



Newsletter

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Forthcoming Events



Richard Higgott, Denise Hewlett & Eleni Tsingou

NOTE FROM LEAD SCIENTIST

Welcome to the Second Garnet Newsletter. As you will see, we are getting rapidly into our stride with a number of significant events having taken place in the closing stages of 2005 and the early part of 2006. This was, and continues to be an important time for scholars in Garnet given that the research interests of many of us—notably issues affecting the European project, such as the failed Constitutional Referenda, and the difficult times facing the global trade community in trying to bring the Doha Multilateral Trade Round to fruition—are important items on the contemporary international policy agenda. Both issues are strongly featured in our current work programmes—global governance in general and international economic governance in particular at the PhD School (and the first capacity building Workshop in Budapest in September last year and the forthcoming Berlin Workshop on the WTO this March). Constitutional Referenda were the subject of our first Travelling Seminar.

I was fortunate enough to be one of the lecturers at the PhD school which I enjoyed enormously and at which I was impressed by the high calibre and wide range of interests of the students on the course. As Bob Keohane the eminent American political scientist noted, this was an excellent group of students. The PhD School will clearly be an important innovation for young researchers in the area of governance, regionalism and regulation in Europe over the next few years. I was also able to be present in Paris for the presentation of the first of our Policy Briefs and 'Travelling seminars'. This is an entirely different format to the kind of paper normally written by academics. The Policy Brief was short, to the point and finished by raising a series of serious policy questions. As a format it will become an important way for scholars to make greater contact with and offer input into the wider policy European policy process. Christian Lequesne is to be congratulated on an excellent start to the series. This is not an easy medium for many scholars to use but he has shown us that it can be done.

Richard Higgott

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**FIRST GARNET PHD SCHOOL, BRUSSELS,
12-16 DECEMBER**

Garnet's first PhD seminar was held at the ULB, Brussels, in 12-16 December 2005. It brought together 12 academics, 4 European Union policy makers and 32 PhD students from more than 25 countries for a week of high-level exchanges on the theme of the "EU and Global Governance: Legitimacy and Efficiency". This first seminar was an intense period of discussion and debate fostered by nine papers presented by academics and twelve papers presented by PhD students.

The seminar opened with a round-table, chaired by Prof. Hettne, on the subject of "EU, regional and global governance: the ironies of democratic legitimacy". The various contributions from attending professors (Prof. Hettne, Telo, Levrat, Stadtmüller, Goetschy and Higgott) as well as the lively debate that followed, allowed all participants to benefit from a comprehensive initial overview of the various perspectives and issues that lay at the heart of the seminar's theme. The following day's debate focused on the conceptual dilemmas surrounding global governance. Both Prof. Hettne and Higgott gave challenging presentations, which set the pace for PhD student presentations by V. Kaul and E. Kollar (LUISS University, Rome), B. Coskun (Loughborough) and N. Milissao (Göteborg). The seminar then addressed the relationship between regionalism and democracy. Prof. Telo introduced a session on "New regionalism as democracy stabilizer" with presentations by S. Rzeszotko (Wrocław) and N. Timus (CEU). Prof. K. E. Smith chaired a session on "EU external policies and democracy" with S. Aziz-Wülbers (Science Po, Paris) and M. Dediu (Geneva) presenting their work. "The international implications of the Constitutional Treaty debate" were also discussed: this debate, opened by Prof. P. Magnette and Prof. Barbara Delcourt, centred around papers presented by R. Adler-Nissen (Copenhagen) and I. Tanasescu (Vrije Universiteit Brussel). Presentations by M. Rasch (Essex) and K. Kjedrzejowska (Warsaw) then focused the debate, chaired by Prof. L. Van Langenhove and Prof Justine Lacroix, on the extent to which the EU can improve the legitimacy of global regulations. The seminar concluded with a highly appreciated lecture by Prof. R. O. Keohane from Princeton University on "*The Contingent Legitimacy of Multilateralism*".

The high quality confluence of innovative research and the gathering of several leading figures in the field of globalisation and EU studies on the one hand and PhD students who are currently taking on several new research topics in this field on the other, gave rise to a very engaging, creative and challenging exchange of views. This was also pointed out in the comments of Prof. R. O. Keohane:

"My GARNET seminar in December 2005 was one of the most rewarding speaking engagements in my career. The GARNET students were incredibly diverse -- the 31 Students there (I counted) came from 18 countries, 9 in the EU, 9 outside -- ranging from Cameroon to Japan. More impressive, they were very smart and well-read. I don't know any US graduate program where the questions would be so varied, intelligent, critical, and perceptive."
(Robert Keohane, 2005)

Garnet's PhD seminars are addressing a key challenge in the construction of a European Research Area (ERA): the setting up of transnational and multidisciplinary networks of young researchers, which Europe currently lacks, although such networks are one of the best ways to stimulate innovation. The PhD students' comments demonstrate that their aspirations were met, as were the expectations of the attending academics. A dialogue with the EU institutions (Council, Parliament and Commission) was established by giving the students the opportunity to attend the major Conference on the future of Social Sciences held by the Commission on 12 December and during the final days of the seminar when a debate took place with policy makers. It is also important to note that the seminar took care in mainstreaming gender concerns, thereby further contributing to the diversity of the nascent research community on regionalism. In conclusion, the Garnet PhD seminar undoubtedly fostered a community feeling among attending parties and nurtured the academic debate on the EU and global governance.

