



THE STATE OF THE UNION

■ Thursday 9 May 2013 – Palazzo Vecchio

The STATE OF THE UNION conference, organised by the European University Institute (EUI), is an annual event for high-level reflection on the European Union. The conference brings together leading academics, policy-makers, civil society representatives, and business and opinion leaders to discuss the current situation and future prospects of the European Union.

- 8.00 – 9.00 Registration and delegate badge collection – Cortile della Dogana
- 9.00 – 11.30 Salone dei Cinquecento

■ 9.00 – 9.15 Welcome

Matteo Renzi, mayor of the city of Florence

Enrico Rossi, president of the region of Tuscany

Enzo Moavero Milanesi, Italian minister for European affairs

Marise Cremona, president of the European University Institute

■ 9.15 – 9.30 Keynote lecture I

Mario Monti, member of the Italian Senate

■ 9.30 – 11.00 Morning session Institutions and democratic governance

Recent instruments used to govern the euro and to induce fiscal discipline in member states have increased EU interference in national economic policy making; broadened the heterogeneity of supranational strategies to achieve these objectives; and led to greater differentiation among the sets of countries adhering to the different governance schemes. National electorates, ever more sceptical with how these instruments and policies are justified in their own countries, are likely to challenge further intergovernmental strategies and instruments such as the European Parliament. These voters are likely to view EU institutions, political parties and citizens' initiatives as weak legitimising devices. Despite signs of a more efficient handling of the fiscal and monetary crises, we observe growing negative spill-over

effects concerning legitimacy and support of member states by the EU and vice versa. The EU faces a midterm political predicament that requires innovative solutions to link new instruments of governance to citizens and popular support.

Introduction /Academic coordination

Stefano Bartolini, director of the Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies (RSCAS),
European University Institute

Speakers

Miguel Maduro, Portuguese minister for regional development and minister adjunct to the prime minister

Emma Marcegaglia, president elect of Business Europe

David Miliband, president and CEO elect of the International Rescue Committee

Joseph H. H. Weiler, president elect of the European University Institute

Moderator Q&A Session

Tony Barber, Europe editor of the Financial Times

■ 11.00 – 11.15 Keynote lecture II

Emma Bonino, Italian minister for foreign affairs

■ 11.15 – 11.30 Keynote lecture III

Rosen Plevneliev, president of Bulgaria

■ 11.30 – 12.00 Coffee break – Sala d'Arme

■ 12.00 – 13.30 Midday parallel sessions – registered guests only

The five midday parallel sessions – held under the Chatham House Rule – are coordinated and organised by EUI professors, with speakers, journalists, academics and EUI researchers leading discussion. Sessions A and B will focus on institutions and democratic governance, as discussed in the morning session. Sessions C, D and E will introduce the afternoon's topics: migration and citizenship. Guests are invited to sign up and participate in one of the five parallel sessions.

Session A - Sala dei Gigli

Institutional solutions for problem solving

- Economic governance of the euro and its relation to traditional forms of EU governance: how might they be incorporated?

- Can we have more than a ‘one-speed’ Europe?
- Is there a ‘political Europe’ outside the treaties?
- What are the legal and political aspects of the exit options within the EU and euro area?

EUI chair

Bruno De Witte, professor of European law, European University Institute

Speakers

Marta Dassù, Italian vice-minister for foreign affairs

Franz Mayer, chair of European law and public international law, University of Bielefeld

Jean Pisani-Ferry, director of the French prime minister’s economic policy planning staff

Luuk van Middelaar, member of the cabinet of the president, European Council

Beatrice Weder di Mauro, chair of international macroeconomics, University of Mainz

Media representative

Vendeline Von Bredow, deputy Europe editor of The Economist

Session B - [Sala degli Elementi](#)

Political initiatives for mobilising support

- EU democratic practices and legitimacy problems in light of the crisis
- The gap between the EU elite and citizens: citizens’ involvement in EU decision-making
- Can the European parties ‘represent’?
- What is the role of national parliaments?
- The effects of the euro financial crisis: greater populism or higher levels of dialogue about Europe in national elections?

EUI chair

Alexander Trechsel, Swiss chair professor in Federalism and Democracy, European University Institute

Speakers

Pascal Chelala, director of TNS opinion

Massimo D’Alema, president of the Foundation for European Progressive Studies

Brigid Laffan, principal of the College of Human Sciences, University College Dublin

Bruno Le Maire, member of the French Parliament

Helga Nowotny, president of the European Research Council

Media representative

Pierre De Gasquet, Rome correspondent of Les Échos

Session C – Sala delle Udienze

Migration and the future of Europe's demography and economy

- By 2050 Europe's population will have decreased by 11 per cent, while the world population will have increased by 35 per cent. Is demography a threat to Europe's future weight in world affairs?
- Demographic aging and shrinking workforces put Europe's welfare systems at risk. Should immigrants be seen as an additional burden or as an asset under these conditions?
- Should EU member states apply the principle of European preference or, to promote innovation and competitiveness, promote the selection of highly skilled immigrants from third countries?
- Would low- or mid-skilled immigration bring a suitable response to the massive outsourcing of labour to low-wage countries, and eventually foster employment in Europe?

