



Jean Monnet Conference 2013

The political implications
of European economic integration
- towards a political Union -

Brussels, 14-15 November 2013

PROGRAMME

Education and
Training

Hotel Le Plaza Brussels, Boulevard Adolph Max 118, 1000 Bruxelles

Conference Languages: FR-DE-EN-IT-ES-PL-EL-PT

14 November 2013

09:30 – 10:30

Registration of participants and coffee

10:30 – 11:30

Welcome and Opening Session

The economic and financial crisis led to the need for the EU to take concrete measures to combat it. This *de facto* situation led to a deepening of economic integration, which is not short of political implications and might in the near future lead to a further political convergence in the European Union, or even a political Union. The subject is presently being discussed at both the European and Member States levels, as well as in different dedicated fora. The question of the possible further political convergence must be extensively analysed. Europe's history, culture and social realities raise potential obstacles to – and offer great opportunities for – further political convergence. All these aspects should be considered in their economic, political and societal perspectives.

Session Chair:

Jan TRUSZCZYŃSKI, European Commission's Director-General for Education, Culture, Multilingualism and Youth

Opening Speech:

José Manuel BARROSO, President of the European Commission

Keynote Speaker:

John McCORMICK

John McCormick is Jean Monnet Professor of EU Politics in the Department of Political Science at the Indianapolis campus of Indiana University in the United States. He was Fulbright-Schuman Chair in EU-US Relations at the College of Europe in 2013, and is the Indiana programme director for the Erasmus Mundus Euroculture MA. He is the author of more than a dozen books on the politics of the EU, British politics, environmental policy, and comparative politics, the most recent of which was "Why Europe matters: the Case for the European Union" (Palgrave Macmillan, 2013).

11:30 – 12:15

Q&A Session

12:15 – 14:15

Lunch

14:15 – 15:05

Session 1: Economic aspects

Several measures have recently been taken by the European Union at the economic level. Already in September 2010, the Commission presented six legislative proposals on economic governance (the so-called 'Six-Pack'). This legislative pack, currently in force, contained the most comprehensive reinforcement of economic governance in the EU and the euro area since the launch of the Economic and Monetary Union. Broader and enhanced surveillance of fiscal policies, but also macroeconomic policies and structural reforms were proposed. New enforcement mechanisms were foreseen for non-compliant euro zone Member States, and the 'European Semester' was introduced. In addition, on 13 December 2012 Member States of the European Union agreed on the creation of a Supervisory System Mechanism (SSM).

Subjects to be discussed:

How is the existing 'economic integration' working?

What remains to be done?

What models could be chosen and why?

Session Chair:

Michel SERVOZ

Michel Servoz is Deputy Director-General at the European Commission's Secretariat-General.

Speakers:

Lucio PENCH

Lucio Pench is Director for Fiscal Policy at the European Commission's Directorate-General for Economic and Social Affairs.

Nikolaos CHOUNTIS

Nikolaos Chountis is an MEP, member of the Economic Affairs Committee of the EP, Confederal Group of the European United Left – Nordic Green Left, Greece.

Nico GROENENDIJK

Nico Groenendijk (University of Twente, The Netherlands) is Jean Monnet Professor of European Economic Governance. He is Co-Director of the Centre for European Studies and Program Director for the BSc programs in Public Administration and European Studies and the MSc program in European Studies. His research interests concern European Economic Governance.

Panagiotis LIARGOVAS

Panagiotis Liargovas is a Jean Monnet Professor who holds the senior academic rank of full professor in Macroeconomics in the Department of Economics at the University of Peloponnese (Greece). He is specialised in international and European economics, monetary economics, regional economics and economic development and policy.

15:05 – 15:35

15:35 – 15:50

15:50 – 16:25

16:25 – 17:15

Q&A Session

Wrap-up and conclusions by the Session Chair

Coffee break

Session 2: Political aspects

Some Member States deem it necessary to increase political convergence among the European Union Member States. It is generally considered that closer political convergence is needed to balance the deepening of economic integration in the Member States, which resulted in a first stage from concrete measures to solve the Eurozone crisis. Both economic and political aspects of economic integration should be analysed, since in an evolving context, like the present one in the European Union, adaptation of existing institutions and decision procedures might be necessary, as well as the means of financing a further politically converged EU. Debates should lead to an update of the 25 year-old report of Paolo Cecchini on the costs of non-Europe.

Subjects to be discussed:

What are the political implications of economic integration?

What would be the consequences of a further political convergence, or even a political Union, for the global order?

How should a further politically-converged Union be financed?

Session Chair:

Stefano MANSERVISI

Stefano Manservisi is Director-General at the European Commission's Directorate-General for Home Affairs.