FIRST GARNET TRAVELLING SEMINAR
“REFERENDA AND EUROPEAN INTEGRATION: A MISGUIDED PROCEDURE?”
BUDAPEST, 15 DECEMBER 2005 AND PARIS, 13 JANUARY 2006

Travelling seminars aim to bring policy-relevant themes to the foreground with the organisation of meetings in several locations discussing specially commissioned policy briefs in front of an audience of policy-makers, media, academics and other relevant participants. The first travelling seminar took place in Budapest and Paris on the theme of European referenda and was based on a policy brief by Christian Lequesne (CERI, Sciences Po and CEFERES, Prague). Invitations were sent out in English/ Hungarian and French respectively before the event.

The Budapest seminar, attended by approximately forty participants, brought together speakers Christian Lequesne (author of the policy brief) and Philippe Schmitter (European University Institute). Peter Balazs, the former Hungarian representative at the Convention and the Director of the Center for EU Enlargement Studies chaired the meeting with a sense of diplomacy and intellectual rigour. The presentations were followed by an hour of energetic and interested discussion. It is interesting to note that in the minds of the participants in Budapest the issue of the European Constitutional Treaty was dead. In Paris (see below) the concern was mainly over how – and in what form – it could be revived. The discussion in Budapest focused much more on theoretical questions on the use of referenda and questions of representation, direct democracy and the legitimisation of political outcomes. As Philippe Schmitter argued, given that traditional party-determined cleavages in Europe have diminished, these questions have become even more complicated. As in the Paris meeting, the Swiss example of referenda initiated from below was much referred to.

The Paris meeting, held in French and also attended by forty participants, including the Head of the Policy Planning Unit of the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the EU-NATO Desk Officer from the Ministry of Defence and the Deputy Head of Mission of the EU delegation in France, brought together speakers Christian Lequesne and Paul Magnette, director of the European Studies Institute of the ULB. The meeting was chaired by Gérard Grunberg, the Academic Dean of Sciences Po and a noted specialist on EU questions, who introduced the discussion with a brief presentation of the Garnet Network.

In his comments, Christian Lequesne provided a summary of the main arguments in the Policy Brief. He raised the question as to what is required to create a “European people”. Paul Magnette spoke of the difficulty alluded to by Christian Lequesne, of promoting a virtual object such as the European Union whose “reality” is always projected in the future. He suggested that a middle way needed to be found between a functionalist and sovereignist approach. He then developed the three approaches of dealing with the referendums failure: that of German Chancellor Angela Merkel (a new French referendum on a more “social” document), French Interior Minister Nicolas Sarkozy (a parliamentary vote) and that of the European Commission’s “D” plan for a better communication strategy. For Paul Magnette, a fourth option seemed the only possible one, namely at least a two-year period of structured debate leading to a clearer Treaty proposal. A clear concern was expressed by many participants as how to be able to revive the debate on the Constitutional Treaty so as to further the process of European integration. A stimulating comment was made by one of the CERI participants, Jacques Rupnik, on what he called “the lessons from Eastern Europe” in which constitutional change is made progressively building even on constitutions from the former Communist period.



Christian Lequesne, Gérard Grunberg, Paul Magnette

Both meetings were regarded as highly successful by participants, as demonstrated in the lively discussions and subsequent evaluation questionnaires. WP 7 coordinators and the Garnet Project Management Office would like to acknowledge the organisational efforts of Zsuzsana Gabor and her colleagues at CEU who were mainly responsible for the success of the Budapest meeting and Irina Kolotouchkina of CERI, Sciences Po for the successful organisation of the Paris meeting.

RESEARCH PROJECTS

REGIONAL INTEGRATION PROCESSES – DATABASE AND INDICATORS (WP3), WORKSHOP REPORT, BRUGES, 3-4 NOVEMBER 2006

Philippe de Lombaerde

On 03 – 04 November 2005, members of workpackage 3 met for the first project workshop in Bruges. The discussion focused on the realisation of the four main deliverables, organisational aspects of the work of workpackage 3 and cooperation with possible partners. Boyan Belev (CSD, Sofia), Lelio Lapadra (CIDEI U. Rome), Aurora Mordonu (UNU-CRIS) joined the workpackage committee, initially consisting of the two coordinators, Michael Schultz (PADRIGU U. Göteborg) and Philippe de Lombaerde (UNU-CRIS).

