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 and is a reference point in the EU agenda for policy-makers, civil society representatives, business and opinion leaders, and academics. Over the last five years we have seen the participation of the President of the European Commission, the President of the European Parliament, Presidents, Prime Ministers, and Foreign Ministers.

The conference’s sixth edition takes place in Florence from 5 to 7 May 2016.
Thursday, 5 May 2016

Villa Schifanoia – Sala Europa

Workshop: Stability of the Banking System

9.00 – 9.15  Introduction
Richard Portes, inaugural holder of the Tommaso Padoa-Schioppa Chair in European Economic and Monetary Integration at the EUI

Chair:
Richard Portes

9.15 – 10.15  ‘Bad banks’, state aids, and non-performing loans

Speakers:
Belén Romana García, Board of Aviva, former Managing Director of Sareb
Agnieszka Smolenska, PhD Researcher, Department of Law, EUI

10.15 – 11.15  Effects on banks of negative interest rates

Speakers:
Elena Carletti, Professor of Finance, Bocconi University; Director of the Florence School of Banking and Finance, EUI
Jean-Pierre Mustier, Tikehau Capital

11.15 – 11.30  Coffee break

11.30 – 12.30  Resolution – can the BRRD with bailins work?

Speakers:
Daniel McCarthy, Head of Unit Resolution Planning and Decisions, Single Resolution Board
Ester Faia, Chair in Monetary and Fiscal Policy, Goethe Universitat, Frankfurt

12.30 – 13.00  Chair:
Stefano Micossi, Director General of Assonime

Keynote speech
Ignazio Visco, Governor, Bank of Italy
**Badia Fiesolana**

**08.30 – 9.00 Welcome coffee – Lower Loggia**

**09.00 – 09.45 Opening – Refettorio**

*The State of the Union: Women in Europe and the World*

*Chair*

**Ruth Rubio Marin**, Professor of Constitutional and Public Comparative Law, EUI

*Speakers:*

**Silvia Costa**, Member of the European Parliament (S&D)

**Sandro Gozi**, Italian State Secretary for European Affairs

**10.00 – 11.30 Parallel session I – Refettorio**

*Can the Refugee Crisis Make or Break Europe?*

This panel discusses what is at stake in this dramatic refugee crisis and how Europe can manage it best and turn it into an opportunity despite the stark challenges that it poses. The refugee crisis of today is large and dramatic but is not unprecedented (see the Yugoslav wars in the early 1990s). The crisis is likely to have a mild positive economic effect (through increased consumption, plentiful and cheap labour force, increased funding/employment for reception and emergency aid) and a positive demographic effect (refugees are young people). However, these will be largely offset by the costs (for supporting and integrating the newcomers) and job competition (between the newcomers and the disadvantaged natives). It may also exacerbate xenophobia and strengthen the far right parties across Europe. Contributors to this panel discuss the challenges that the crisis raise for Europe and how we can best deal with it.

*Chair:*

**Anna Triandafyllidou**, Robert Schuman Chair, Global Governance Programme Research Area Director Cultural Pluralism, EUI

*Speakers:*

**Heather Grabbe**, Jean Monnet Fellow, EUI and Director, Open Society European Policy Institute

**Kashetu Kyenge**, Member of the European Parliament (S&D)

**Jörg Monar**, Rector, College of Europe

**Ruth Wodak**, Emerita Distinguished Professor at Lancaster University and EUI

**10.00 – 11.30 Parallel session II – Teatro**

*Governance of Transatlantic Economic Relations: What Role for the TTIP?*

The ongoing negotiations between the EU and the US on a Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership have led to substantial concerns and opposition by civil society, mostly in Europe. It is the most significant international economic cooperation enterprise in which the EU is presently engaged, given the deadlock and the absence of EU participation in the major initiatives centered on Asia (TPP,
Many EU citizens are concerned that the US will dominate rule setting in the TTIP and that the result will be an erosion of European standards and norms in areas ranging from food safety to environmental protection, prudential regulation of the financial sector to data privacy. US observers point to a mismatch between perceptions and the reality that US standards are frequently very similar if not more stringent than those in the EU, and that enforcement is often more effective—recent examples include the LIBOR and VW emissions scandals, both of which were uncovered by US regulators. Aside from policy areas that are of direct relevance to transatlantic economic exchange, the TTIP is also of concern to third countries, including developing economies. The EU and US argue that one goal of the TTIP is to establish rules of the game in areas that are not yet covered by the WTO or other global fora. An important example are rules for digital trade and associated cross-border data flows; another concerns rights and obligations of foreign investors. This roundtable will engage on these questions, providing contrasting views from experienced practitioners and leading academic scholars.

