



Our CES Team

Credits

Activity Report 2011 Centre for European Studies

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Brussels, December 2011

Centre for European Studies

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The Centre for European Studies (CES) is the political foundation of the European People's Party (EPP) dedicated to the promotion of Christian Democrat, conservative and like-minded political values.

For more information please visit: www.thinkingeurope.eu

This publication receives funding from the European Parliament.

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Welcome



Tomi Huhtanen
CES Director

Wilfried Martens
CES President

Antonio López-Istúriz
CES Secretary Treasurer

2011 proved to be a year of change and uncertainty, a challenging time both for decision-makers and political analysts. In the European Union, austerity measures became a painful but nonetheless necessary step towards tackling the sovereign debt crises, while a wind of change blew across North Africa with new calls for freedom.

At the Centre for European Studies we believe that visionaries can turn times of political upheaval and change into opportunities. This is why we have focused our activities and research efforts on the Arab Spring, particularly through our 'Springeneration' initiative, which is an innovative online tool designed to create a bridge with people in Arab countries who are experiencing profound political and social changes.

Through its research and policy papers, the Centre for European Studies contributed significantly throughout 2011 by enriching the discussions taking place at the European level from a centre-right perspective. Research projects covered a variety of issues ranging from European economic governance to populist movements, among others.

Working independently or in close collaboration with its member foundations, the Centre for European Studies organised more than 70 events throughout Europe in 2011.

With the aim of contributing to the academic arena, two issues of the European View journal were published in 2011. These editions were devoted to protest culture and populist movements, on the one hand, and to the rise and fall of states in the international arena on the other hand.

Committed to the values of the EPP political family, the Centre for European Studies will build on its successes of 2011 and will keep working hard by 'thinking Europe' in the years to come.

About us

Executive Board

Academic Council

Research Associates

Staff

Visiting Fellows

Internships

Individual Members

CES Member Foundations

The Centre for European Studies (CES), established in 2007, is the political foundation of the European People's Party (EPP). The CES embodies a pan-European mindset, promoting Christian Democrat, conservative and like-minded political values. It serves as a framework for national political foundations linked to member parties of the EPP, currently with 21 member foundations. The CES contributes to the updating of the EPP political platform and to other policy documents of the EPP. It organises seminars and training on EU policies and on the process of European integration.

The CES also contributes to formulating EU and national public policies. It produces research studies and books, electronic newsletters, policy briefs, and the twice-yearly European View journal. Its research activities are divided into six clusters: party structures and EU institutions, economic and social policies, EU foreign policy, environment and energy, values and religion, and new societal challenges. Through its papers, conferences, authors dinners and website, the CES offers a platform for discussion among experts, politicians, policymakers and the European public.

Executive Board

The Executive Board of the Centre for European Studies is composed of a maximum of eight members - including its President and Secretary Treasurer - elected by the General Assembly. The Executive Board manages the Centre, has all the competences, which are not attributed to the General Assembly and has to convene at least twice a year.



Wilfried Martens | President of the CES

Wilfried Martens is the President of the Centre for European Studies. He has been the Prime Minister of Belgium during twelve years, co-founder of the European People's Party in 1976 and its President since 1990. From 1994 to 1998, he was a Member of the European Parliament, chairing the EPP Group. From October 2000 to November 2001 he was also the President of the Centrist Democrat International (CDI).

Antonio López-Istúriz | Secretary Treasurer of the CES

Antonio López-Istúriz is the Secretary Treasurer of the CES, EPP Secretary General and a Member of the European Parliament. From 1999 to 2002 he worked as personal adviser to former Prime Minister of Spain José María Aznar. Mr López-Istúriz has also been the Executive Secretary of the CDI since 2002 and is member of the National Executive Committee of the Partido Popular (PP).



Joseph Daul



Joseph Daul has been the Chairman of the EPP Group in the European Parliament since 2007. He was elected to the European Parliament in 1999 as a member of the French Union for a Popular Movement (UMP). Mr Daul served as Chairman of the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development and as Chairman of the Conference of Committee Chairmen (2002-2004). Previously he was a member of the Economic and Social Committee (1980-1982).

Olof Ehrenkrona



Olof Ehrenkrona is Ambassador and Senior Advisor to the Swedish Minister for Foreign Affairs, where he deals with issues related to globalisation. He is also a Policy Advisor at the Jarl Hjalmarson Foundation. In the early 1990s, during the collapse of the Soviet Union and the transformation of Eastern and Central Europe, he was Head of Policy Planning in the Swedish Prime Minister's Office.

Raymond H.J.M. Gradus



Raymond H.J.M. Gradus is the Director of the CDA Research Institute and Professor of Economics at the Free University in Amsterdam. Previously he served as Director of the Directorate for Financial and Economic Affairs of the Dutch Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment (2003-2007) and Director of the Directorate for Forecasting and Analysis of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment (2002-2003).

György Granasztói



György Granasztói served as Hungarian Ambassador to the European Union and NATO from 1990 to 1994. From 2000 to 2002, he was President of the Union of Hungarian Civic Cooperation. He is a laureate of the Charles Simonyi Grant and in 2009 he received the French Légion d'Honneur. He holds a degree in History and French from ELTE University Budapest.

Hans-Gert Pöttering



Hans-Gert Pöttering is the Chairman of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation (KAS) and a Member of the European Parliament for the Christian Democratic Union (CDU, Germany). From 1999 to 2007, he served as the Chairman of the EPP Group, and from 2007 to 2009, as the President of the European Parliament. Among other honours, he has received the Grand Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany.

Yannis G. Valinakis



Yannis G. Valinakis is Professor of International Relations at the University of Athens. In September 2011, he joined the Hellenic Observatory of the European Institute at the London School of Economics (LSE) for six months as 'Ministry of Finance Senior Research Fellow'. From 1983 to 1986 he worked as Special Advisor to the Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In 2004, he was elected Member of the Greek Parliament and appointed Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs until 2009.

Academic Council

The Executive Board can nominate esteemed academics and researchers as members of the Academic Council to increase the academic scope of the Centre for European Studies and oversee the scientific standards of the research and studies.

This includes enhancing the standing and credibility of the CES in the academic sphere, contributing with expertise, advice and ideas to ensure the CES is always pursuing cutting-edge research, proposing new and innovative projects, implementing the highest standard of peer review and ensuring that all documents are technically correct.

Bruno Aguilera Barchet



Bruno Aguilera Barchet is Professor of Comparative Law and Director of the Institute for International Law Studies at King Juan Carlos University (Madrid). He holds a Ph.D. in Law, was Deputy Dean of International Relations of the Law School at Complutense University (Madrid) and visiting Research Fellow at Harvard Law School. Mr Aguilera Barchet contributes to several newspapers in Spain, such as *La Razón*.

Konstantina E. Botsiou

Konstantina E. Botsiou is Associate Professor of Modern History and International Politics at the University of Peloponnese. She holds a Ph.D. in Modern and Contemporary History from the University of Tübingen. She has served as Deputy Director of the European Jean Monnet Centre, University of Athens and as member of the Training Council of the Diplomatic Academy, Hellenic Ministry of Foreign Affairs.



John Bruton



John Bruton is a former Prime Minister of Ireland, Chairman of the CES Fundraising Committee and Visiting Fellow at the European Institute in the London School of Economics. He has previously served as EU Ambassador to the United States (2004-2009) and as former Vice-President of the EPP. He has held a number of top posts in the Irish government, including Minister for Finance, Minister for Industry and Energy and Minister for Trade, Commerce and Tourism.

Olof Ehrenkrona

Olof Ehrenkrona is Ambassador and Senior Advisor to the Swedish Minister for Foreign Affairs, where he deals with issues related to globalisation. He is also Policy Advisor at the Jarl Hjalmarson Foundation. In the early 1990s, during the collapse of the Soviet Union and the transformation of Eastern and Central Europe, he was Head of Policy Planning in the Swedish Prime Minister's Office.





Werner Fasslabend

Werner Fasslabend is the Chairman of the CES Academic Council. Between 1987 and 2007, he was member of the Austrian National Council, the lower chamber of the Parliament, and from 1990 to 2000, he served as Federal Minister of Defence. Since 2004, he has been the President of the Political Academy (PolAk) of the Austrian People's Party. He is also President of the Austrian Institute for European and Security Policy (AIES).

Jos J.A.M. van Gennip

Jos J.A.M. van Gennip is a Member of the General Council at IPS Inter Press Service (The Hague) and General Rapporteur for the Political platform of the EPP. Previously, he was a Member of the Upper House of the Dutch Parliament and Chairman of the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs of the Senate. He also worked as Deputy Director General at the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs and was a Chairman of the Economic Committee of NATO.



Risto Harisalo

Risto Harisalo is Professor of Administrative Science at the University of Tampere, Finland. His research specialises in theories of innovative leadership in public/private organisations, theories of entrepreneurship in public or private contexts, public structure change, political and administrative decision-making, the theory of city economies, theories of classical liberalism and the theory of regulation.

Mart Laar

Mart Laar is Estonia's Minister of Defence, member of the International Council of the Human Rights Foundation and Honorary Chairman of the Pro Patria and Res Publica Union. He previously served as Prime Minister (1992-1994 and 1999-2002) and member of the Estonian Parliament – Riigikogu. In 2006 he was the recipient of the Cato Institute's Milton Friedman Award for Advancing Liberty.



Paweł Śpiewak

Paweł Śpiewak is a Polish sociologist, historian, author and former politician. He is Professor of Sociology and Philosophy at Warsaw University and Director of the Jewish Historical Institute. He was elected to the Sejm (lower house of Polish Parliament) in 2005, but he did not seek reelection in 2007. Mr Śpiewak is also a fellow of Collegium Invisibile.

Žiga Turk

Žiga Turk is the Slovenian Minister for Education, Science, Culture and Sports. Before taking office, he was Professor and Chair in Construction Informatics at the Faculty of Civil and Geodetic Engineering at the University of Ljubljana. From 2007 to 2008, Mr Turk was Minister for Growth and national coordinator for the Lisbon Strategy. From 2008 to 2010 he served as Secretary General of the Reflection Group on the Future of Europe.



Research Associates

Building a mutually supportive and cooperative network of researchers, the Centre for European Studies is continuously improving its capacity to provide a timely response to the demand for expert analysis in different fields. Research Associates are politically like-minded academics who can provide research papers, short analyses and blogs and who are also capable of offering pertinent advice regarding current affairs.

Evert Jan van Asselt



Evert Jan van Asselt is Deputy Director of the CDA Research Institute. He studied Theology at the University of Utrecht and Economics at the University of Amsterdam. His research areas include the welfare state, health care, the housing market and government finances. Some of his recent publications in English include: *Health Care Reforms in an Ageing European Society with a Focus on the Netherlands* and *Crossing Bridges. Democratization in the Middle East and A Christian Democratic Approach*.

Filippo L. Calciano

Filippo L. Calciano is an academic economist, founder and Managing Partner at EquityItalia. He is also Professor of Economics at the Université Catholique de Louvain (Belgium), where he is affiliated to the Centre for Operations Research and Econometrics (CORE). He holds a Ph.D. in Economics from CORE, a Master in Economics from the University of Pennsylvania (USA), and a Bachelor Degree in Economic Policy from the University of Rome III, where he is also affiliated to the Department of Economics.



Svante Cornell



Svante E. Cornell is Director of the Institute for Security and Development Policy and Research Director of the Central Asia-Caucasus Institute & Silk Road Studies Program. Mr Cornell holds a Ph.D. in Peace and Conflict Studies from Uppsala University, a B.Sc. with High Honor in International Relations from the Middle East Technical University in Ankara (Turkey), and an honorary doctoral degree from the Behmenyar Institute of Law and Philosophy of the National Academy of Sciences of Azerbaijan.



David Gregosz

David Gregosz works for the Department of Policy and Guidance at the Konrad Adenauer Foundation (KAS) office in Berlin - first as a Research Fellow, and since November 2009, as a Coordinator of Policy issues and Governance. He has a double degree in Political Science (Diploma) and Economics (Bachelor) from Marburg. He is a former scholar of KAS, a former speaker of the KAS-university group of Marburg and worked for parliamentarians in Brussels and Berlin.

Martti Häikiö

Martti Häikiö is a historian and has been Adjunct Professor at the University of Helsinki, Institute of Political and Social History since 1978. Over the past ten years he has published six books about business history. At the moment he is working on *Helsinki of Knowledge. The History of Research, Education and Media in Helsinki 1945-2010*. The manuscript is to be completed in 2012.



Nikolaos Tzifakis



Nikolaos Tzifakis is Lecturer on International Relations at the University of Peloponnese. He has previously served as Deputy Director General (2009-2011) and Head of the International Cooperation Department (2007-2009) at the Konstantinos Karamanlis Institute for Democracy (KKID). He holds a Ph.D. in International Relations from Lancaster University, UK.

Michael Wohlgemuth

Michael Wohlgemuth is Managing Research Associate at the Walter Eucken Institut (Freiburg) and Professor of International Governance at the University of Bayreuth (Germany). He has been a lecturer at the Universities of Freiburg, Erfurt, Friedrichshafen and Witten/ Herdecke, Research Fellow at the Max-Planck- Institute for Economics in Jena and Affiliate Assistant Professor at George Mason University and New York University. He is also Rapporteur of the European Ideas Network (EIN).



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Visiting Fellows

The Centre for European Studies has been active on a wide range of political issues with a particular emphasis on European policy-oriented studies. Therefore, each year it offers Visiting Fellow positions of 6-12 months to dynamic, motivated and innovative individuals with academic credentials.

During 2011 there were three Visiting Fellows at CES:



Eugeniusz Smolar | Polish

Senior Fellow at the Polish Institute of International Affairs in Warsaw.



