities to open up to the outside world and to participate in the international 'trafficking' of knowledge and ideas through offering more foreign language courses, attracting more foreign students and scientists, and taking advantage of the Greek scientists who live and work abroad through flexible forms of cooperation. Proposals for the financial support of students from low income families are also included in ELIAMEP's policy proposals."



Commenting on ELIAMEP's policy paper, **George Krimbas**, Professor Emeritus of the University of Athens, argued that "there is an urgent need for an independent institution to formulate general rules for the higher education system and to promote higher quality and improved transparency. This institution would act at the same time as counselor and comptroller of universities."

The public discussion continued with Professor **Haralambos Moutsopoulos** of the Medical School of the University of Athens who noted that "professors are also to be blamed for many of the problems of higher education. Internal and external evaluation of the faculty members is an imperative need and an indispensable condition for the modernization of our higher educational system." Furthermore, he strongly made the case for a system of two parallel review processes, one 'internal' and one 'external,' for each University's performance.

Finally, **Vassilis Papazoglou**, Professor of the National Technical University of Athens observed that "the essential elements included in ELIAMEP's research is the need for a new, simpler legislative framework to provide universities with the necessary academic, administrative and financial autonomy. Each institution or school will then be able to formulate its own internal regulations based on specific needs and requirements." He concluded by stating that "the generous increase of public funds for universities and the parallel application of transparent procedures on the management of funds and all other activities of the universities remains an issue of vital importance."



ELIAMEP President Prof. Loukas Tsoukalis and PM of the PISG of Kosovo Mr. Agim Çeku

The full text of Mr. Çeku's lecture can be found on ELIAMEP's website www.eliamep.gr



ELIAMEP President Prof. Loukas Tsoukalis, EU Commissioner Olli Rehn and Greek Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr. Euripides Stylianidis

The full text of Mr. Rehn's lecture can be found on ELIAMEP's website www.eliamep.gr



World Bank Vice-President Mr. Shigeo Katsu and General Secretary for International Economic Affairs, MFA, Mr. Theodore Skylakakis

“The Future Status of Kosovo: the view from Prishtina”

Lecture by HE Mr. Agim Çeku, Prime Minister of the Provisional Institutions of the Self Government of Kosovo

Athens, 15 November 2006

PM Çeku presented the case for an independent Kosovo to over 200 diplomats, journalists, academics and students. Arguing that Kosovo is already in practice a working state and therefore ready for status, he emphasised the institutional and democratic progress that has been accomplished.

The future of Kosovo presented by Mr. Çeku involves a multi-ethnic state with structures and rules that protect the rights and promote participation of all citizens. He argued that independence is tantamount to stability not

only for Kosovo, but for the region as a whole. He also focused on the ‘uniqueness’ of the Kosovo case and urged for clarity in the proposal that will be put forward by UN Special Envoy Maarti Ahtisaari.

He identified reconciliation and meaningful integration as the core challenges for Kosovo. The need to develop the region's economic potential, particularly in terms of its lignite reserves, and the further privatisation of its telecom market was also stressed. Kosovo's young population was also pointed out as a significant potential for the region's economic development.

PM Çeku underlined the intention of Kosovo to build a working and sustainable relation with all the countries of Southeast Europe and mainly with Serbia.

He ended his lecture asking for Greece's continued support in consolidating regional stability, in promoting the Balkan's EU accession process and in maintaining its role as the mentor for the region.

In the question and answer session that followed with journalists, Mr. Çeku responded to concerns regarding minority rights, risk of violence and domino effects both within Kosovo and across the region.

“Europe's next transformation: Enlargement and the future of the EU”

Lecture by Mr. Olli Rehn, EU Commissioner for Enlargement

Athens, 20 October 2006

On the occasion of the publication of his new book ‘Europe's Next Frontiers’, Mr. Olli Rehn delivered a speech on the contemporary issues characterising the current debate on Europe's future to a full amphitheatre at the Hellenic Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In contrast to the current debate on Europe's limits and borders, Mr. Rehn offered a vision of functional and innovative frontiers facing Europe today.

He identified three urgent challenges defining Europe's next steps.