Chair:
Bernard Hoekman, Robert Schuman Chair, Research Area Director "Global Economics: Trade, Investment and Development", RSCAS, EUI

Speakers:
Elena Bryan, Vice President for Public Affairs in Europe Region, UPS; former Senior Trade Representative at the US mission to the EU
Deirdre Curtin, Joint Chair, Law Department and RSCAS, EUI
Giorgia Giovannetti, Economic Department, University of Florence

10.00 – 11.30 Parallel session III – Max Weber Programme Common Room

Disorder, Transition and Women in the Middle East
The panel will discuss the difficult political transitions and the state of war in many Middle Eastern countries. The failure of the Arab Spring has opened the way to radicalisation and transnational jihadism, growing violence and civil wars, return to authoritarianism and state repression of dissent. Political transformations and conflicts are often the result of deep societal changes but they also have an important and long lasting impact on women, children and civil societies. Prof. Heba Rauf, a well-known political scientist from Cairo University, will give her perspective on the toll of war and disintegration of states in the Arab world, looking comparatively at a few transitional or conflict countries and addressing critically the role of the EU in defending democratisation in the region.

Chair:
Luigi Narbone, Director, Middle East Directions Programme, RSCAS, EUI

Speakers:
Heba Raouf Ezzat, Professor, Cairo University
Nadia Marzouki, Research Fellow, RSCAS, EUI
Olivier Roy, Joint Chair RSCAS, Chair in Mediterranean Studies, EUI
Employment and Social Affairs
This panel will consider some of the gendered dynamics shaping labour markets, social protection and social inequality in present-day Europe and locate those dynamics in a longer-term historical perspective. It will discuss evolving patterns of labour market access for women and young people; social inequalities in view of the “second demographic transition” (lower fertility across social classes, higher levels of education for women, higher levels of divorce among poorer couples); and the specific impact of the euro-crisis on women and their mobilizations in the face of the crisis. All of these questions will be placed in a longer-term perspective that considers the dynamic interactions between women’s uneven access to labour markets across 19th and 20th century Europe and the ways that women’s unequal access has been imbricated with highly gendered policies of social protection in the construction of European welfare states.

Chair:
Laura Lee Downs, Professor of Gender History, EUI

Speakers:
Laura Agea, Member of the European Parliament (EFDD)
Ekaterina Borozdina, Research Fellow, Department of Political Sciences and Sociology, European University in St. Petersburg
Fabrizio Bernardi, Professor of Sociology, EUI
Juan Dolado, Professor of Econometrics, EUI
Claire Kilpatrick, Professor of International and European Labour and Social Law, EUI
Elena Zdravomyslova, Co-director of the Gender Program, European University in St. Petersburg

Women in Leadership
Leadership has been an elusive but ubiquitous phenomenon throughout human history in all societies. For much of global history, women were not present in formal leadership. In the 20th century, two waves of feminism, in the early part of the century and later from the 1960s onwards, challenged the absence of women from traditional arenas of male leadership. Women began to emerge as leaders in politics, business and other fields. However, the number of women in senior leadership positions remains small in relation to the population of women. This session will ask what are the remaining barriers to the emergence of more women leaders? Are there particular barriers facing women in the global south? What interventions make a difference? Do women behave differently to men in leadership positions?

Chair:
Brigid Laffan, Director of the Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies and Director of the Global Governance Programme, EUI

Speakers:
Silvia Costa, Member of the European Parliament (S&D)
11.45 – 13.15 Parallel session VI – Refettorio

*Populism in Europe*

This roundtable will bring together academics and politicians to discuss populism in Europe. Is populism an ideology or a political strategy? Is populism, as usually assumed, always bad or can there be "good populism"? Is the current growth of populism a product of policies or politics? And is it more a European or a national problem? How do politicians experience populism? Are they victims or causes of populism? These are some of several questions to be addressed in this session and placed in the context of a broader debate regarding the current state of democracy in Europe.