EUI chair

Alessandra Venturini, deputy director of the Migration Policy Centre, RSCAS, European University Institute

Speakers

Göran Hultin, chairman and chief executive officer of Caden Corporation

Louka Katseli, professor of economics, University of Athens

Cecilia Malmström, European commissioner for home affairs

Rainer Münz, head of the research and development of Erste Group

Media representative

Norma Cohen, demography correspondent of the Financial Times

Session D – Sala Incontri

Migration, identity and integration

- Does migration challenge a receiving society's identity or do appropriate policies allow integration and social cohesion?
- Is Islam being integrated in Europe?
- Will Europe continue to progress towards granting citizen-like rights to migrants, including political rights?
- Is increased xenophobia in Europe caused by rising numbers of immigrants or by rising economic anxiety?

EUI chair

Anna Triandafyllidou, programme director and coordinator of the Cultural Diversity Research Strand, Global Governance Programme, European University Institute

Speakers

Ilze Brands Kehris, director of the office of the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities

Ruud Koopmans, director of the Migration, Integration and Transnationalisation Unit, Social Science Research Center Berlin (WZB)

Tariq Ramadan, professor of contemporary Islamic studies, Oriental Institute, St Antony's College, University of Oxford

Olivier Roy, joint chair RSCAS, chair in Mediterranean studies, European University Institute

Anna Terrón Cusí, managing partner at InStrategies

Media partner representative

Sylvie Kauffmann, editorial director of Le Monde

Session E - Sala di Lorenzo Il Magnifico

The future of EU citizenship and free movement

- Has the EU citizenship project failed in its efforts to increase support for European integration and the mobility of EU citizens?
- What are the benefits of EU citizenship for those who do not move? Is there a growing gap in rights and political attitudes between mobile and immobile Europeans?
- Will the economic and political crises lead to border closures and greater resistance to free movement rights among member states?
- Is there a need for common standards of access to EU citizenship?

EUI chair

Rainer Bauböck, professor of political and social theory, dean of graduate studies, European University Institute

Speakers

Franco Frattini, former European commissioner for justice, freedom and security

Artur Nowak-Far, Polish undersecretary of state for legal and treaty issues, ministry of foreign affairs

Hannes Swoboda, chair of the Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats, European Parliament

Joseph H. H. Weiler, president elect of the European University Institute

Media partner representative

Nikolas Busse, Brussels correspondent of Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

- 13.45 – 15.00 Lunch – Sala d'Arme
- 15.00 – 17.15 Salone dei Cinquecento

- 15.00 – 15.30 The State of the Union address

José Manuel Barroso, president of the European Commission

■ 15.30 – 17.00 Afternoon session Migration and citizenship

Around 25 million third country nationals live in the EU, making it the world's second-largest receiver of migrants. But European politicians fail to acknowledge this reality, resulting in mismanagement of immigration.

The economic crisis affects immigration and policymaking on migration in several ways:

- Sectors with a high concentration of migrant workers are amongst the most severely hit, making unemployment soar among migrants faster than among the general population;
- Unemployed local people now turn towards occupations they were neglecting in times of full employment and face competition with migrants;
- Migrants' countries of origin also suffer from the crisis. Consequently, pressures to emigrate from these countries remain high while return migration is often not an option.

The European agenda for economic migration defined before the crisis seems outdated. The EU must address new realities born from the economic crisis and anticipate the demographic recession that has just started, but will gain momentum in the coming decades and make immigration part of the response. Beyond labour markets, the crisis challenges social cohesion. The integration of migrants' children will be hampered by a lack of job opportunities for them and the poor economic integration of their parents. Key challenges and questions remain:

- What should be done to stimulate a true and open discussion about migration and mobility?
- Why do some politicians and media organisations state that multiculturalism has failed?
- How can Europe's historical experiences of integrating minorities inform integration policies?
- At the external border of Europe, major refugee crises in the Middle East and North Africa – Iraq in 2006-2009; Libya in 2011; Syria since 2011— have resulted in massive population movements, leading several member states to tighten control at entry rather than take measures to offer direct asylum. Why is it so difficult to build a European asylum policy?

Introduction /Academic coordination

Philippe Fargues, director of the Migration Policy Centre, RSCAS, European University Institute

Speakers

Giuliano Amato, president of Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies of Pisa

Cécile Kyenge, Italian minister of international cooperation and integration

Cecilia Malmström, European commissioner for home affairs

Anna Terrón Cusí, managing partner at InStrategies

Moderator Q&A session

Alain Frachon, editor in chief of Le Monde

■ 17.00 – 17.15 Keynote lecture IV

- **Laura Boldrini**, president of the Italian Chamber of Deputies

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