First, rebuilding confidence in the EU economy and enhancing its competitiveness, innovation and job-creation capacity. Second, he encouraged the political revival of Europe and posited that differentiated integration has enabled the Union to maintain dynamism and push integration initiatives forward. Provided that such projects are open to all member states and that they are decided within the EU framework, this may be the way to pursue Europe's political project in parallel to enlargement. Finally, the third frontier he presented involves extending the European zone

of peace, liberty and prosperity by better projecting the EU's soft power, especially through a gradual, rigorous and carefully managed accession process.

Building a consensus on enlargement and proceeding with the much needed institutional reforms were reiterated, as was the need for rigorous conditionality throughout the accession process.

The Balkan's EU perspective and the challenges facing Turkey's accession negotiations were the main issues raised by journalists, diplomats and politicians present.

“Economic Development Challenges in Europe & Central Asia with a Focus on the Southeast region” - Roundtable Discussion with Mr. Shigeo Katsu, Regional Vice-President, The World Bank

Athens, 2 October 2006

During the roundtable discussion moderated by Mr. Theodore Skylakakis, General Secretary for International Economic Relations of the Hellenic Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Shigeo Katsu, the

World Bank Regional Vice-President for Europe and Central Asia presented on current economic development challenges facing SE Europe today.

Focus was placed on trade and transportation matters, economic governance, labour

markets and the energy sectors. The meeting was attended by representatives of Greek ministries, the media, NGOs and think-tanks as well as policy makers. An informal discussion and exchange of views followed on SE Europe's development trends.

“Towards a Common Economic Space in Southeast Europe”

Meeting of Southeast European Parliamentarians

Sounion, 29 September 2006

The conference was organised by the Parliamentary Network on the World Bank (PNoWB), with the support of the Hellenic Parliament and in cooperation with the World Bank and ELIAMEP.

The event was attended by some 40 parliamentarians from the following countries and entities: Albania, Bosnia, Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece, Kosovo, FYR Macedonia, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia, and Turkey together with World Bank Country Directors and donors and groups active in the region, including the EU and the Stability Pact.

The meeting came at a critical time in the process of European integration. As EU integration takes its course, the conference was aimed at exploring actions required in order to achieve stronger economic ties, reduce poverty, and improve Southeast European cooperation. The objective was to examine how the region can move forward on building a common economic space in Southeast Europe.

In this context, participants took part in brainstorming sessions focusing on issues common to all countries. These were: energy, governance, labour markets and immigration, as well as trade and transport.

Each session was chaired by a parliamentarian, and research was presented from the World Bank as well as contributions from other discussants and independent organizations. Given that parliamentarians represent their constituents' needs and views, their involvement in these sessions was aimed at producing concrete and action oriented ideas for moving forward on the issues.

The Southeast European conference explored the idea of creating an informal branch of the PNoWB of interested parliamentarians from the region and ways to strengthen collective accountability and cooperation.



Greek Minister of Economy and Finance, Mr. George Alogoskoufis addressed the conference on the EU perspective as a catalyst for economic reform in the Balkans. Finally, Ms. Anna Diamantopoulou, Member of the Greek Parliament and former EU Commissioner, gave a speech on regional and European integration as factors of change for the region.

The full programme and the World Bank presentations can be downloaded from ELIAMEP's website and from www.seerecon.org

Expert Workshop on “The Balkans: Looking Back, Looking Forward”

Athens, 20 September 2006

Approximately 30 experts participated in this workshop organised by the European Policy Centre and the Conflict Prevention Partnership in cooperation with ELIAMEP.

The workshop assessed EU policies in the Balkans since the early 1990s through an identification of issues that restricted the member states' common actions and areas where the EU could have been

more proactive. Special attention was given to the role, mission and expectations of the Stability Pact for SE Europe as well as the lessons that may be drawn from the Dayton and Ohrid agreements.

The workshop focused equally on the current state of affairs in EU-SEE relations and particularly on the SAA. Gaps between short-term pressures and long term aims were underlined, as was the need for cogent intermediate actions

on behalf of the EU—such as a visa facilitation schemes. These are necessary to maintain the reform rhythm and direction.

Relations with Serbia, the status of Kosovo and ways to maintain the accession momentum after Bulgaria and Romania join were discussed in depth. Lastly, the role of the people of the region in bringing about required reforms was reaffirmed.

