

European Politics and Migration: Actors, Discourses and Practices

Call for papers

WHAT: **International student conference**

WHEN: **Friday, 8 February 2019**

WHERE: **Kraków, Poland**

ORGANISED BY: **Centre for European Studies, Jagiellonian University**

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION DEADLINE: **Friday, 21 December 2018**

European Politics and Migration: Actors, Discourses and Practices

It has now become clear that the migration crisis will be at the centre of the debates for the upcoming 2019 European elections and already constitutes, perhaps, the main line of cleavage in European politics.

First, at the national level, several nationalist parties and politicians capitalised on the migration crisis to increase their popularity. As such, while the National Rally (ex-National Front) reached the second round of the presidential elections in France in 2017, Fidesz confirmed its popularity during the Hungarian parliamentary elections of 2018, besides the freshly appointed German minister of the Interior Horst Seehofer seriously challenging the inclusive approach on migration of Chancellor Merkel. In Sweden, Italy, Austria, Poland, a surge of nationalist parties could also be observed over the last years.

Then, at the European level, two opposed visions of Europe arose on the embers of the migration crisis. On the one hand, a liberal and pro-migration side, often pushing for more European integration and led by the Paris-Berlin axis; on the other hand, a nationalist, sovereignist and anti-migration faction, led by Budapest and its V4 allies, with the cooperation of Vienna and Rome.

More than ever, it appears crucial to take distance from the news, providing a space for reflection and exchange on the politicisation of the migration crisis. Which actors and institutions are involved in the dispute over migration? What political alliances are emerging out of this situation? What are the similarities and differences between the political discourses on migration in the different European states? What

(counter)practices are emerging from the current political crises? These are some of the questions that we seek to discuss during this conference.

Aims of the conference

The aim of this one-day conference is to provide a venue for young researchers (MA and PhD students) to present their research on migration in Europe. While being an opportunity for students to gain experience and constructive feedback on their research, this conference is also designed to allow for the exchange of opinions and arguments to further understanding the contemporary politics on migration in Europe.

Papers and presentations

We welcome proposals from a wide variety of academic backgrounds and themes, including but not limited to:

- State management of the migration crisis
- Political struggle at the EU level over the issue of migration
- Civil society actors and their influence in the debates
- National debates on migration
- Gender perspectives on migration
- Interplay of the different political levels (European, regional, national, local)
- Local initiatives
- Relations between the EU and its neighbours (e.g. Balkans, Turkey)
- Good practices in refugee integration

Each presentation should be 15 minutes long, followed by questions and feedback.

Participants

Any MA and PhD student researching on migration and politics in the European context can apply.

Application procedure

Application should be submitted to both laura.royer@student.uj.edu.pl and elodie.thevenin@doctoral.uj.edu.pl under the object 'Application European Politics and Migration', no later than **Friday, 21 December 2018** (included). The application should

contain (1) a short bio, including name, level of study, affiliation and research interests; (2) the title of the paper; (3) and an abstract up to 300 words.

Successful applicants will be notified promptly.

Additional information

- The conference is free to attend, but please note that participants are expected to cover their own travel and accommodation expenses.
- Coffee and lunch breaks will be provided during the conference.
- A certificate of participation will be awarded to participants.
- All the papers will be due by the end of February 2019. However, in order to receive as relevant feedback as possible, we recommend that participants send their papers before the conference, in order for them to circulate before.
- Selected papers will be considered for a post-conference publication in the *CES Working papers*. Papers relating to Central and Eastern Europe may also be considered for publication on the online media outlet Lossi 36 (<https://lossi36.com>).

The international student conference 'European Politics and Migration: Actors, Discourses and Practices' is a follow-up event of the Erasmus+ project 'Ref: EU – Muslim minorities and the refugee crisis in Europe'. It is organised by the Centre for European Studies, Faculty of International and Political Studies of the Jagiellonian University, with the support of Lossi 36, Koło Naukowe Europeistyki UJ, the University of Glasgow and the University of Tartu.



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