Florian Hartleb | German

Political scientist specialised in political parties, populism and extremism in the EU.



Lucia Vesnic-Alujevic | Croatian & Serbian

Communication scientist, specialised in political communication, European politics and social media.

Internships

The Centre for European Studies offers six month internships for university graduates and young researchers, providing them with the opportunity to deepen their knowledge of European affairs and to have close insights into the daily work of the European institutions.

The great value of an internship at the CES is the opportunity to be involved in political activities and the creation of new policy concepts at the European level. It is focused on immersing the successful candidates in the short and long-term policy research and other activities of the CES: organising conferences, preparing reports and analyses, editing publications, updating the website and databases, communicating with the European People's Party in policy research and other activities, and liaising with officials from the European Institutions.

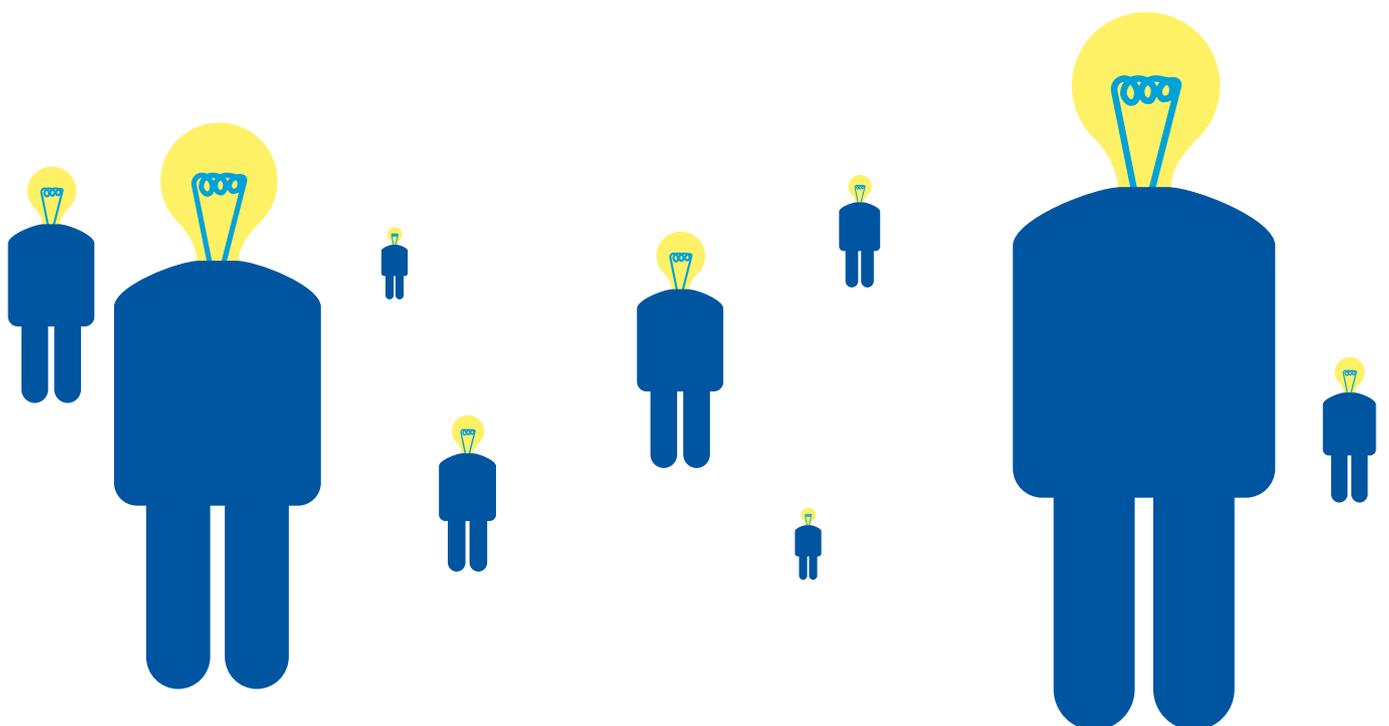
In 2011 our interns were:

Rodrigo Castro (Spain), **John Lageson** (United States),
Maarten Marechal (Belgium), **Ana María Martín** (Spain),
Antonios Nestoras (Greece), **Eline Storeide** (Norway),
Corina Suceveanu (Romania), **Boyan Tanev** (Bulgaria),
Lauren Zoebelein (United States), **Erik Zolcer** (Slovakia).



Individual Members

- Wilfried Martens
- Antonio López-Istúriz
- Yannis G. Valinakis
- Joseph Daul
- João Marques de Almeida
- Charles-Ferdinand Nothomb
- Miguel Papí-Boucher
- Kostas Sasmatzoglou
- Filippo Terruso
- Kristóf Altusz
- Timothy Beyer Helm
- Jacob Lund Nielsen
- Antti Timonen
- Nicolás Pascual de la Parte
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CES Member Foundations



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Research and Publications

Research

Regular Publications

Collaborative Publications

Other Publications

As the political foundation of the EPP, the Centre for European Studies monitors, analyses and contributes to the debate relating to the policies of the EU and relevant for both the expert level and for the wider European public. The six main research themes cover a wide range of specific political issues and stemming from these themes, the CES produces research papers and policy briefs, as well as organises launching events and conferences.

The first research theme, **party structures and EU institutions**, covers matters such as the Europe 2020 strategy, the Baltic Sea strategy, the arguments, methods and funds of populist parties and aims to explain EU policies to voters.

Economic and social policy reforms is the second theme and focuses on the main issues related to economic growth and welfare. The CES aims at providing the readership with a thorough understanding of the structural elements and actors of the European and global economy.

Having a clear picture of the multipolar global structure constitutes a main priority. Thus, the CES gives special attention to investigating developments on a global level. The third theme, **EU foreign policy**, covers topics like immigration and integration and the future of the West.

The fourth CES research theme, **environment and energy**, aims to analyse the developments of environmental and energy policies, which have become a challenge for Europe’s political and economic role on the world stage. Energy security and the continuing efforts aimed at fighting climate change form one priority.

In the context of an increasingly multicultural society, keeping an eye on cultural and religious social developments is essential. The fifth research theme, **ethics, values and religion**, tries to find solutions on vital issues for Europe’s identity like political Islam in the EU and interreligious dialogue.

The sixth theme involves **new societal challenges**, concerning demographics, education policy, domestic security and, above all, the relation between the Internet and modern society.

In 2011, the Centre for European Studies has continued with an ambitious research plan aimed at the production of research papers with strong emphasis on policy recommendations. The CES has also produced policy briefs and flashes, which are shorter papers reacting to current events.

All research papers and policy briefs are available at www.thinkingeurope.eu



Party Structures and EU Institutions



Economic and Social Policy Reforms



EU Foreign Policy



Environment and Energy

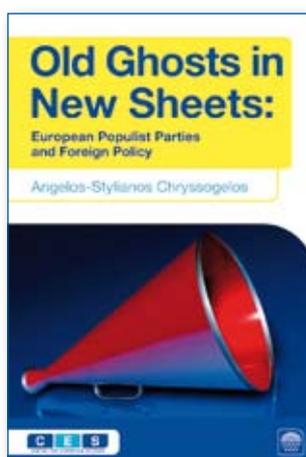


Ethics, Values and Religion



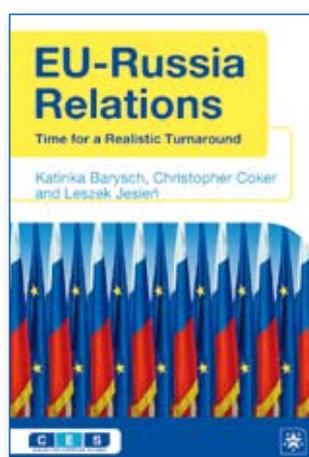
New Societal Challenges

Research Papers



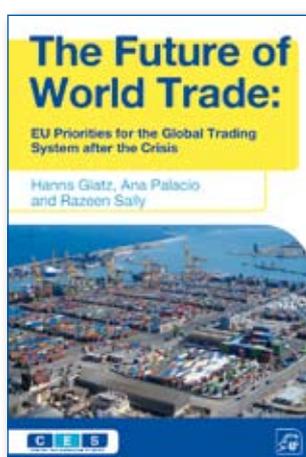
Old Ghosts in New Sheets: European Populist Parties and Foreign Policy

By Angelos-Stylianos Chryssogelos. This research paper analyses the foreign policy positions of five parties of the Right and Left in Western Europe. It aims to fill a hole in policy debates by showing that European populism represents a coherent threat to mainstream politics.



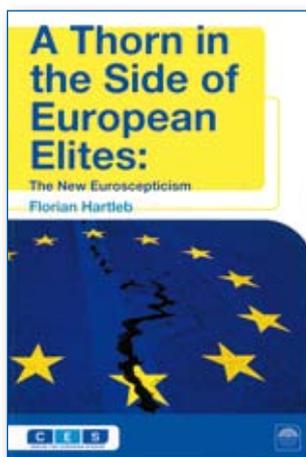
EU-Russia Relations: Time for a Realistic Turnaround

By Katinka Barysch, Christopher Coker and Leszek Jesień. The paper performs a reality check on the EU-Russia relationship in regards to culture, the economy and history concluding that the EU needs a more realistic policy, working with Russia as an equal partner, without compromising its own norms and values.



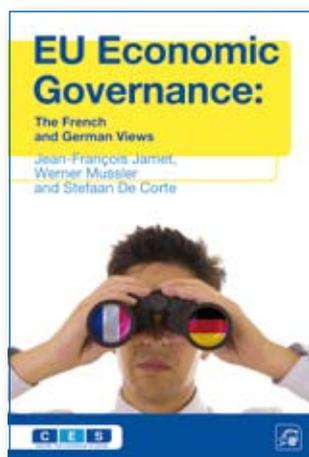
The Future of World Trade: EU Priorities for the Global Trading System after the Crisis

By Hanns Glatz, Ana Palacio and Razeen Sally. It tackles the priorities of the single market and external trade policy that will help the EU rise to the post-crisis challenge and remain one of the world's leading trading entities at the heart of globalisation.



A Thorn in the Side of European Elites: The New Euroscepticism

By Florian Hartleb. Despite the fact that significant parts of the European public hold eurosceptical views, the establishment of a eurosceptical family of parties has so far failed due to the lack of a common identity, trust and solidarity among the relevant national parties and the lack of a common strategic platform. Euroscepticism will most probably continue to be used as an instrument for opposition parties in national political contests.



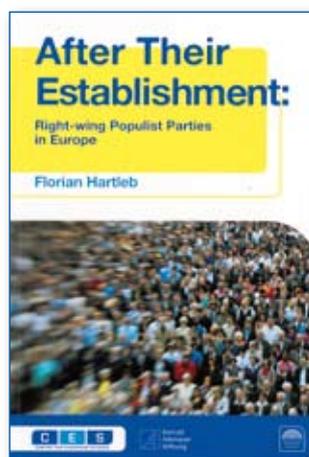
EU Economic Governance: The French and German Views

By Jean-François Jamet, Werner Mussler and Stefaan De Corte. Two authors, from France and Germany respectively, provide insight into the thinking of French and German policymakers when it comes to the issue of how the economic governance of the European Union should be organised.



Political Islam in Europe and the Mediterranean: Three contributions

By Walid Phares, Lorenzo Vidino and Amr Hamzawy. This publication gathers three edited papers from the event 'The Atlantic Seminar: Understanding Political Islam', organised in Vienna by the CES, the Political Academy of the Austrian People's Party (PoIAK) and the International Republican Institute. (IRI).



After Their Establishment: Right-wing Populist Parties in Europe

By Florian Hartleb with the cooperation of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation (KAS). A new type of political party has repeatedly performed well in national elections. The anti-Islam theme, in particular, has become the new 'winning formula' among right-wing populist parties. Other themes include euroscepticism and criticism of globalisation, as well as a policy of social promises.

CES Watch and Policy Briefs



The New Middle East: Rising to the Challenge and Sticking to Our Values

By Roland Freudenstein. This CES Watch describes the dangers and opportunities that the revolutionary change transforming the landscape of the New Middle East presents to Europe. According to the study, they have to be addressed by the EU and its driving force, the EPP family, by developing and strengthening new ties with parties and NGOs.



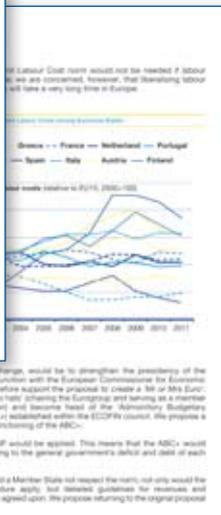
European Neighbourhood Policy: Addressing Myths, Narrowing Focus, Improving Implementation

By Balazs Jarabik and Jana Kobzova. This Policy Brief argues that most of the EU's eastern neighbours currently lack the will to embark on a path of reform, transformation and closer association with the EU. Partly due to the lack of promise of membership to the European Union, but also in part due to the region's own political, economic and social development.