The workshop report can be found on ELIAMEP's website www.eliamep.org

Roundtable Discussion on “EU–Russia Relations: Developments & Prospects”

Athens, 19 October 2006

The roundtable discussion was organised in cooperation with the EU-Russia centre and brought together 35 representatives of the Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the media, the business sector, NGOs, and think tanks.

Presentations were made by Dr. Fraser Cameron, Director of the EU-Russia Centre, and

Dr. Dimitris Triantaphyllou, Director of ICBSS. Prof. Tsoukalis coordinated the exchange of views that followed.

Current pressures on EU-Russia relations were highlighted while the importance and interdependent nature of this relationship was reiterated. Concerns were raised regarding the lack of coherence among the Member States in implementing the EU

common strategy, and the value of strategic partnerships.

Energy security was at the centre of the debate along with increased EU-Russian cooperation in the business sector and especially in developing Russia's market economy. A consensus was reached on the need for greater coherence within the EU towards Russia and to help improve Russia's democratic governance.



Director of the EU-Russia Centre Dr. Fraser Cameron, ELIAMEP President Prof. Loukas Tsoukalis, and Dr. Dimitris Triantaphyllou, Director of ICBSS

ELIAMEP Times

Editor: Ruby Gropas
49, Vas. Sofias Avenue,
106 76 Athens,
Greece

Phone: +30 210 72 57110
Fax: +30 210 72 57114
E-mail: ruby@eliamep.gr



ELIAMEP provides the channel for recruiting Greek students for the Master's Programme at the College of Europe through the Greek Selection Committee for the College of Europe, which operates on the ELIAMEP premises.

The College of Europe is a centre of academic excellence, with four one-year programmes leading to a Master's degree and it operates in two campuses, in Bruges (Belgium) and Natolin (Poland). The four one-year programmes are: Politics/Administration, Law, Economics in Bruges, and an Inter-disciplinary programme in Natolin. A new programme has been launched in 2006-2007 in Bruges EU International Relations and Diplomacy which will focus on the EU's external relations.

Applications are welcome from interested students with a relevant University degree of good standard and working knowledge (writing and speaking) of English and French. Applications should include an application form, two academic references, a CV, a transcript and certificates indicating your knowledge of English and French.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: 15 JANUARY 2007

Further information is available from ELIAMEP's website.
A brochure, including the application form, may be obtained from:
Ms. Elli Siapkidou (elli@eliamep.gr; Tel: +30 210 7257127)

American Marshall Memorial Fellows Visit to Greece

ELIAMEP hosted a group of six American Marshall Memorial Fellows' visit to Athens aimed at getting them acquainted with contemporary Greek affairs as well as the history of the city. The Fellows, mid-career professionals from a variety of fields in the US, were on a 25-day tour of Greece and Western and Eastern Europe.

Their schedule included briefings on Greece's foreign policy priorities, on immigration and the Greek labour market and on the reform of higher education in Greece. The Fellows attended guided visits to the Acropolis and Ancient Agora as well as a walking tour of contemporary Athens to uncover the architectural landmarks that

have shaped the city into the capital of the Hellenic Republic. Finally, they visited the Lavrion Technological and Cultural Park - a project of the National Technical University of Athens and the premier educational institution for science and technology in Greece occupying more than 250,000 square metres at the former site of the Lavrion Mining Company. The Lavrion Mining Company closed in 1989 after 126 years of operation and the area was bought by the Greek government and a vast project was undertaken to clean up the area of unhealthy residue and create a mutually supportive network where business could work side by side with the university in a mutually supportive network.

While in Lavrion, the Fellows also visited the Handicraft-Industrial Educational Museum, a non profit educational and cultural organisation. The objective of the museum is to collect, preserve, research and exhibit materials relating to the region's handicraft and industrial past and also by extension to the technological, economic, social and cultural history of Greece.

The MMF programme aims at creating a network of young European and American leaders in an attempt to strengthen transatlantic relations. The GMF awards more than 100 Marshall Memorial Fellowships each year to leaders in politics, government, business, media, and the non-profit



sector who travel and explore people, societies and institutions on the other side of the Atlantic. During their visits, American and European Fellows meet formally and informally with a range of policymakers and prominent members of the business, government, NGO, and media communities.