Speakers:

Maximiliano BERNAD Y ÁLVAREZ DE EULATE

Maximiliano Bernad is a Professor of Public International Law at the University of Zaragoza (Spain). He was one of the first Jean Monnet Chairs (1990) and has published several books on the construction of the European Union, including the functioning of its institutions. He is the President of the "Real Instituto de Estudios Europeos". He was Visiting Professor at the College of Europe, University of Paris-I and Paris II, and invited to the Hague Academy of International Law. Since 1988 he is the Director of the Master on European Union (Zaragoza, Brussels, Luxembourg, Strasbourg, Madrid and Frankfurt). In 1982 he was awarded the "Pro merito" Medal, Council of Europe.

		15 November 2013	
		10:00 – 10:30	<i>Arrival of participants and coffee</i>
		10:30 – 11:15	<p>Session 3: Societal and cultural aspects</p> <p>Citizens should not be disconnected from what is decided in the economic and political areas. Europe is in the midst of an economic and financial crisis which has been painful for many EU Member States. This brings a sense of disenchantment among its population, in particular the youngest generation, which wonders what the Union is delivering for them, and asks whether it is worth all the difficulties. If these trends continue, they could compromise one of the most significant and unlikely accomplishments of the 20th Century: an integrated Europe, at peace with itself, seeking to project power as a cohesive whole. In this context, the costs of non-Europe could be analysed.</p> <p>It is necessary to address the issue of bridging the gap between citizens and the European Union in an innovative way, by finding methods of increasing the number of citizens from different ages, nationalities and backgrounds who can express themselves on matters related to the EU policy that affect their daily lives.</p> <p>Subjects to be discussed: How to promote 'ownership' of the European project among European people? What are the best ways to engage with the younger generation to develop democracy (participatory or representative) with a European component? European v. national identities.</p> <p>Session Chair: Jean-Claude THEBAULT General-Director of the European Commission's Bureau of European Policy Advisers (BEPA)</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <p>Morten LØKKEGAARD, Morten Løkkegaard is an MEP, Vice-Chair of the Committee on Culture and Education, Group of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe, Denmark. Alberta SBRAGIA, Jean Monnet Chair at the University of Pittsburgh, USA. Prof. Sbragia is specialised in comparative politics, Western Europe, European Union politics and comparative federalism. Henrik PLASCHKE, Henrik Plaschke is Associate Professor and Jean Monnet Professor of European Studies and Political Economy at the Aalborg University (Denmark). He is a member of the European Research Unit at the Department for History, International and Social Studies. He is also an associate member of SPIRIT, the School for Postgraduate Interdisciplinary Research on Interculturalism and Transnationality. Miguel MARTINEZ CUADRADO Miguel Martinez Cuadrado is a jurist and historian, an authority in contemporary history and constitutional law. He is a Jean Monnet Professor and a full professor in Constitutional EU law at the Faculty for Political Science and Sociology at the Universidad Complutense de Madrid.</p>
17:15 – 17:45			
17:45 – 18:00			
19:00			
		Q&A Session	
		Wrap-up and conclusions by the Session Chair	<i>Dinner</i>
		11:15 – 11:45	Q&A Session
		11:45 – 12:00	Wrap-up and conclusions by the Session Chair
		12:00 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>

13:30 – 14:25

Closing Session

Session Chair:
Xavier PRATS MONNÉ, European Commission's Deputy Director-General for Education, Culture, Multilingualism and Youth

Panellists:

Fausto de QUADROS
Fausto de Quadros is a Professor of European Law at the Faculty of Law of the University of Lisbon, Director of the Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence of the University of Lisbon and Jean Monnet Chair in Constitutional and Administrative Law at the same centre.

Daniela SCHWARZER,
Daniela Schwarzer is Head of the Research Division 'EU Integration' at the German Institute for International and Security Affairs, Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik (SWP) in Berlin.

Guillaume KLOSSA
Guillaume Klossa is President of the European think tank EuropaNova, dedicated to the European common interest. Former special adviser during the French presidency of the European Union and adviser to the reflection group on the future of Europe chaired by Felipe Gonzalez, he is also the founder of the 40under40 European young leaders' program and of the Etats généraux de l'Europe, one of the first European citizen forums. He is part of “A new pact for Europe” initiative which gathers former advisers of head of state and government and of European affairs and economy ministers, European economists and thinkers, who reflect together on the next steps of the European integration under the auspices of "Europanova".

The European Parliament's views for the future:

Othmar KARAS
Vice-President of the European Parliament

14:25 – 14:30

Final remarks:

Xavier PRATS MONNÉ, European Commission's Deputy Director-General for Education, Culture, Multilingualism and Youth

14:30 – 15:00

Coffee break

15:00 – 16:00

Information session about Erasmus+