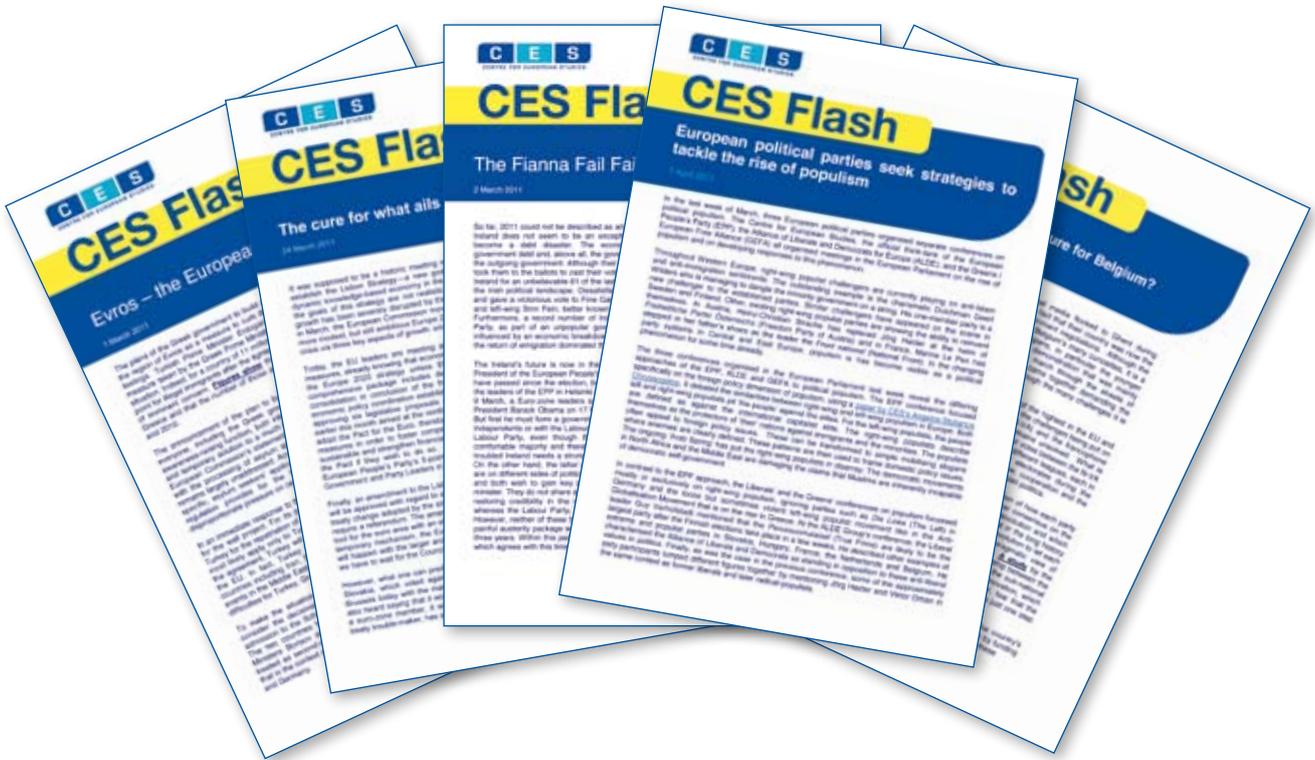


The EU at a Crossroads: An Action Plan

By Prof. Hans Geeroms, Prof. Wim Moesen and Stefaan De Corte. This Policy Brief describes the advantages of adopting a single currency and analyses the origins of the current crisis, concluding that the advantages of the euro outweigh the costs but that more economic and fiscal integration is necessary to ensure a positive outcome. In this sense, it suggests important steps towards real economic governance for the eurozone and those Member States willing to participate and develops a proposal for a European Debt Agency (EDA).



CES Flashes



- **Evros – The European Dream of Many**
- **The Fianna Fail Failed**
- **The Big Question: What Future for Belgium?**
- **The Cure of What Ails Us is Leadership...**
- **Regional Elections in Germany: Trouble Ahead for the Coalition in Berlin**
- **European Political Parties Seek Strategies to Tackle the Rise of Populism**
- **Analysis of the Finnish Elections – the Day After**
- **PES Euromed Conference in Tunisia**
- **Belarus: Social Networks and the End of the Game for Lukashenka**
- **Financial Transaction Tax: Pros and Cons of a Controversial Proposal**
- **Occupy Together: The Emergence of a Unified Global Protest Movement?**
- **Egypt's Upcoming Elections**
- **Tunisia's First Elections**
- **Spanish Elections: Absolute Majority to Fight the Crisis**
- **Building on the Arab Spring: Working Together for a Better Future**

European View

The European View, the academic journal of the Centre for European Studies, serves as an intellectual platform for politicians, opinion makers and academics who tackle contemporary themes in each issue.



The New Face of Democracy

The Spring 2011 issue, titled *The New Face of Democracy*, analyses the unexpected events experienced not only in the Arab World, where the human desire for freedom destabilised autocratic regimes, but also within Europe and how these challenge democracies worldwide.

This edition combines articles from prominent figures including Karen Armstrong, Rodrigo Rato, Ravi Singh, Tom Curran, János Martonyi, Göran Lenmarker, Mariya Nedelcheva, John Bruton and Žiga Turk.

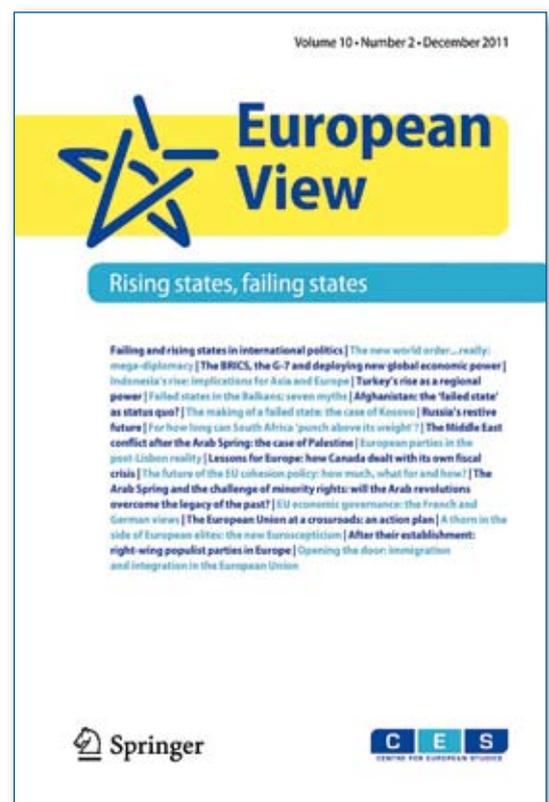
Failing and Rising States in International Politics

The Autumn issue is devoted to *Failing and Rising States in International Politics*, providing analysis of the new order that is being shaped. In a moment of international crisis, it looks at emerging states profiting from this multipolar scenario as well as at the potential for a better future for those which are failing.

The issue has benefited from important contributions from prominent authors including Jan Olbrycht, Peter B. Doran, Geoffrey Aronson, Michalis Peglis, Fatima el-Issawi, Dimitar Bechev and Peter Drysdale.

Editor-in-chief: Tomi Huhtanen

Assistant editor-in-chief: Katarína Králiková



European Factbook

The European Factbook 2011: The European People's Party and Centre-Right Politics

The European Factbook is a regular publication, providing a snapshot of the centre-right political family each year.

It is first and foremost a tool, a resource through which one can become acquainted with both the national centre-right political parties and active participants in research, communication and policy formulation.

The European Factbook enforces the commitment of the Centre for European Studies to contributing to the awareness of the centre-right's policies among European citizens and decision-makers alike.

The 2011 edition includes the latest updates and information from both European and national level politics. With the Lisbon Treaty in force, the EPP is currently the leading European Party in the three main EU institutions.

This publication offers insight into the functioning of the European People's Party (EPP) family as a whole. It includes details about not only the Party itself, but also the EPP groups in the European Parliament, the Committee of the Regions, the Council of Europe and the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe Parliamentary Assembly.

In promoting intellectual liberty, raising awareness and facilitating the growth of EU politics from the perspective of the ideology and the central values of the EPP and its centre-right partners, the European Factbook is an essential reference tool.

Editor-in-chief: Kostas Sasmatzoglou



Collaborative Publications

State of the Union 2011



State of the Union 2011, by the Centre for European Studies and the [Robert Schuman Foundation](#), captures the challenges ahead for the EU through original contributions from well respected authors and includes statistical analysis.

This edition is devoted to 'Europe, the Crisis and Threats at Large', tackling topics such as the economic crisis, security and defence, terrorism and the rise of populism. The 2011 edition also offers the reader an exclusive interview with [Herman Van Rompuy](#), President of the European Council.

The publication is both a work of reference, combining contributions from high-level scholars and politicians, and a tool offering essential information on and analysis of European politics and economics.

Through a statistical overview and graphical presentation, *State of the Union 2011* covers all the major themes Europe is dealing with, offers a variety of processed data and opinion polls, and is an essential publication for understanding the Europe of tomorrow.

Belarus and the EU: from Isolation towards Cooperation

The Centre for European Studies, in cooperation with the [Konrad Adenauer Foundation \(KAS\)](#), has published a joint publication on *Belarus and the EU: from Isolation towards Cooperation*.

The book presents the results of a collaborative study conducted by a team of authors from different Belarusian think tanks, as well as experts from Germany who are familiar with the problems associated with EU integration and enlargement.

The study aims to analyse the status of Belarus' governmental, economic, social and legal situation, providing vital information in order to identify the measures which will be necessary for the country to reform and for its structures to become more compatible with the European Union. The path towards more democracy and freedom necessitates a greater cooperation with the European Union. At the same time, the study suggests that closer ties with Europe will make wide-ranging political, economic, social and legal reform in today's Belarus absolutely essential.



International Politics in Times of Change

The Centre for European Studies and the [Konstantinos Karamanlis Institute for Democracy \(KKID\)](#) have published a book titled *International Politics in Times of Change*, edited by [Nikolaos Tzifakis](#), CES Research Associate and former Deputy Director of the KKID.

The publication examines ongoing transformations in the international system, paying attention to the developed great powers and the BRIC countries. It offers an analysis of international politics at three different levels: the system, the unit and the individual and takes stock of recent key developments: the world financial crisis, China's economic emergence, two years of Obama's presidency and the European Union's Treaty of Lisbon and reflects, a decade after 9-11, on international terrorism.



Many Faces of Populism

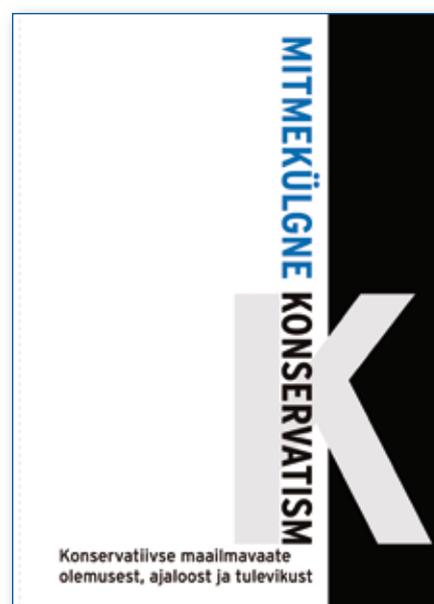
The Centre for European Studies (CES) in cooperation with the [National Educational Association \(KANSIO\)](#) published the research paper *Many Faces of Populism*. The purpose of this publication is to examine the True Finns' good result in the 2011 parliamentary election from the viewpoint of political communication.

On the one hand, it analyses the True Finns' media publicity prior to the election, focusing particularly on coverage of the European Union and the global economic crisis. On the other hand, it reviews how the True Finns' MP candidates employed blogging in their electoral campaigns and the kind of feedback they received. These two forms of political communication are linked by the result: the True Finns gained credibility and representative legitimacy in the eyes of many Finns, as well as much symbolic power, by defining social problems and pointing out ways to solve them.

The many Faces of Conservatism: The Essence, History and Future of Conservative Thought

The Centre for European Studies, the [Pro Patria Institute](#) and the [Konrad Adenauer Foundation \(KAS\)](#) have published a joint book that tries to define the different aspects that conform the complexity implied in conservatism in Estonia.

What does it mean to be conservative? Who are conservatives? Reactionary? Anti-innovation? Defenders of basic values? As stated by chief editor, [Mart Helme](#), the authors of the publication try to answer these questions by examining the nature of this political doctrine in time, in space and on the conceptual level: its roots, changes and manifestations in different walks of life, different countries and different eras.



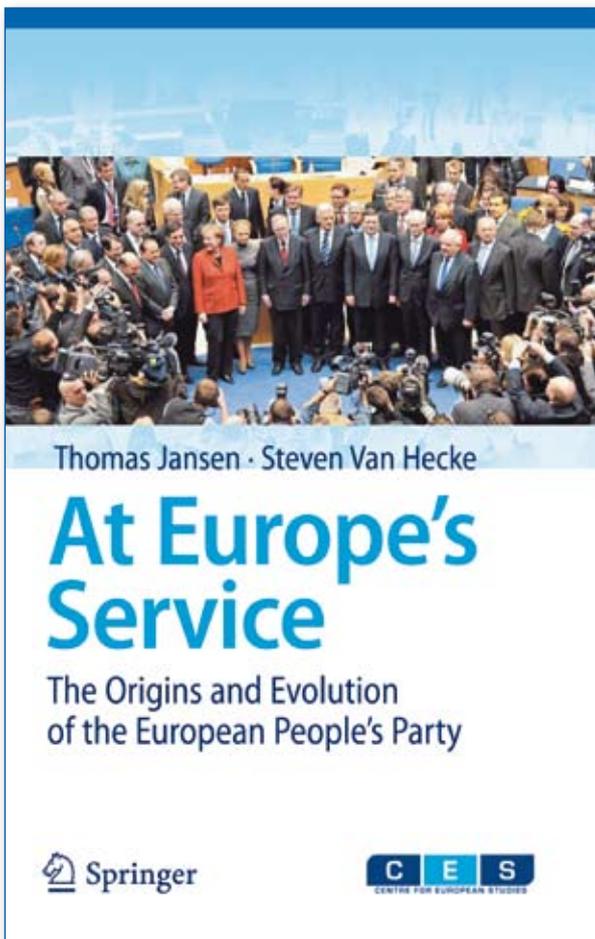
Conservative Corrections

The collection of essays in this book, published by the CES in cooperation with the [Political Academy of the Austrian People's Party \(PoIAk\)](#), discusses weak points and fractures in the political system and shows how reverting to conservative virtues can make democracies and the economy prosper once again. These conservative corrections are a signal that political life exists outside of utilitarian-materialistic intellectual uniformity, according to the editor of the publication, [Christian Sebastian Moser](#), Director of the Friedrich Funder Institute for Journalism and Media Research and Scientific Head of PoIAk.