*Chair:*

**Miguel Poiares Maduro**, Professor at the Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies, EUI

*Speakers:*

**Enrique Barón Crespo**, former President of the European Parliament

**Maria Luís Albuquerque**, former Minister of State and Finance of Portugal

**Hanspeter Kriesi**, Stein Rokkan Chair of Comparative Politics, Department of Social and Political Sciences, EUI

**Theresa Elena Gessler**, PhD Researcher, Department of Political and Social Sciences, EUI

13.15 – 14.30 Lunch time, Lower Loggia

Lunch box provided.

14.30 – 16.00 Parallel session VII – Teatro

*Women as Leaders in the Migration Process*

Women migrants are often more vulnerable than their male counterparts – they face what is called the double disadvantage (of being both women and migrants). However, migration, despite its economic and emotional costs, opens up new opportunities even for women who undertake low skill jobs, are undocumented, face discrimination or are exploited. This panel showcases how migrant women have oftentimes managed to turn the odds in their favour and highlight the factors that contribute to their empowerment and leadership.

*Chair:*

**Orit Kamir**, Robert Schuman/GGP Fellow, EUI and Academic head of the Israeli Center for Human Dignity

*Speakers:*

**Daniela Aiuto**, Member of the European Parliament (EFDD)

**Vanessa Grotti**, Part-time Professor, EUI and Director of the EU BORDER CARE project
Irina Isaakyan, Research Associate at the Cultural Pluralism Area, Global Governance Program, EUI
Sabrina Marchetti, Research Associate at the Global Governance Program, EUI
Francesca Scrinzi, Marie Sklodowska-Curie Research Fellow at the Global Governance Program, EUI and Senior Lecturer, University of Glasgow

14.30 – 16.00 Parallel session VIII – Refettorio

Role of Women in Conflict and Peacemaking
This panel will explore the various ways in which women are part of contemporary political violence and armed conflict - on the one hand, as victims of gender-based violence and targets of violent extremism, and on the other hand as agents in mediation, peacemaking and transitional justice. It will examine, among other issues: both data on and explanations for gender-based violence; the role of women and girls in the strategies and tactics of violent extremist groups; and the impact of inclusive peace processes that emphasise women's voices and priorities.

Chair:
Jennifer Welsh, Professor in International Relations, EUI

Speakers:
Karin Aggestam, Professor of Political Science at Lund University
Dieneke de Vos, PhD Researcher, Department of Law, EUI
Elly Schlein, Member of the European Parliament (S&D)
Patricia Sellers, Special Advisor for prosecution strategies to the prosecutor of the International Criminal Court

14.30 – 16.00 Parallel session IX – Max Weber Programme Common Room

Violence Against Women in Europe
One in three women in the EU has experienced physical and/or sexual violence since the age of 15; 75 % of women in a professional job or in top management have experienced sexual harassment; one in ten women has experienced sexual harassment or stalking through new technologies. Violence against women is a form of discrimination and a violation of fundamental rights. It is both a cause and a consequence of inequalities between women and men. And as such, deserves central attention in the search for a more equal European Union.

Chair:
Ruth Rubio Marín, Professor of Constitutional and Public Comparative Law, EUI

Speakers:
Daniela Alaattinoglu, PhD Researcher, Department of Law, EUI
Virginija Langbakk, Director, European Institute for Gender Equality
Simona Lanzoni, Member of the Group of Experts on Action against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (GREVIO)
Maria Rösslhummer, Managing Director of Women against Violence in Europe (WAVE)
Fulvia Staiano, Post-doctoral Researcher, UCC

16.00 – 16.30 Coffee break, Lower Loggia
**16.30 – 18.00 Parallel session X – Refettorio**

*Women and Political Participation and Mobilization in the EU: Still a Gender Gap?*

Gender equality is a fundamental value of the European Union and is considered vital to its economic and socio-political growth. However, recent data from the European Institute for Gender Inequality (EIGE) shows that with an average score of 54 (where 1 stands for absolute gender inequality and 100 for full gender equality) the European Union is only halfway towards a gender equal society. This panel will discuss the extent and the causes of the gender gap in one specific dimension: political and social participation in Europe. The economic crisis and the increased preoccupation with the security of the union appear to be putting men and women back in their place. It is a good moment therefore to rethink and re-evaluate the merits and pitfalls of women’s participation in the EU, both in its conventional form, that is their voting behavior, their participation in political parties, and as candidates in elections; and their non-conventional form, through the participation in protests, social movements, civil society organizations and lobbying at the EU level.