To facilitate the work on the four deliverables (1), possible partners for cooperation (UNCTAD, UN Economic and Social Commissions, other Garnet partners such as workpackage 1), task schedules for the different deliverables and the division of labour have been discussed. The participants of the workshop agreed on the formation of sub-groups within the workpackage, which will

concentrate on the development of indicators of regional integration within specific sectors (economic, political, etc). These indicators will become part of the regional integration information system, which will then be able to provide necessary data for the annual reports on regional integration. The first set of indicators and a prototype of the database and information system are expected in June 2006.

- (1) *Deliverable 1:*
Database and information system (D1)
- Deliverable 2:*
Annual Report on Regional Integration (D2)
- Deliverable 3:*
Publication of a Toolbox/Manual for Assessing Regional Integration Processes (D3)
- Deliverable 4:*
Publication and/or Event on the Monitoring of Regional Integration Processes Worldwide by the European Commission (D4)

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE AND THE GLOBAL REGULATORY FRAMEWORK (5.2.5), WORKSHOP REPORT, UNIVERSITY OF EXETER, DEVON, 7-8 JANUARY 2006

David Armstrong

The workshop took place over two days in the Crossmead Conference Centre, Exeter. The format for the workshop was compartmentalised into 4 sections:

- 1) Discussion of original JERP 5.2.5 proposal
- 2) Presentation by Paul Collier of his published paper, Collier, Paul & Zaman Mahbub, 'Convergence in European Corporate Governance: the audit committee concept,' *Corporate Governance*, Vol.13, No. 16, pp.753-768, Nov 2005.
- 3) Summary of participants' research interests
- 4) Development and agreement on a framework agenda for future collaborative research.

Sections 3 and 4 of the workshop discussion focused mainly on integrating the research interests of participants with a framework agenda for one or two books. Each contributor summarised their area of research, suggesting how their research might link in with the wider aims of the JERP.

What emerged from the summaries was a range of possible research areas that could be arranged into: 1 - a comparative study of emerging models of corporate governance (with empirical focus on transition European countries), and 2 - Emerging models of corporate governance (which might include the study of 'ethical' models of corporate governance).

Three of the contributors agreed to work on an initial working synopsis, which will be circulated to the rest of the members in April 2006, with the view of refining the framework agenda. The colleagues in this workshop agreed to exchange information on work in progress, enrol more people from other disciplines and will consider future inter-group visits.

Overall, participants in the workshop felt that the discussions were stimulating and engaging and that the outcome was productive and encouraging.

**GENDER, SPACE AND GLOBAL GOVERNANCE (5.2.6),
"STRATEGIC REGIONALISATION: IMAGES OF REGIONS
AND GLOBAL GOVERNANCE", BIELEFELD,
3-5 FEBRUARY 2006
Mathias Albert**

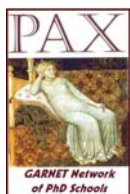
On 3-5 February, a workshop on "Strategic regionalisation: images of regions and global governance" was held in Bielefeld, organised by WP 5.2.6. The workshop focused on the construction of spatial formations and differentiation inherent in contemporary depictions of emerging global orders. A guiding idea taken from recent work in the field of political geography, and particularly "critical geopolitics" was that such spatial constructions can at least partly be attributed to strategic social practices of key actors on various spatial and organisational scales. Thus, individual contributions dealt with constructions of

regions and regional images through PR campaigns of global aid organisations, in US military strategy, in immigration policy etc. In addition to more empirically oriented contributions, theoretical contributions focused on the negligence of contributions from social theory and political geography in most contemporary conceptualisations of regionality and regionalisation in international relations research.

In addition to substantive discussions, the workshop included an extensive presentation of GARNET's virtual workspace by the Münster team. It is envisaged that follow-up discussions and revisions will be organized solely through the virtual workspace. The results of the conference are to be submitted as a special issue to an international peer-reviewed journal and subsequently also published as an edited volume.

FUTURE EVENTS

SECOND PHD SCHOOL, BRUSSELS, 5-9 JUNE 2006



EU AND GLOBAL GOVERNANCE: THE INTERPLAY BETWEEN GLOBALISATION AND THE EUROPEAN SOCIO-ECONOMIC MODELS: IS THE LISBON STRATEGY THE RIGHT ANSWER?