Other Publications

At Europe's Service: The Origins and Evolution of the European People's Party (EPP)



In May the CES published the book *At Europe's Service: The Origins and Evolution of the European People's Party (EPP)*. This book covers the history of the EPP since its origin in 1976: why it was founded, how it is currently organised and what its guiding ideas, values and principles are. It gives an up-to-date account of the party's contribution to European integration, its work with its member parties and its central role in organising the centre-right in Europe.

CES commissioned author [Steven Van Hecke](#) to restructure and substantially update a previous EPP history book, written by the former EPP Secretary General [Thomas Jansen](#). The new text includes all the EPP's Political Programmes, a chronology of events and an extensive index. This reference volume is not only for politicians and staff of the EPP and its member parties, but for everyone who wants to know what a European-level political party looks like, how it is structured and how it acts.

Europe. I Struggle, I Overcome

The autobiography of the EPP and the CES President, [Wilfried Martens](#), *Europe: I Struggle, I Overcome* was published by the Centre for European Studies in 2009. Since then, the book has been presented in more than 20 different cities. In 2011 the Romanian and Catalan versions were printed, and the latter was launched in Barcelona. In Baku, Azerbaijan, President Martens presented the Azeri edition to give the political leaders, association representatives and students the keys to understand how European countries succeeded in building a peaceful, stable and prosperous environment.

Wilfried Martens has devoted his entire life to politics. Starting out as a student leader and youth activist, he later became the President of the Flemish Christian Democrats and Prime Minister of Belgium to finally become President of the European People's Party and a European statesman.



In this autobiography Martens offers the inside story behind the running of a complex country like Belgium. He describes the hardships of fighting for European integration and unification, his experience in transforming the European People's Party into the leading political family it is nowadays and offers an excellent overview of the recent history of the EU. But above all, this is a book about the values, ideas and principles that inspire the European policy-making process.



Events

Our Events

Common Projects with Member Foundations

Projects with Partners

Besides the presentations of its research papers and policy briefs, the CES organised a series of events, both in Brussels and all over Europe, with the aim of bringing Europe closer to its citizens.

Some of these events are organised solely by the CES, while others are run in cooperation with its member foundations. These events address the current and most pressing issues in Europe and the world, as well as in the countries where the member foundations are based. The events range from conferences and seminars to research projects, publications and book presentations.

List of CES Events:

- Economic Ideas Forum • International Visitors Programme • [The Arab Spring Programme](#)
- 2nd Transatlantic Centre-Right Think Tank Conference • [CES Authors Dinner](#)
- Freedom in the Days of the Internet • Integration and Inclusion: What Policies Towards Islam?
- [Old Ghosts in New Sheets: European Populist Parties and Foreign Policy](#)
- The Schuman Report on Europe: the State of the Union 2011 • [CES Meeting Paris III](#)
- In Search of a New Narrative for Europe • [How will Israel Cope with the New Face of the Middle East?](#)
- The Path Towards Economic Recovery: the Irish Viewpoint

List of Common Projects with Member Foundations:

- [What We Stand For: Outlining Malta's Centre-Right Policies](#) • Health Care Reforms in an Ageing European Society, with a Focus on the Netherlands • [Populism in the Polder](#) • The Future of the Cuban Economy after Communism • [Latin American Visitors' Programme: Training on European Institutions and Political Integration](#) • Good Governance in Europe • [Taking Benefits from Synergies – Prospects for the European Defence Policy](#) • The Future of the European Neighbourhood Policy • [Europe's Political Parties in a Changing Environment: Diagnosis and Strategies](#) • Presentation of "Europe: I Struggle, I Overcome" • [Belarus and the Problems with Democracy Promotion](#) • Commemoration of the Velvet Revolution • [Efficient Local Administration at the European Level](#) • Step Ahead • [What's Up Union?](#) • EU-Russia Relations: Make Trade, Not War • [Shaping the Future of Europe](#) • Belarus and the EU: from Isolation towards Cooperation • [Strategies and Policies of Cooperation in the Black Sea Region](#) • Media and Politics: Who Regulates Whom? • [Greek Economy: Conquering Tomorrow](#)
- Social Cohesion in Times of Crisis • [Genius Loci: The Archive of Italian Generativity](#) • Christian Democrat Internationalism: Its Action in Europe and Worldwide from Post-World War II until the '90s
- [Tertiary Education: Which Options Beyond Classic Universities and Universities for Applied Sciences?](#)
- 2011 European Citizens' Initiative Summit • [Where is Our Society Heading in the 21st Century?](#)
- The Many Faces of Conservatism. The Essence, History and Future of Conservative Thought
- [Encontros do IDL](#) • Central European Strategic Forum • [Where is the Energetic Future of Central and Eastern Europe?](#) • Standing Out: Resetting Europe's Relationship with Algeria • [Smart Security Conference: Regional Cooperation in the Time of Austerity](#)

Economic Ideas Forum



The second annual Economic Ideas Forum (EIF), organised by the Centre for European Studies (CES), took place in London on the 26th May and brought together EU officials, parliamentarians and senior British politicians, as well as high-level representatives of major corporations and stakeholders from across Europe and the US.

This unique gathering of speakers and participants provided an ideal opportunity to present new ideas and offer economic solutions for overcoming the global financial crisis and improving the economy.



John Bruton, Chairman of the Organising Committee and former Prime Minister of Ireland, began by welcoming the participants. Wilfried Martens, President of the CES and the European People's Party (EPP), then gave the key note speech, in which he defined three aspects necessary for dealing with the economic crisis, namely institutions, growth and values. Only solutions and policies based on the values of subsidiarity, solidarity and sustainability upheld by the EPP family will lead the EU forward on a path of dynamic growth, Mr Martens stated.



'Allies or Competitors? Cooperation Across the Atlantic – Reforming Financial Services'



The first panel featured [Mark Hoban](#) MP, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, UK; [The Rt Hon Lord Brittan of Spennithorne](#), Vice Chairman of UBS Investment Bank and former Vice President of the European Commission; [Yves Mersch](#), Governor of the Central Bank of Luxembourg and Member of the Governing Council of the European Central Bank; [Peter Sutherland](#), Chairman of Goldman-Sachs International; [Jonathan Evans](#) MP, former Chairman of the European Parliament Delegation to the US and Chairman of Conservative Mainstream; and [Julie Chon](#), Senior Policy Advisor at the US Senate Banking Committee.

This panel, moderated by [Roland Rudd](#), Chairman of Business for New Europe, concluded that regulatory reforms on both sides of the Atlantic should be guided by a focus on systemic risk oversight, supervision of the banking sector, transparency and safety. Despite cooperation among institutions, however, there is still a legislative gap between the US and the EU. The next step is therefore to solidify their cooperation at the parliamentary level in addition to forging successful technical and regulatory reforms.

'The Economic and Political Impacts of the Arab Spring and the Japan Earthquake'

The second panel of the EIF addressed the economic and political impacts of the 'Arab Spring' revolutions that swept across the Middle East and North Africa in early 2011, as well as the impacts of the tragic earthquake and tsunami that struck Japan on 11th March 2011.

Speakers included [Keiichi Hayashi](#), Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to the UK; [Baron Bernard Snoy et d'Oppuers](#), President of the European League for Economic Cooperation; [Graham Bishop](#), economist, commentator and founder of [GrahamBishop.com](#); [The Rt Hon John Gummer Lord Deben](#), Chairman of Sancroft International Ltd and Former Secretary of State for the Environment, UK.



Moderated by [Tom Spencer](#), Executive Director of the European Centre for Public Affairs, the panel discussed how the earthquake in Japan and the subsequent disruption of global supply-chains has taught us a valuable lesson about how integrated the world economy has become. The panellists concluded that seemingly unrelated events can and do have linkages in today's interconnected world.



'A Single Market for a Digital Europe?'

Prior to the third panel, [Lord Inglewood](#), Chairman of the House of Lords Select Committee on Communications, offered a keynote speech where he set the tone for the discussion by saying that the digital single market will be an increasingly indispensable part of the economy in the future.

The members of the third panel included [Dominique Lazanski](#), Technology Policy Analyst at the TaxPayers' Alliance; [Antti Peltomäki](#), Deputy Director General (DG INFSO) of the European Commission; [Christofer Fjellner](#) MEP, Committee on International Trade; [Eija-Riitta Korhola](#) MEP, Committee on Internal Market and Consumer Protection; and [Erkki Ormala](#), President of Digitaleurope and Vice President of Technology and Trade Policy at Finland's Nokia group.

The discussion, moderated by [Helen Disney](#), Chief Executive and Founder of the Stockholm Network, focused on cloud computing, the trust of citizens in the digital industry and the adaptability of business models in this fast changing landscape. This panel also featured a multimedia experience that allowed people to join the debate in real time via social media.



'Saving the Lost Generation: Promoting Job-creating Growth'

The fourth panel focused on unemployment and job creation. [Roland Freudenstein](#), CES Deputy Director and Head of Research, moderated the panel and emphasised that SMEs will play an important role in creating jobs in the future and that reducing the bureaucratic burden for start-up businesses should, therefore, be one approach governments take.

This panel featured [John Bruton](#), former Prime Minister of Ireland; [Seth O. Thomas](#), Head of Public Sector Content at Citi; [Will Hutton](#), Executive Vice-Chair of The Work Foundation, UK; [Antonio López-Istúriz](#) MEP, Secretary Treasurer of the CES and Secretary General of the EPP; and [Tom Clougherty](#), Executive Director of the Adam Smith Institute.

Participants pointed out that the astonishing rise in unemployment will be difficult to tackle, as will be the issue of job-creation. In this sense, Mr López-Istúriz emphasised the need to encourage young entrepreneurs and SMEs—two vital elements of a thriving economy. It was also mentioned that the current model of welfare states must be reformed in a way that will allow them to withstand increasing demographic challenges.



CES Director, [Tomi Huhtanen](#), closed the Forum by summarising the most important themes of the day, namely the key challenge of avoiding protectionism while maintaining strong relations with the United States.

International Visitors Programme



As an integral part of the EPP Congress in Marseille, the International Visitors Programme (IVP), organised by the CES on the 6th-8th December, aimed at bringing together prominent personalities and world-class thinkers of the EPP network from around the world to address pressing issues on the European and global agendas. The programme featured high-level politicians, as well as other influential business leaders and academics who discussed current issues like job creation in times of austerity, as well as social, fiscal and economic integration.

Breakfast event with Tim Pawlenty

This year's IVP featured an exclusive breakfast conversation with [Tim Pawlenty](#), a former two-term Governor of Minnesota and a former candidate for the 2012 Republican nomination for President of the United States. [Antonio López-Istúriz](#), Secretary General of the EPP and Secretary Treasurer of the CES, emphasised during his opening remarks the importance of developing a firm and deeply-rooted relationship with the United States and recalled the leading role of the EPP political family in the shaping of a strategic association with its American partners.



In his remarks, Mr Pawlenty briefed the audience on the current state of transatlantic relations, which he argued are too focused on finance. He also provided an overview of many current issues in world affairs as seen from a Republican perspective. He stressed that Americans and Europeans must cherish their freedom. However, he also pointed to a lack of coherence in US and European policy towards the Arab world. According to Mr Pawlenty, the West's history of supporting autocrats has been unfortunate, but that it is necessary to continue Western engagement in the Middle East.

'Political Union Now? Towards more Economic, Fiscal and Social Integration?'

[Wilfried Martens](#), President of the EPP and the CES, gave the keynote speech during the first panel debate, which featured high-level speakers including [Jyrki Katainen](#), Prime Minister of Finland; [Viktor Orbán](#), Prime Minister of Hungary; [Gunther Krichbaum](#), Chairman of the Bundestag Committee on EU Affairs and [Constance Le Grip](#), MEP from France.

Mr Martens reminded the audience of the importance of holding the European Union together during the crisis, although it may run at different speeds for a certain period.

He also warned that the eurozone crisis could be a crisis for the whole process of European integration.

It was clear from the debate, which was moderated by CES Director [Tomi Huhtanen](#), that the pressure to change the treaties is mounting, while some argued against it due to the complexity of the process. Despite the different points of view, speakers concluded that the EU in general and the eurozone especially are indeed heading towards more economic, fiscal and social integration.



'Will Europe Bounce Back? – Towards a European Renaissance in the Global Economy?'

[Roland Freudenstein](#), CES Deputy Director and Head of Research, was the moderator of the second panel, which focused on the decreasing competitiveness of the European economy and ways to address this alarming trend. The panel featured [Dominique Cerutti](#), President & Deputy CEO of NYSE Euronext; [Lucinda Creighton](#), Ireland's Minister of State for European Affairs; [Jacek Rostowski](#), Polish Minister of Finance; and [Gunnar Hökmark](#), MEP.



Panellists stressed the need to focus on the EU social model and the completion of the Single Market and added that strict, binding and obligatory budgetary oversight should be imposed in order to deal with the crisis.

The Arab Spring Programme



In collaboration with its member foundations and the International Republican Institute (IRI), the CES and the EPP invited to Marseille a group of young activists who were directly engaged in the 'Arab Spring' revolutions of 2011. This group participated in a number of workshops alongside the EPP Congress and the International Visitors Programme (IVP) in Marseille.

This initiative gave future Arab leaders the chance to observe European politics and gave the CES the opportunity to promote centre-right values and their possible impacts on politics in the new Middle East. The opinions of these young Arabs brought a fresh perspective to the debate and served as the perfect backdrop for the launch of the 'Springeneration' public opinion project (www.springeneration.eu).