*Chair:*

**Marta Fraile Maldonado**, Senior Research Fellow, Department of Political and Social Sciences, EUI and Research Fellow at the Institute of Public Goods and Policies, Spanish National Research Council

*Speakers:*

**Donatella Campus**, Professor at the Department of Political and Social Sciences, University of Bologna

**Elena del Giorgio**, Researcher, Università degli Studi di Milano

**Virginija Langbakk**, Director, European Institute for Gender Equality

**Jasmine Lorenzini**, Post-doctoral Researcher, Department of Political and Social Sciences, EUI

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**16.30 – 18.00 Parallel session XI – Teatro**

*Sexual and Reproductive Politics*

The panel will explore some of the intertwining links between the control of sexuality and reproduction, on the one hand, and the construction of welfare states on the other. It will also examine the influence that recent Catholic doctrines have had on these issues. In light of these considerations the panel will then turn to some contemporary legal debates, paying special attention to reproductive politics in post-socialist states (particularly Romania), to the transformation of fatherhood and masculinities in the jurisprudence of the ECtHR, and to the preconditions for gender recognition in comparative constitutional law.

*Chair:*

**Laura Lee Downs**, Professor of Gender History, EUI

*Speakers:*

**Elena Brodeala**, PhD Researcher, Department of Law, EUI

**Mary Anne Case**, Professor of Law, Chicago Law School and Fernand Braudel Fellow, Department of Law, EUI
Alice Margaria, Post-doctoral Researcher, Fundamental Rights Laboratory (Turin); Lecturer, Koç University (Istanbul)
Stefano Osella, PhD Researcher, Department of Law, EUI

16.30 – 18.00 Parallel session XII – Max Weber Programme Common Room

Showcasing the Gender Dimension in the Work of EUI Alumnae
This session intends to showcase the work of EUI alumnae and to present and discuss their research on women and/or the gender dimension of their work. This broad approach allows us to cover different aspects of the topic, and different case-studies of women EUI alumni and to allow an exposition of their personal and professional point of view. Panellists will be invited to debate the following issues: women’s human rights, domestic violence, women’s participation in European public debate and representation in global media, and women and democracy.

Chair:
Miguel Poiares Maduro, Professor at the Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies, EUI

Speakers:
Giuliano Amato, Judge at the Italian Constitutional Court, former Italian Prime Minister.
Marina Calloni, Professor of Social and Political Philosophy, University of Milano-Bicocca
Sandra Marco Colino, Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Law, Chinese University Hong Kong
Georgia Mavrodi, Researcher, Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa
Nadia Urbinati, Professor of Political Theory and Hellenic Studies, Columbia University

18.30 – 20.30 Plenary session – Refettorio

Debate on the occasion of the Charlemagne Prize

Chair:
J.H.H. Weiler, President, European University Institute

Speakers:
Jean-Claude Juncker, President, European Commission
Martin Schulz, President, European Parliament
Donald Tusk, President, European Council
Friday 6 May 2016

Palazzo Vecchio – Salone dei Cinquecento

8.00 – 9.30  
Registration – Cortile del Michelozzo

8.00 – 18.00  
Coffee point – Cortile della Dogana

9.30 – 10.00  
Welcome Address
Dario Nardella, Mayor of Florence  
Enrico Rossi, President, Tuscany Region  
Leonardo Bassilichi, President, Chamber of Commerce of Florence  
Jean-Émile Gombert, President of the EUI High Council  
J.H.H. Weiler, President of the EUI

10.00 – 10.30  
The State of the Union Address
Ruth Rubio Marín, Professor of Constitutional and Public Comparative Law, EUI