The controversial interplay between globalisation and regional integration/cooperation is providing the classical theoretical issue of capitalist diversity with new input. Furthermore, global competition is creating new challenges for national systems within the EU, even as their capacity to adjust and to reform is differs greatly, due to their highly diversified socio-economic and institutional systems - even more so following eastern European enlargement. In 2000, the EU launched a common long term modernization project and framework, the so called "Lisbon strategy"(2000-2010) to try to help member states achieve such reforms in a globalised context and to foster a new development model for growth, employment and a knowledge based society according to European values.

The June 2006 *Garnet PhD student seminar* will focus on the interplay between on the one hand, globalisation and on the other the national and Community-wide dimensions of the EU socio-economic model. On the basis of the variety of capitalisms both globally and within the EU, it will highlight the major common challenges facing all EU member states, the country-specific answers provided and the common policy framework. It will give an assessment of the functioning and achievements of the EU "Lisbon strategy" at community, national and regional levels, as regards governance and policy content.

The question of the role of the EU as shield and/or a catalyst for member states in a partially globalised world will be examined as well as the international implications of the "Lisbon strategy".

The programme will also aim to develop a dialogue between the research community and Brussels-based representatives of the social partners and the European Union institutions. The seminar will bring together an international group of scholars and PhD students coming from the GARNET network and beyond.

The PhD seminar will deal with seven mains themes:

Research Theme 1: Six years of reforms with the "Lisbon strategy": genesis, aims, assessments and reforms of the strategy.

Research Theme 2: Globalisation and the varieties of capitalism in Europe.

Research Theme 3: Globalisation and the ways towards a knowledge-based society.

Research Theme 4: Globalisation and the 'political economy' behind the "Lisbon strategy".

Research Theme 5: Globalisation and national reforms concerning social protection and industrial relation systems in the EU.

Research Theme 6: The "open method of coordination" in practice in a variety of fields: its governance and policy implications.

Research Theme 7: The international implications of the "Lisbon strategy"

For more information and an application form, visit the Garnet website, www.garnet-eu.org or contact Vaïa Demertzis: vdemertz@ulb.ac.be or Corine Barella: garnet.ulb.iee@gmail.com.

GARNET SECOND CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP, KIEV, 6-8 SEPTEMBER 2006
GOVERNANCE AND SOCIETY: THE ROLE OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR IN THE TRANSITION TO DEMOCRACY
CALL FOR PARTICIPATION

The second edition of the Garnet capacity building workshop will take place 6-8 September in Kiev, Ukraine, at the Mohyla Business School in collaboration with the IEDC Bled School of Management, under the broad theme of Governance and Society. Representatives of the consortium will be joined by delegates from the business, civil society and policy making communities to assess the role of the private sector in the democratisation processes.

While looking at different transition periods in Europe and abroad, the workshop will develop a comparative approach. Building on the interaction of multidimensional knowledge, issues like

regulation, corporate governance, corruption and the informal sector will be explored and suggestions made on how to strengthen the democratic legacy.

If you are interested to take part in this event, please contact Karine Zufferey at the Evian Group: karine.zufferey@imd.ch

A mobility position is open to a PhD/Post Doc candidate to collaborate with the Evian Group on establishing this second workshop. If your area of research is linked to the above-mentioned brief, we would be happy to hear from you. The contact is the same as before.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

9-10 March 2006 5.2.4 Workshop, Berlin	<i>Between Discord and Global Governance – The Future of the WTO</i>
11 March 2006 5.2.7 Workshop, Exeter	<i>The Role of Non-State Actors and Civil Society in the Global Regulatory Framework</i>
7-8 April 2006 5.3.5 Workshop, The Hague	<i>North-South Development Issues and the Global Regulatory Framework</i>
25-29 April 2006 5.2.1 Workshop, Nicosia	<i>Political Identity and Legitimacy in the Politics of the European Union</i>
1 May 2006 and 8 May 2006 WP7 Travelling Seminar, Geneva and London	<i>Markets and Institutions: How to Manage the Governance Gap at the WTO</i>
5-9 June 2006 WP4 PhD School, Brussels	<i>The Socio-Economic Modernisation of the EU and the Globalised Economy: The Lisbon Strategy</i>
9-11 June 2006 5.3.1 Workshop, Brussels	<i>Geopolitics of Global Environmental Governance</i>
30 June 2006 5.2.4 Workshop, Bruges	<i>Europe and Asia: comparing approaches to regional trade and integration agreements</i>
8 July 2006 5.1.2 Workshop, Ljubljana	<i>The 'Europeanisation' of the Enlarged European Union and its Neighbourhoods: towards efficient integration and good governance</i>
6-8 September 2006 WP6: Capacity Building Workshop, Kiev	<i>Governance and Society: the role of the private sector in the transition to democracy</i>
27-29 September 2006 Annual Conference, Amsterdam	<i>Global Financial and Monetary Governance, the EU and Emerging Market Economies</i>

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