Education for a prosperous future

The workshops associated with the Arab Spring programme were entitled 'Youth, education and jobs: investment that makes a difference' and 'Inclusion, cooperation and innovation: powerhouses of economic growth'. The overarching theme of both workshops was the issue of education and the role it plays in society. All participants asserted the fact that much needed economic and social growth is impossible without substantial reforms of the education systems. These reforms should first and foremost help people achieve their educational ambitions, but also respond to the demands of the labour market.





A new Arab-Europe partnership

The importance of cooperation among countries within the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) was emphasised by the participants. There was also agreement on the need to be more closely allied with Europe. Successful cooperation depends on meaningful dialogue and yet, in order to fully engage in such a dialogue, both Arabs and Europeans must make a commitment to seek a better understanding of each other's viewpoints and political backgrounds.



'Springeneration' project

On the occasion of this event, the CES launched its latest initiative, an online public opinion survey located at www.springeneration.eu. The project aims to build on the energy of the recent 'Arab Spring' movement by asking visitors to share their ideas on how to forge a new partnership with Europe.

The Springeneration initiative was warmly welcomed by the participants of the Arab Spring Programme and has since become a major success, with more than 60,000 online participants to the website. In 2012 the survey will be capped with a major event in Brussels.



2nd Transatlantic Centre-Right Think Tank Conference

The CES, in cooperation with the International Republican Institute (IRI), organised the second Transatlantic Centre-Right Think Tank Conference on the 15th- 16th June in Washington. The participants included well-known politicians from both sides of the Atlantic, think tankers and other important figures. The two-day conference, entitled 'Challenges to the West – Security, Democracy, and Prosperity', covered a wide range of issues through a series of speeches, panel debates and roundtable discussions.



The conference began with speeches by [Lorne Craner](#), President of the IRI, and [Wilfried Martens](#), President of the EPP and the CES. The conference then turned to a discussion of key themes in international relations, the impact of the Arab Spring and relations between the Palestinian territories, Israel and the United States. Speakers included, among others, [Antonio López-Istúriz](#), Secretary Treasurer of the CES and Secretary General of the EPP; [Werner Fasslabend](#), President of PoIAK and former Minister of Defense of Austria; [Jaime Mayor Oreja](#), MEP and Vice-President of the EPP Group in the European Parliament; MEPs [Mario Mauro](#), [Tunne Kelam](#), [Jan Olbrycht](#), [Mário David](#) and [Tokia Saïfi](#); [Alberto Carnero](#), International Director of FAES; and [Scott Mastic](#), IRI Regional Director of the Middle East and North Africa division.



On the second day, the discussion shifted to economics. Issues such as fiscal reform, trade policy and social programmes were the main focus of attention during the debates, which included [John Bruton](#), former Prime Minister of Ireland; [Michael Gonzalez](#), Vice-President of Communications at The Heritage Foundation; [Brian Lee Crowley](#), Managing Director of the Macdonald-Laurier Institute; and [Raymond Gradus](#), Director of the CDA Research Institute, amongst other high-level participants.



CES Authors Dinners

In 2011 the CES inaugurated the Authors Dinners, a new series of talks by public intellectuals about Europe, its identity and issues impacting it, which are attended by politicians and experts from the European People's Party family and selected guests.

For the first of these dinners, the CES was proud to feature Timothy Garton Ash, a British historian, writer and one of the most prominent chroniclers of the anti-Communist revolutions in Central Europe. The second dinner featured Karen Armstrong, the renowned religious commentator and author of many books on comparative religion. For the third event, the CES hosted Tarek Osman, the Egyptian-born author of *Egypt on the Brink: From Nasser to Mubarak*.

Timothy Garton Ash

Under the title 'The Europe we Need Now', **Timothy Garton Ash** outlined his ideas about the internal and external challenges facing Europe today. In this sense, he emphasised the problems caused by unexpected immigration and excessive multiculturalism, but warned not to make the opposite mistake of favouring the monoculturalism to achieve a fast integration. Regarding the role of Europe in the international scenario, the author reminded that the EU is a potential giant, but not in terms of action, and suggested narrowing the gap with the Mediterranean neighbours.



Karen Armstrong

Centre for European Studies

www.thinkingeurope.eu



The Author's Dinner with **Karen Armstrong** was directly preceded by a conference titled 'The Role of Religion in Modern Society: Practical Compassion, not Theoretical Belief'. Ms Armstrong stated that, although much of the Western world has enjoyed secularism, it has been imposed in such a way in certain parts of the Muslim world that it has led to a backlash from those feeling that their religion and traditions have been taken away. However, Ms Armstrong argued, revulsion toward violence has been the cornerstone of nearly every religion; moreover, almost all faiths include the idea of practical compassion, which is a concept that we must implement in order to live in peace.

Tarek Osman

European Studies

www.thinkingeurope.eu



During his presentation entitled 'Egypt: Moving Towards a New Middle East', **Tarek Osman** explained the political, social, economic and religious tensions, which he believes led to the collapse of the Egyptian regime.

He then explored two possible future scenarios for the country: either one of confrontation with its neighbouring countries, or one led by a new generation of young, energetic leaders and with an increasingly prosperous and independent middle class.

Freedom in the Days of the Internet

On the 9th February, the CES held an event in Brussels featuring the report *Freedom in the Days of the Internet*, which was also launched in Madrid on the 11th of February and in Paris on the 19th of October.



[Bart W. Schermer](#), the co-author of the study together with [Ton Wagemans](#), presented an overview of the paper, which outlines the technological trends and societal changes brought about by the Internet, as well as looks at the question of regulation of the Internet and addresses topics such as innovation, privacy and intellectual property.

These topics were discussed later in a panel debate on freedom versus security in the Internet, moderated by [Roland Freudenstein](#), CES Deputy Director and Head of Research. The panel featured [Antonio López-Istúriz](#), Secretary General of the EPP and Secretary Treasurer of the CES; MEPs [Gunnar Hökmark](#) and [Algirdas Saudargas](#); [Len Cali](#), AT&T Senior Vice President for International, Wireless and Global Policy; [Viviane Reding](#), Vice President of the European Commission, Commissioner for Justice, Fundamental Rights and Citizenship; and [Philip L. Verveer](#), US Deputy Assistant Secretary of State and Coordinator for International Communications and Information Policy.



Integration and Inclusion:

What Policies Towards Islam?

On the 9th February, the CES and the European Ideas Network (EIN) held the third seminar titled ‘Integration and Inclusion: What Policies Towards Islam?’. The panelists reminded the audience of the need to discern between Islamist and non-Islamist groups and warned of viewing Islam as a single monolithic bloc. They also discussed how to empower liberal Muslim organisations in Europe.

Wilfried Martens, President of the EPP and the CES, gave the welcome address and introductory remarks, that were followed by a panel featuring, MEP Tokia Saïfi; Hendrik M. Vroom, Coordinator of the Centre for Islamic Theology; Walid Phares, Co-secretary General of the Transatlantic Legislative Group on counter Terrorism (TAG), Yahya Pallavicini, Imam of the Al-Wahid Mosque in Milan and Vice-President of CO.RE.IS; Marouane Bouloudhine, President of ‘Fédération Mosaic’; and Amel Arfaoui, journalist.



The seminar stressed the need to make crucial distinctions in the European perspective towards Islam: the distinction between religion and politics and between fundamentalist radicalism and efforts for democratic reform. As emphasised by President Martens and other speakers, the Christian duty of fraternal love requires that Christian Democratic political actors exert themselves to identify and connect with their Muslim counterparts in good faith.

Old Ghosts in New Sheets:

European Populist Parties and Foreign Policy

On the 31st March the CES held a luncheon at the European Parliament in Brussels to present the research paper *Old Ghosts in New Sheets: European Populist Parties and Foreign Policy* by former CES Visiting Fellow [Angelos-Stylianos Chryssogelos](#).



Accompanied by [Corien Wortmann-Kool](#), MEP and Vice-President of the EPP, and CES Director, [Tomi Huhtanen](#), the author defined the elements characterising populist trends, examined their purposes in foreign policy and suggested ways in which the centre-right can oppose populism.

[Mr Chryssogelos](#) noted that populism is an ideology based on exclusion. Right-wing populists across Europe tend to focus on themes of ethnicity and race, while left-wing populists are more concerned with economic and class issues.



According to the author, to defeat populism the centre-right must remain true to its values, both in policy and in rhetoric, and must reframe and re-define important populist trends in the context of centre-right values in order to disarm them.

The Schuman Report on Europe: the State of the Union 2011

On the 19th April the publication titled *The Schuman Report on Europe: The State of the Union 2011* was presented in the European Parliament. This reference work, drafted by the Robert Schuman Foundation, is now in its 5th edition and has been published in cooperation with the CES since 2009.

MEP [Jean-Pierre Audy](#) welcomed the participants and introduced the 2011 Report, which gathers the contributions of academics, experts and decision makers. Mr Audy pointed out the lessons to be learned from the recent economic crisis, noting that it has presented the opportunity to progress towards deeper European integration. However, at the same time, it has posed political challenges and tested the EU's internal cohesion and its capacity to resist the pressure of populism.



The Chairman of the Robert Schuman Foundation, [Jean-Dominique Giuliani](#), presented the report as an objective description of the way the EU is responding to the crisis, while also noting that it provides an analysis of the potential steps the EU could take to face these challenges. In his view, we must all change the way we communicate and speak about Europe in order to make the case to citizens, who sometimes feel mistreated by a globalisation they do not always understand, that EU is not a Trojan horse.

CES Director, [Tomi Huhtanen](#), then described the publication as a useful presentation of the economic and political challenges the EU is facing both at the external and internal levels. He noted that one of

these major challenges is the rise of populism, which is a topic analysed in the report by [Roland Freudenstein](#), CES Deputy Director and Head of Research.

Finally, [Hans-Gert Pöttering](#), former President of the European Parliament and Chairman of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation (KAS), cited the famous sentence by one of Europe's founding fathers, Jean Monnet: 'Nothing is possible without men, but nothing lasts without institutions'. Dr Pöttering maintained that the EU has to be built through institutions and not in an intergovernmental way. Finally, he stated that the Arab revolutions are a great opportunity for the EU, who has to make sure that they will develop in accordance to the democratic values that the EU is promoting.

CES Meeting Paris III

On the 3rd May, a group of students in European Affairs from the University of Paris III - Sorbonne Nouvelle visited the offices of the CES in order to learn more about the think tank and the work of its different teams.

The visit was organised by the student association Franchement Europe and the Institute of European Studies of Paris III as part of a trip to Brussels. The purpose of this journey was to meet professionals working in the field of European affairs in order to learn about possible careers in this sector.

At the CES, the students learned about the entire range of activities of the think tank. The Communication team was represented by [José Luis Fontalba](#), the Research team by [Katarína Králiková](#) and the Project team by [Sara Pini](#).



After an overview of the history and role of the CES, each speaker presented the daily work of his or her team: the wide range of publications edited by the think tank, the projects led by the CES alone or in cooperation with its Member Foundations and the new website are several examples.

The 40 students present at the meeting had many questions regarding the impact of CES activities on European politics, the content of its publications, the educational and professional profiles of its members and the possibilities of internships.

In Search of a New Narrative for Europe

On the 27th June the CES held a conference at the European Parliament in Brussels consisting of three panel discussions based on recent CES publications on transatlantic relations, EU-Russia relations and world trade.



CES and EPP President, [Wilfried Martens](#), gave introductory remarks emphasising the importance of each of the topics. The first panel, titled 'The Future of World Trade: EU Priorities for the Global Trading System After the Crisis', featured experts including [Razeen Sally](#), of the European Centre for International Political Economy at the LSE; and [Ana Palacio](#), former Foreign Affairs Minister of Spain.

The second panel, titled 'Stopping the Drift: Recalibrating the Transatlantic Relationship for a Multipolar Age' featured [Constanze Stelzenmüller](#), of the German Marshall Fund; and [João Marques de Almeida](#), of the Bureau of European Policy Advisers at the European Commission, among others.

The third and final panel was titled 'EU-Russia Relations: Time for a Realistic Turnaround' and involved [Katinka Barysch](#), of the Centre for European Reform; [Christopher Coker](#), of the London School of Economics; and MEP [György Schöpflin](#).



How will Israel Cope with the New Face of the Middle East?

The CES organised on the 30th June a roundtable discussion on the Middle East featuring Danny Rothschild, Head of the Institute for Policy and Strategy (IPS) at the Interdisciplinary Center (IDC) in Herzliya. Mr Rothschild is also the Chairman of Annual Herzliya Conference Series on the Balance of Israel's National Security. During the CES briefing, he provided an overview of some trends in the Middle East from an Israeli perspective.

Mr Rothschild analysed the current situation in Egypt and the potential political landscape for the upcoming years. He then offered his point of view with regard to the western policy towards the Middle-East and finished by tackling the Israeli-Palestinian stalemate and suggesting the intervention of the international community to progress in bilateral negotiations.



A related event took place on the 21st September, when the CES hosted a presentation of poll results under the title 'The Palestinians of East Jerusalem: What Do They Really Want? – Implications for Israeli-Palestinian relations'. [David Pollock](#), former Middle East researcher at the US State Department, presented thought provoking results and [Wolfgang Bärwinkel](#), from the EU Council Secretariat, added relevant comments to shed light on the outcome of this survey.

The Path Towards Economic Recovery: the Irish Viewpoint

On the 20th October, the CES organised a breakfast meeting with the Irish Minister of State for European Affairs, Lucinda Creighton, who briefed the audience on the key policy initiatives that have led to the restoration of the Irish economy.



Lucinda Creighton gave a very positive assessment of her country's economic developments and presented the Irish recovery as a successful example for leading the European Union out of the crisis.