10.30 – 12.00  
Morning Session: Women and Conflict
Women have played, and continue to play, a variety of roles in contemporary armed conflict. They have also been disproportionately impacted by conflict, whether through sexual violence and other war crimes, forced displacement, the denial of basic services, or the breakdown in communal solidarity. This panel will discuss both how women are being affected by contemporary conflict, and how women might make a greater contribution to conflict resolution and peacebuilding. In so doing, it will discuss the impact of Security Council Resolution 1325, passed in the year 2000, which was the first to link women’s experiences of conflict to the international peace and security agenda. It will also reflect on the progress made in elevating women to strategic leadership roles in international and regional peace and security organisations.

Chair:  
Jennifer Welsh, Professor in International Relations, EUI

Speakers:  
Valerie Amos, former Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator  
Monica Maggioni, President of RAI  
Patricia Sellers, Special Advisor for prosecution strategies to the prosecutor of the International Criminal Court

12.00 – 12.45  
Europe and Russia: Partnership vs. Brinkmanship
Andrey Fursenko, former Minister of Education and Science; Aide to the President of the Russian Federation

Discussion:  
Andrey Fursenko, former Minister of Education and Science; Aide to the President of the Russian Federation
J.H.H. Weiler, President of the EUI

12.45 – 14.30  Tasting of local specialties – Cortile della Dogana

14.30 – 16.00  Afternoon Session I
Religion, Marginalisation and Radicalisation

Chair:
Olivier Roy, Joint Chair RSCAS and SPS, Chair in Mediterranean Studies, EUI

Speakers:
Rainer Hermann, Editor at the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung
Roula Khalaf, Deputy Editor, Financial Times
Moncef Marzouki, former President of Tunisia
Christiane Taubira, former French Minister of Justice

16.00 – 16.15  Break

16.15 – 17.45  Afternoon Session II
Women in Leadership

Leadership has been an elusive but ubiquitous phenomenon throughout human history in all societies. For much of global history, women were not present in formal leadership. In the 20th century, two waves of feminism, in the early part of the century and later from the 1960s onwards, challenged the absence of women from traditional arenas of male leadership. Women began to emerge as leaders in politics, business and other fields. However, the number of women in senior leadership positions remains small in relation to the population of women.

Chair:
Brigid Laffan, Director of the Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies and Director of the Global Governance Programme, EUI

Speakers:
Najat Vallaud-Belkacem, French Minister of National Education, Higher Education and Research; Presidency of the EUI High Council
Stefania Giannini, Italian Minister of Education, Universities and Research

Maria Luís Albuquerque, former Minister of State and Finance of Portugal
Marta Cartabia, Vice President of the Italian Constitutional Court
Sylvie Kauffmann, Editorial Director, Le Monde

17.45 – 18.00  Break

18.00 – 19.15  From Rome to Lisbon and beyond: reassessing the fundamentals

Keynote address:
Joseph Muscat, Prime Minister of Malta
Discussants:
**Tony Barber**, Europe Editor, Financial Times
**J.H.H. Weiler**, President of the EUI

*Keynote address:*
**Matteo Renzi**, Prime Minister of Italy

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**Saturday 7 May 2016 – Open Day**

*European University Institute*
*Villa Salviati*

**10.00 – 17.30** Special Opening to the Public of the grounds at Villa Salviati by the Historical Archives of the European Union
THE STATE OF THE UNION 2016 — SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Mr. Stephan Albrechtskirchinger, Director Communications Service, EUI
Prof. Laura Lee Downs, Professor of Gender History, EUI
Prof. Brigid Laffan, Director of the Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies and Director of the Global Governance Programme, EUI
Prof. Ruth Rubio Marín, Professor of Constitutional and Public Comparative Law, EUI
Mr. Vincenzo Schioppa Narrante, Secretary-General, EUI
Prof. Anna Triandafyllidou, Robert Schuman Chair; Global Governance Programme Research Area Director Cultural Pluralism, EUI
Prof. J.H.H. Weiler, President, EUI (Chair)
Prof. Jennifer Welsh, Professor in International Relations, SPS Department, EUI