She stressed that, despite past policy mistakes, Ireland has responded in a very transparent and determined manner. She highlighted that government policies addressing Ireland's structural problems are bearing fruit, with an emphasis on reducing public spending, stimulating growth and focusing on SMEs.

Ms Creighton also pointed out that a two-speed Europe is a serious dilemma and stressed the need for some serious thoughts about how to advance the monetary union and the European project.



What We Stand For: Outlining Malta's Centre-Right Policies

In October and November, the CES, in cooperation with the AZAD foundation, organised two weekend-long seminars in Malta featuring a number of leading political figures from the Nationalist Party in Malta, as well as academics, opinion leaders and prominent foreign MEPs from the EPP group.

Prime Minister, [Lawrence Gonzi](#), and European Commissioner for Health and Consumer Policy, [John Dalli](#), were also present in the debate, which focused on the question of 'what we stand for' as a party in order to create a new baseline document for projecting the policies of the party for the next decade.

The outcomes were taken into consideration for the revamping of the document *Our Roots*. This document was drafted by MEP [Simon Busuttil](#) on behalf of AZAD and adopted during a Nationalist Party General Council plenary in November. The document is today part of the basic foundation for the future policies of the party in Malta.



Health Care Reforms in an Ageing European Society, with a Focus on The Netherlands

On the 17th March, the CES, in cooperation with the CDA Research Institute, held an event in Brussels to present the research publication *Health Care Reforms in an Ageing European Society, with a Focus on The Netherlands*, authored by [Dr Evert Jan van Asselt](#), [Lans Bovenberg](#), [Prof Raymond Gradus](#) and [Dr Ab Klink](#).

CES Director [Tomi Huhtanen](#) introduced the topic by stressing the need to re-focus our attention to changing trends such as ageing and its impact on health care policies and long-term costs. Dr van Asselt, Deputy Director of the CDA Research Institute, highlighted the successes stemming from the Dutch curative health care reforms of 2006, which created a private system with public guarantees and which is both competition-driven and patient-driven.

Costs in public health care expenditure can be reduced by restraining over-treatment and using new and better technology, pointed out [Reinhard Busse](#), Professor for Management in Health Care at the Technical University of Berlin.



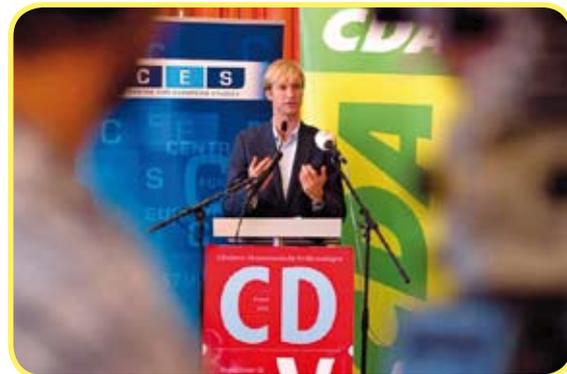
Populism in the Polder



The CES and the CDA Research Institute organised a conference on the 28th June in The Hague discussing how to tackle the political phenomenon of populism in general and the situation in the Netherlands specifically. The conference gathered experts, journalists such as NRC-columnist [Bas Heijne](#) and policymakers such as Dutch Deputy Prime Minister, [Maxime Verhagen](#).



A large part of the discussion focused on the 'secrets' of the winning formula used by populist figures, which is based on emotionally-driven rhetoric and the concept of the enemy. The general conclusions of the conference were that populism can radicalise political discourse and swing the tone of political debates. Moreover, this new populism goes against the openness of the world which has characterised the Dutch model for so long. In this context, the reassurance of Christian Democratic values remains critical.



The Future of the Cuban Economy after Communism

The CES with the support of the Foundation for Social Research and Analysis (FAES), the Association for the Study of the Cuban Economy (ASCE) and the CEU San Pablo University, organised a conference on the 14th November in Madrid with the aim of analysing the current state of affairs of the Cuban economy and its potential after the Castro regime.

To that end, the event presented several panels on issues such as the European experience, the new Cuban civil society as the engine for change, the market economy and property rights. The debates featured speakers such as [Antonio López-Istúriz](#), Secretary Treasurer of the CES and Secretary General of the EPP; [Manny García-Tuñón](#), Executive Vice President of Lemartec and Business columnist at The New Herald/Miami Herald; [Carlos Payá](#), member of the Christian Liberation Movement; [José Azel](#), economist and researcher at the Institute for Cuban & Cuban-American Studies (Miami University) and [Camilo Loret de Mola](#), Cuban lawyer and journalist at CNN.



Latin American Visitors' Programme: Training on European Institutions and Political Integration



This five-day training programme, organised by the CES with the support of FAES, was held in Brussels from the 22nd to the 26th of November. The event brought together 50 young Latin American leaders to enhance their knowledge in the areas of institution building, the strengthening of political parties, the rule of law and the open market economy. The emphasis was also placed on the cooperation between the EU and Latin America.

[Tomi Huhtanen](#), CES Director, presented the role of the CES as the political foundation of the EPP, while [Wilfried Martens](#), President of the EPP and the CES, briefed them on the role of the party in building the EU. Participants had also the opportunity to meet with representatives of the main European Institutions, including MEPs [José Ignacio Salafranca](#) and [Gunnar Hökmark](#); and [Juan Salafranca](#), from the EPP Group.



Good Governance in Europe

On the 30th November, the CES, in cooperation with the Foundation for a Civic Hungary (PMA), held a workshop in Budapest to evaluate a joint research project titled 'Conservative Thought', which was concluded in 2011. The research involved a deep analysis of the political communications of leading EU-members and their current governments. The main aspects of the research included economic regulation, public ownership, taxpayers' perceptions of solidarity, the sustainability of social systems, competitiveness and education, and finally, the reform of state bureaucracy.

[Zoltán Balog](#), chairman of the PMA and Minister of State for Social Inclusion, opened the workshop by sharing his experiences in European politics during the Hungarian presidency and over the course of several international missions.



In the presentations that followed, speakers analysed the rhetoric of the President of France, Nicolas Sarkozy, and the Prime Minister of Poland, Donald Tusk. Other presentations addressed the complete change in political communication in the United Kingdom, from the time of Tony Blair to that of Gordon Brown, as well as the politics of German Chancellor, Angela Merkel. Discussions focused on southern politicians, such as Silvio Berlusconi (Italy), José Sócrates (Portugal) and José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero (Spain). The findings were summarised by [Sámuel Ágoston Mráz](#), General Director of Nézőpont Institute.

Taking Benefits from Synergies – Prospects for the European Defence Policy

On the 30th March, the CES and the Hanns Seidel Foundation (HSS) organised a conference on the prospects for the European Defence Policy, featuring [Christian Forstner](#), Director of the Brussels Office of the HSS; MEP [Michael Gahler](#); [Lieutenant-General Guido Andries](#), Head of the Department of Strategy in the Belgian Ministry of Defence; [Eduard Lintner](#), Head of the Committee on Foreign Policy in the Working Group on Foreign and Security Policy of the CSU; [Peter Scaruppe](#), Acting Industry and Market Director with the European Defence Agency (EDA) and [Major General Bernd Schulte-Berge](#), Head of the Department for Military policy at the Permanent Representation of Germany to NATO.



During the discussion, moderated by [Prof Dr Peter Schmidt](#), from the University of Mannheim, the speakers expressed concerns about the lack of unanimity by the EU in the Security Council, but stressed that synergies are on the rise. It was also mentioned that decreasing defence budgets pose a significant challenge and the help of the US and NATO are indispensable for the foreseeable future.



The Future of the European Neighbourhood Policy

The CES and the HSS organised on the 23rd May a conference on the impact and effectiveness of the European Neighbourhood Policy. [Dr Angelika Schlunck](#), Director of the Representation of the Free State of Bavaria to the EU; [Tomi Huhtanen](#), CES Director; and [Jacek Saryusz-Wolski](#), MEP and EPP Vice-President, provided the opening remarks, which focused on the recent developments in the Arab world as well as on the European Commission's new European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP).



The two panels were devoted to the discussion on strategies and opportunities of the ENP. Speakers included, among others, [Christian Forstner](#), Director of the Brussels Office of the HSS; [Ehab Y. Shalaby](#), Lecturer at the Modern Academy in Cairo; [Madeleine Majorenko](#), Head of Division of the European Neighbourhood Policy Sector – EEAS; [Heather Grabbe](#), Director of the Open Society Institute; [Eugeniusz Smolar](#), CES Senior Visiting Fellow; and MEPs [Libor Rouček](#) and [Mário David](#).

CES and EPP President, [Wilfried Martens](#), closed the ENP conference by emphasising that our approach in the framework of the ENP should be tailored to each country, while he also defended the EPP's value-based approach to the Neighbourhood Policy.



Europe's Political Parties in a Changing Environment: Diagnosis and Strategies

On the 20th September, a panel debate was organised in Brussels by the CES and the HSS with the aim of encouraging debate on the competing approaches to fight growing populism and further fragmentation of the political party spectrum in Europe.



Introductory remarks were presented by [Tomi Huhtanen](#), CES Director, who touched upon the issues of the fragmented political landscape in Europe and the many challenges that this poses to traditional political parties in Europe.

[Prof Dr Heinrich Oberreuter](#), Director of the Tutzing Political Academy, and MEP [Manfred Weber](#) set the tone for the subsequent debate with their keynote speeches. The discussion, moderated by [Dr Florian Hartleb](#), CES Visiting Fellow, included [Pascale Joannin](#), Director General of the Robert Schuman Foundation, and [Eva Ohrablova](#), Campaign Manager of SDKU-DS Slovakia.



Presentation of “Europe: I Struggle, I Overcome”

On the 15th December the Catalan translation of the memoirs of [Wilfried Martens](#), President of the CES and the EPP, was presented in Barcelona. The book, the English title of which is *Europe: I Struggle, I overcome*, (*Europa: lluitar i vèncer*) is a joint publication by the CES and the Institute for Humanistic Studies Miquel Coll i Alentorn (INEHCA). The event was attended by [Josep Maria Pelegrí](#), General Secretary of the UDC and the Catalan Minister of Agriculture, and [Llibert Cuatrecasas](#), President of INEHCA, among others.



Following President Martens' speech, he was interviewed by journalist and broadcaster [Silvia Cópulo](#). Mr Martens explained how he developed his federalist convictions, his passionate defence of his own language, his view and beliefs about Europe.



Cyprus: Bridging the Divide I



The CES in cooperation with the Institute for Eurodemocracy Glafcos Clerides (EGC) organised from the 8th to the 10th April a two-day seminar in Agros titled 'EU Foreign Policy, Conflict Resolution and Negotiation Skills'. The aim of the seminar was to bring together representatives of the Greek and Turkish communities in Cyprus to discuss the new aspects of European foreign policy after the approval of the Lisbon Treaty by the EU Member States, as well as to introduce the participants to the basic concepts of conflict resolution, consensus building and negotiation skills.

The trainer and facilitator of the programme was [Kai Brand-Jacobsen](#), Director of the Department of Peace Operations of the Peace Action, Training and Research Institute of Romania PATRIR. Speakers at the event included [Katie Clerides](#), Chairwoman of the EGC; [Katarína Králiková](#), CES Research Officer and MEP [Ioannis Kasoulides](#).

This seminar provided the opportunity for Greek and Turkish Cypriots to come closer through dialogue while exchanging their views on various topics of common interest. It was widely accepted that representatives of the two communities, especially at the working level, should meet more often for the benefit of the society of the island.



Belarus and the Problems with Democracy Promotion

In the framework of the 7th Global Security Forum, the CES, in cooperation with the Institute for Modern Slovakia (IPMS), organised a panel on the 3rd March in Bratislava focussed on the question of what the EU could do in order to protect and support Belarusian democrats. The release of political prisoners was mentioned by all participants as a top priority.



The panel was chaired by [Roland Freudenstein](#), CES Deputy Director and Head of Research, and joining the discussion were [Aliaksandr Milinkevich](#), Head of the Movement for Freedom in Belarus; [Balázs Jarábik](#), from PACT/FRIDE; [Pavol Demeš](#), Senior Transatlantic Fellow from the German Marshall Fund of the United States (GMF); [Eugeniusz Smolar](#), Senior Fellow at the Polish Institute of International Affairs in Warsaw; [Alexei Pikulik](#), analyst at the Belarusian Institute for Strategic Studies in Vilnius and [Karl Lamers](#), President of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly.

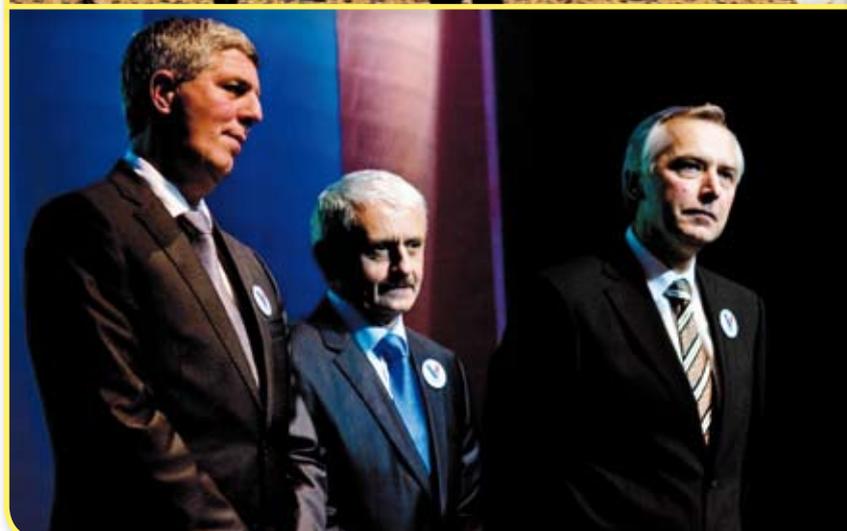


Commemoration of the Velvet Revolution

On the 17th November, the CES, in cooperation with the IPMS, organised for the fourth consecutive year an event to commemorate the Velvet Revolution and to remind the citizens of Slovakia that it was centre-right forces, which led Slovakia down the right path.

The Prime Minister of Slovakia, [Iveta Radičová](#), gave an introductory speech. The political leaders [Mikuláš Dzurinda](#), Chairman of the Slovak Democratic and Christian Union – Democratic Party (SDKÚ-DS); [Ján Figel'](#), Chairman of the Christian Democratic Movement (KDH); and [Béla Bugár](#), Chairman of Most-Híd- spoke about the meaning of the Velvet Revolution and the lessons that can be drawn from it.

Special guests included [Jerzy Buzek](#), President of the European Parliament, and [Dr Werner Fasslabend](#), Chairman of the CES Academic Council.





Efficient Local Administration at the European Level

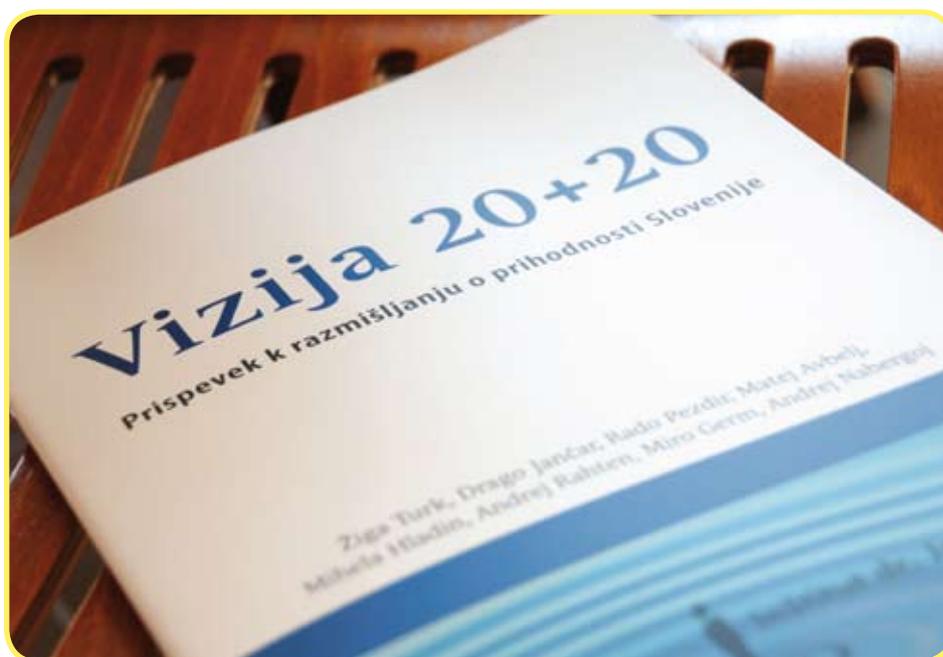
In 2011 the Centre for European Studies, in cooperation with the Institute for Popular Studies (IPS) and with the support of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation (KAS), carried out a training programme aimed at educating around 250 young people from Romania about local government from the perspective of the political views and values of the EPP family.

The project included eight seminars held from June through to November in different Romanian counties and consisted of a series of lectures and practical workshops that tackled topics such as public policies, negotiation and communication, analysis of 'Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats' and methods of decision-making.

The lectures dealt with a wide range of issues including public procurement, administrative reform, decentralisation and subsidiarity and the importance of doctrinal values in political decisions.



From October through to December, the CES in cooperation with the Jože Pučnik Institute (IJP), organised six different conferences in Slovenia (four of them in Piran and other two in Ljubljana) within the framework of the joint project 'Step Ahead', including the presentation of a short publication *Vizija 20+20* (Vision 20+20), edited by [Prof Žiga Turk](#), member of the CES Academic Council.



The different conferences covered a wide range of topics: 'How to Reach Developmental Breakthrough of Slovenia', 'Slovenia, the EU and Globalisation', 'The European Union after Crisis – a Winner or Loser?', 'Time for Change', 'Media in the Time of Changes' and 'The Future of Euro, the Future of the EU'.

Participating speakers were, among others, [Dr Mihael Brejc](#), former MEP and President of the IJP; [Prof Janez Šušteršič](#), former Director of the Institute of Macroeconomic Analysis and Development; [Zijad Bećirović](#), Director of the International Institute for Middle-East and Balkan Studies (IFIMES) in Ljubljana; [Laris Gaiser](#), Researcher from the Globis Center at the University of Georgia (US). EPP MEPs [Lojze Peterle](#) and [Dr Milan Zver](#); [Prof Vasko Simoniti](#), former Minister of Culture; [Dr Mateja Rek](#), the Dean of the Faculty of Media; and [Dr France Arhar](#), President of the Management Board of the UniCredit Bank Slovenia.

The CES and the National Educational Association (KANSIO) organised in Finland a series of open café events in order to present the magazine *What's Up Union?* On the 16th April the first outdoor panel debate, organised in Helsinki, featured [Arto Aniluoto](#), Director of European Movement in Finland, and [Berit Teeäär](#), International Secretary of IRL in Estonia.



The second café event was organised in Tampere on the 13th June. The panel was co-chaired by the Chief Editor of the local newspaper *Aamulehti*, [Jouko Jokinen](#), and [Markku Pyykkölä](#), Director of KANSIO. Panelists included [Harri Jaskari](#), [Sofia Vikman](#) and [Pauli Kiuru](#), all Kokoomus Members of Parliament.

The third and last event was organised on the 9th September in Helsinki with a particular emphasis on EU-Russia relations and featured as keynote speaker [Antti Vänskä](#), Special Adviser to the Prime Minister of Finland, Jyrki Katainen.

EU-Russia Relations: Make Trade, Not War



The CES in cooperation with KANSIO organised a conference on EU-Russia relations on board the M/S Princess Maria ferry during a cruise from Helsinki to St. Petersburg from the 6th - 8th October.

Director of KANSIO, [Markku Pyykkölä](#), welcomed participants and CES Deputy Director and Head of Research, [Roland Freudenstein](#), opened the debate by describing the state of relations between the EU and Russia. Speakers featured [Dr Leszek Jesiën](#), European Union Programme Coordinator at the Polish Institute for International Relations; [Dr Arto Luukkanen](#), expert on Russia and Eastern Europe at the University of Helsinki Renvall Institute; [Dr Tuomas Forsberg](#), Professor of International Politics at the University of Tampere; and [Dr Kari Liuhto](#), Director of Centrum Balticum, who offered insights on the important role of energy. [Andreas M. Klein](#), Head of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation (KAS) Offices in the Baltic States (Riga), spoke about the 20 years of regained independence of the Baltic States while [Torkil Sørensen](#), Senior Adviser at the Nordic Council, covered the Russo-Nordic cooperation.



The traditional training-simulation organised by the CES in cooperation with the Konrad Adenauer Foundation (KAS) and the CIVIC Institute for International Education, was held this year from the 29th September to the 2nd October in Ohrid.

The aim of the training is to make clear the institutional design of the EU with its specific decision-making processes and the different interests and positions in the ambitious project of EU enlargement in particular.



[Roland Freudenstein](#), CES Deputy Director and Head of Research, presented the historical steps and the founding processes of the EU, while trainers [Holger Michael-Arndt](#) and [Alexander Burka](#), from the CIVIC Institute for International Education, led the whole simulation training, which was divided into three major groups: EU institutions, applicant countries, and representatives of the international media.



Belarus and the EU: from Isolation towards Cooperation

On the 10th November, the CES in cooperation with KAS organised a conference to present the joint publication *Belarus and the EU: from Isolation towards Cooperation*. Two of the authors, [Hans-Georg Wieck](#), former Head of the OSCE Advisory and Monitoring Group in Minsk, and [Alexander Chubrik](#), Director of the Research Department of the Institute for Privatization and Management in Belarus, presented the major findings and their recommendations in regards to EU-Belarusian relations.



Other speakers included [Aliaksandr Milinkevich](#), Head of the Movement for Freedom in Belarus; MEP [Jacek Protasiewicz](#); [Stephan Malerius](#), Head of the Belarus Office of KAS and co-editor of the book; [Dzianis Melyantsou](#), Research Fellow of the Belarusian Institute for Strategic Studies. As emphasised in the debate, greater cooperation with the European Union will be a vital step in order to secure an independent, open and democratic Belarus in the future.

Strategies and Policies of Cooperation in the Black Sea Region

From the 21st - 23rd November, the CES, in cooperation with KAS office in Sofia and the Varna Free University, organised a conference aimed at bringing together and establishing a network of actors at the local level.

After a welcome speech by [Nickolay Mladenov](#), Bulgarian Minister of Foreign Affairs, the conference explained the possibilities of EU funding for different NGO projects and addressed the contribution of science to the development of the Black Sea Region.



The conference gave the participants a general overview of the numerous possibilities for bilateral engagement in the Black Sea Region and Europe by introducing European standards. The feedback from the participants was mostly positive and concrete future projects were planned. The conference also showed that continuous efforts from Europe's side are necessary to achieve these goals, especially as civil actors in non-EU countries are faced with great difficulties.

Media and Politics: Who Regulates Whom?



The Konstantinos Karamanlis Institute for Democracy (KKID) and the CES organised a conference in Athens on the 21st November titled 'Media and Politics: Who Regulates Whom?' The conference was introduced by [Mariana Pirgioti](#), Director General of the KKID, and [Evangelos Meimarakis](#), President of the KKID, and was followed by two panels. The first focused on the interrelations between politics, media and financial interests, while the second shed light on how the current economic crisis redefined the balance of powers between the Greek media and politics.

Among the speakers were several journalists, together with [Dionysis Chionis](#), Professor of Economics at Democritus University of Thrace; [Simos Kedikoglou](#), Member of Greek Parliament and Head of Media Section of Nea Demokratia; [Andreas Loverdos](#), Minister of Health and Social Solidarity; [Andreas Lykourantzou](#), MP and Secretary of Political Commission of Nea Demokratia; and [Dimitris Papadimoulis](#), MP from Coalition of the Radical Left.





Greek Economy: Conquering Tomorrow

The CES, in cooperation with the KKID, organised on the 15th December a conference in Athens in order to stress the importance of the economic crisis' multiple impacts on the EU and to underline the necessity for a new economic architecture at the European level.

First, there was a discussion of the current proposals for addressing the deficit, public debt and development from the European perspective, which was followed by two debates on 'Institutional Actors' and 'Enterprises'.

Among others, participants included [Panagiotis Liargovas](#), Professor at the University of Peloponnese; [Apostolos Refenes](#), President of the Commission of Accounting Standardisation and Control; [Antonis Ioannidis](#), Coordinator of the Department of International Cooperation of the KKID; [Kyriakos Sampatakakis](#), CEO Partner at Accenture Hellas; [Harry Kyriazis](#), Vice-Chairman of the Hellenic Federation of Enterprises (SEV); [Vasilis Korkidis](#), President of the National Association of Greek Commerce; and [Minos Moisis](#), General Director of the Commercial Bank (Emporiki Trapeza).



Social Cohesion in Times of Crisis



The CES, in cooperation with the KKID, organised on the 16th December in Athens a one-day conference with the aim of examining and recording the impact of the economic crisis on social cohesion in an EU Member State. [Mariana Pirgioti](#), Director General of the KKID, [Maria Chr. Kollia-Tsarouha](#), Secretary of Social Cohesion and Solidarity and Member of Parliament, and [Mooli Lahad](#), Professor of Psychology, gave the opening addresses.

The event then featured the presentation of a survey titled *Economy & Psychology on an Individual Level*, which showed that the financial crisis has had an unprecedented impact on day to day life. A panel moderated by [Teta-Christina Diamantopoulou](#), Deputy Secretary of Social Cohesion and Solidarity at Nea Demokratia, included the participation of [Grigorios Vaslamatzis](#), Psychiatrist and Associate Professor at the University of Athens; [Nestor Kourakis](#), Professor of Criminology and Penal Ethics at the University of Athens; and [Haralambos Pouloupoulos](#), Director of the Centre for Treatment of Addicted Persons, KETHEA.

Christian Democrat Internationalism: Its Action in Europe and Worldwide from Post-World War II until the '90s



The CES, in cooperation with the Luigi Sturzo Institute and KAS, promoted an international research project aimed at reconstructing the history and documentation of Christian Democrat Internationalism, on the occasion of its 50th anniversary.

Two international events were organised in order to open a debate on the future challenges that Christian-inspired parties will have to face in the future. The first of these was a workshop hosted by the Luigi Sturzo Institute on the 28th September, where representatives of Christian Democrat parties and institutions attended, such as [Rocco Buttiglione](#), President of the Italian UDC party, and [Pier Ferdinando Casini](#), President of Centrist Democrat International (CDI), all of whom contributed to the debates.

On the 1st and 2nd December, an international conference concluded the project with the contribution of politicians from Italian and European institutions: among them, EPP and CES President, [Wilfried Martens](#), and former European Commission Vice-President [Jacques Barrot](#).



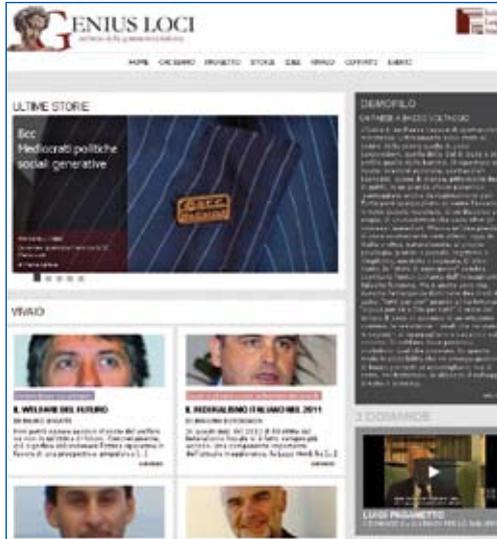
Genius Loci - The Archive of Italian Generativity

In November and December, the CES and the Luigi Sturzo Institute launched the English version of the website 'Genius Loci - The Archive of Italian Generativity' (www.generativita.it).

The project aims to identify and give a voice to those realities in Italy that produce economic, social or cultural value. In order to learn, develop and interconnect the many energies spread in the country, this virtual archive was created to host stories of generativity and to contribute to the history of contemporary Italy.

The Scientific Committee of the project identified five paths of research and action:

The future of welfare, Italian federalism in 2011, the civil entrepreneur and the virtue of innovation, state and religious freedom and emotions in the generative enterprise.



As a long-term project, the development of a bilingual website will allow the network of the project to expand, involving other CES member foundations and partners. The goal is to reach a broader audience and to promote a meaningful debate on innovative ideas and practices in order to build a vast and valuable knowledge base, freely available for both epistemological and practical goals, with academia, local agencies, companies, and public administrations as primary users and stakeholders.

Tertiary Education: Which Options Beyond Classic Universities and Universities for Applied Sciences?



On the 11th April, the CES, in cooperation with the Political Academy of the Austrian People's Party (PolAk), organised a conference in order to present various models of university education and to discuss the European university and scientific landscape.

The situation of the Austrian system was presented and compared to that of other European countries: [Jim Murray](#), from the National Qualification Authority of Ireland; [Martin Stalder](#), from the Federal Office for Professional Education (Switzerland); and [Michael Kretschmer](#), Deputy Head of CDU-Group in the German Federal Parliament, offered insights into their countries' systems.



2011 European Citizens' Initiative Summit

On the 6th - 7th May, the CES, in cooperation with PolAk, as well as the Austrian Institute for European Law and Policy and the Initiative and Referendum Institute Europe, organised the 2011 European Citizens' Initiative Summit (ECI) in Vienna.

On this occasion, experts and representatives from civil society, politics, administration, academia and economics from all over Europe focused their attention on the final steps of the ECI and called upon the Member States and the European institutions to create citizen-friendly provisions for its implementation.



In order to contribute to the final implementation, the 2011 Summit proposed the establishment of an ad-hoc roundtable conference where all official key players will have the opportunity to inform each other and to share different national practices and strategies for implementing the ECI regulation.

Where is Our Society Heading in the 21st Century?



From the 24th to the 26th July, the CES, in cooperation with PoIAk, the European Senior Citizens Union and the Austrian Senior Citizens' Association, organised the European Summer Academy for Leading Seniors 2011.

The conference took place in Vienna and analysed the changes and challenges in European societies. The opening speeches by [Bernhard Worms](#), Head of the European Senior Citizens Union; [Marilyn Flemming](#), former Austrian Minister; and MEP [Heinz Becker](#), were followed by a discussion featuring [Lothar Roos](#), Professor of Christian social ethics; [Ursula Lehr](#), former German Minister for Family Affairs; [Dorothea Schittenhelm](#), MP and Mayor of Bisamberg; and [Prof Andreas Kruse](#), among other participants.





The Many Faces of Conservatism. The Essence, History and Future of Conservative Thought



On the 2nd December, the book *The Many Faces of Conservatism. The Essence, History and Future of Conservative Thought* was presented in Tallinn in an event organised by the Pro Patria Institute in cooperation with the CES and KAS.

During the conference, the three authors and the editor-in-chief -[Mart Nutt](#), [Andres Arrak](#), [Steven van Hecke](#), and [Mart Helme](#), respectively- presented their views on the topic, as did representatives of the CES and KAS.

The participants included the Estonian Minister of Education, [Jaak Aaviksoo](#), the Minister for Regional Affairs, [Siim Valmar Kiisler](#), and MEP [Tunne Kelam](#), as well as other leaders from the centre-right of Estonian politics and representatives of the diplomatic corps.

Projects with Partners



Amaro da Costa Institute (IDL): Encontros do IDL

In November and December, the CES, in cooperation with the Amaro da Costa Institute (IDL), carried out a project involving one conference and two lunch lectures. These events aimed to discuss the hot issues on the Portuguese political agenda, both internally and in relation to the European Union.

The conference titled '[The Constitutional Limits on Public Debt](#)' was held on the 13th December, and the guest speakers were [Jorge Miranda](#), Professor of Law and the Father of the Portuguese Constitution, and [Luís Amado](#), former Portuguese Minister of Foreign Affairs. The debate was chaired by [José Luís da Cruz Vilaça](#), a lawyer and expert in juridical science. The conference was attended by more than 60 individuals, aired live by an online channel specialising in law and was covered by two main Portuguese media organisations.

'[À mesa do IDL](#)' was the name for the lunch lectures organised by the IDL with the purpose of assembling a number of members and sympathisers. The two Lunch Lectures took place at the IDL's headquarters on the 4th November and the 7th December, and were an excellent opportunity for a discussion concerning present-day European issues, such as the utility of the concept of sovereignty in the understanding of the current European crisis and the Portuguese role in the Portuguese-speaking world and in the European space. [Miguel Morgado](#), Professor of Philosophy and Political Advisor of the Prime Minister of Portugal, Pedro Passos Coelho; and [José Ribeiro e Castro](#), MP and President of the parliamentary committee on Education, Science and Culture, were the speakers.



Centre for European Affairs (CEA): Central European Strategic Forum

The CES, in cooperation with the Centre for European Affairs (CEA), organised on the 10th - 11th December a conference in Slovakia with the title '[Central European Strategic Forum](#)'.

The four panels organised tackled issues such as 'Defence Austerity and the Necessity of Regional Cooperation', 'Central European Geopolitics: The Putin Presidency and the Shifting of U.S. Priorities', 'The Future of Europe: Catharsis or Catastrophe?' and 'The Arab Seasons and their Implications for Europe'.



European Agency for Energy Security (EAES): Where is the Energetic Future of Central and Eastern Europe?

The CES, in cooperation with the European Agency for Energy Security (EAES), organised a workshop on the 17th December in Slovakia titled 'Where is the Energetic Future of Central and Eastern Europe?'.

Igor Broska and Dušan Majcin, from the Slovak Academy of Sciences, pointed out the importance of exploring geothermal resources, while Štefan Čerba, from the Slovak University of Technology, and Helmut Rauch, from the Vienna University of Technology, focused on the nuclear energy.

Fusion was pointed out as a promising source of energy by ITER Head of Communication Michel Claessens. Roman Nitsovych, from the analytical centre DiXi Group, focused his presentation on energy security, while András Deák, from the Center for EU Enlargement Studies, dealt with the problems in oil and gas supply in the EU. The subject of regional cooperation in energy security was introduced by Urban Rusnák from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Slovakia.



European Council on Foreign Relations (ECFR): Standing Out: Resetting Europe's Relationship with Algeria

On the 12th December, the CES, in cooperation with the European Council on Foreign Relations (ECFR), hosted a closed and informal meeting on Algeria in Rome in order to present the new CES and ECFR publication *A 'reset' with Algeria: the Russia to the EU's South*, on Algeria's role in the international arena and its relations with the European Union, Italy and the Arab world.

First, a brief insight of the history of the country introduced the key points of the report: a reflection on Algeria's relations with the European Union, highlighting in particular the analogy with Russia as far as their common preference for bilateral foreign policy is concerned. The reasons why the Arab Spring had not yet reached Algeria were also discussed. While Algeria does not seem that interested in improving its connections with Europe, the EU should evaluate the costs of not taking action in the region.

A common idea shared by the participants was that the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region is diverse and every country is different, and therefore the European approach to each of them must involve a tailored policy - a policy that complements the bilateral relations with more convergence at the European level. Since the Arab spring is not a linear phenomenon, Europe should look for something else that will lead to mass mobilisation. To this end, EU Member States have to come up with a truly forward-looking approach that involves those countries that have tighter bilateral relations with Algeria. One condition was laid down by the speakers: EU engagement should be put into practice only if Algerians are willing and convinced.



Slovak Atlantic Commission: Smart Security Conference: Regional Cooperation in the Time of Austerity

The CES, in cooperation with the Slovak Atlantic Commission (SAC), organised on the 21st November a conference titled '[Smart Security: Regional Cooperation in the Time of Austerity](#)'.

Ambassador [Rastislav Káèer](#) opened the conference in Bratislava by acknowledging the role that dynamic changes play in world politics. The Slovak Foreign Minister, [Mikuláš Dzurinda](#), reasserted the need for a new approach to international security, noting that the concept of smart security must come under closer scrutiny.

The first panel was titled 'Defence Austerity: Implications on Military Capabilities' aimed at defining the features of a smart, sharp, quick and efficient defence with partners who cooperate as allies.

In the second one, titled 'Regional Security Cooperation: Lessons Learned', it was expressed that Central European regional cooperation in defence is a hot issue in discussions, but still lacks credibility.

The third panel, 'Prospects for Smart Defence in Regional Groupings', emphasised that Nordic security and defence cooperation could serve as a model for Central European regional cooperation.

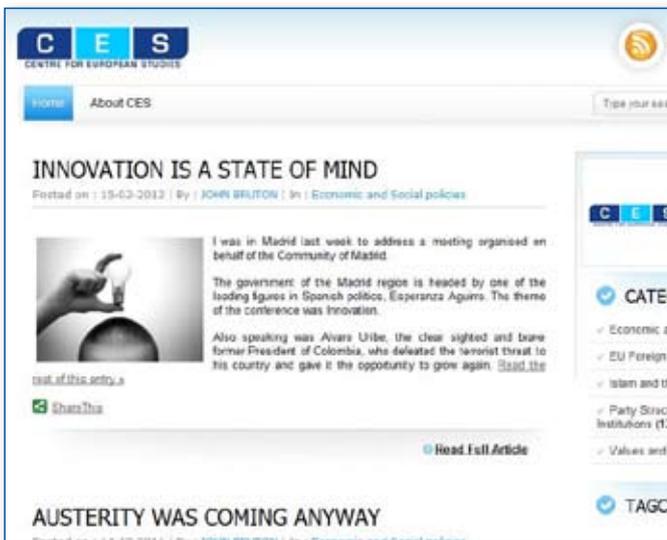
CES Online

Thinking Europe

The CES attaches great importance to its online strategy, combining a regularly updated website with the active use of social networks and new media to reach its key audience and stakeholders. The main aims of this strategy are to provide free and relevant information, which is easily accessible, and also to allow user feedback by using state-of-the-art Web 2.0 technologies.



In 2012, the CES re-launched its website, www.thinkingeurope.eu. It boasts a fresh new design together with improved architecture, allowing easy navigation and the retrieval of a large amount of information related to the Centre's research, publications and events. Users can also directly access the websites, RSS feeds and social media accounts of CES network of member foundations via an interactive map and the 'CES NET'. They can consult event reports, as well as browse, sort, view and download all the publications that CES produces. Broadcasted TV news and printed/online articles published about CES can also be found on the website as part of the CES expanding presence in the media.



The website also serves as an interactive platform, where visitors can take part in polls, leave comments on publications and subscribe to receive the CES latest news and updates. The website is connected to the Centre's new media accounts, allowing content to be shared and tweeted instantly, as well as to the CES blog with regular posts from 'EuroThinkers' and other influential EU stakeholders.



These technology updates are already showing impressive results, including increased website traffic and user interaction, together with improved performance in online searches.



With content updated daily, the CES fanpage has steadily grown its fan base and the reach of its posts. It is the perfect forum for CES fans to get updates about the Centre's most recent activities and new publications, as well as a good source of interesting information about on-going debates in the think tank world.

<http://www.facebook.com/centreforeuropeanstudies>



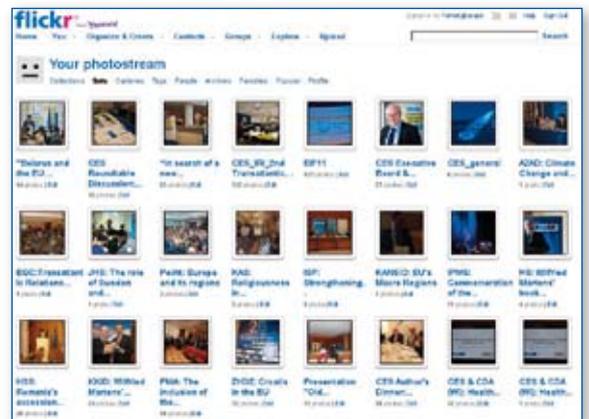
The CES is also performing very well in the 'Twitterverse': most events are tweeted live in order to immediately disseminate to the CES followers the most interesting points of the discussion. Major CES events have their own hashtags so that users can easily follow the conversation. Moreover, the 2011 Economic Ideas Forum in London marked the first time a 'TweetWall' was used to allow for questions to the speakers via Twitter.

<https://twitter.com/#!/thinkingeurope>



This is the ideal means for online users to see all the photos from CES events and activities. With different albums for annual events, common projects with member foundations or publication launching events, the platform is also perfect for quickly identifying events connected to a certain geographical location, a high profile speaker or a topic.

http://www.flickr.com/photos/thinking_europe/



In 2011, CES opened its own YouTube channel: with over 3,500 views already, the channel gathers videos from annual and launching events, as well as interviews given by the members of staff and Visiting Fellows to different media outlets. Interested audiences can subscribe to the channel and be instantly updated about CES latest events and debates.

<http://www.youtube.com/user/CESThinkingEurope>

