



Wilfried
Martens Centre
for European Studies

activity 2014 report



Wilfried
Martens Centre
for European Studies

Our team in 2014

Credits

Activity Report 2014 **Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies**

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The Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies is the political foundation and think tank 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.martenscentre.eu

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2014 Highlights

Up2Youth Project



A Campaign of Ideas



CES Events on the Side-Line of the EPP 2014 Election Congress



Centre for European Studies renamed in honour of its late President Wilfried Martens



1 January
7 March

7 March
6 - 7 March

8 March
22 May

Economic Ideas Forum



Transatlantic Think Tank Conference



Start of Ukraine Reforms project with President Dzurinda



16 - 17 October

9 December

3 - 4 December

Welcome



Tomi Huhtanen
Martens Centre Director

Mikuláš Dzurinda
Martens Centre President

Antonio López-Istúriz
Martens Centre Secretary Treasurer



2014: A year of significant changes

For the Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies, 2014 was a year of significant changes that reflect the organisation's maturity and its established position on the European think tank scene.

The legacy lives on:

The mission and values that the Centre stands for have been greatly inspired by its late founder, Wilfried Martens. Following his passing away during late 2013, the decision to rename the Centre in honour of its founder was thus a natural one. Under the motto **'The legacy lives on'**, the new name, together with a brand-new logo were unveiled during the EPP Congress in Dublin. Praising Wilfried Martens for his life's work, current President Mikuláš Dzurinda has committed to keep his legacy alive and have the Martens Centre continue his work towards the European project.

Up2Youth: This time YOU decide!

Following the success of previous online initiatives such as **tell-Barroso** and **Springeneration**, the **Up2Youth** project was launched in order to allow young Europeans to express and exchange ideas on the issues that mattered the most to them ahead of the European elections. With over 40,000 participants ranking and offering policy proposals, the best proposals were incorporated in the EPP Action Programme. The EPP thus became the first European political party to crowdsource its political programme and to offer the youth the chance to share their ideas using state-of-the-art digital tools. Furthermore, the 10 winners that offered the best policy ideas were awarded a VIP pass to attend the EPP Congress in Dublin to present their common proposal to all Congress participants.

A campaign of ideas:

At the beginning of 2014, the Martens Centre committed itself to a **'Campaign of Ideas'** to provide the EPP political family with analyses and expertise ahead of the European elections. Under this umbrella, the Centre provided regular political intelligence on opponents, top candidates and key topics. It also produced argument sheets and leaflets on the benefits of the euro or against populist rhetoric, among others. Under the title *This time it was different*, the Centre also produced a post-electoral analysis aimed to serve as best practices and lessons learned for 2019.

Setting the growth agenda: Economic Ideas Forum:

The fifth annual **Economic Ideas Forum** was held in Bratislava under the patronage of Mikuláš Dzurinda, the Centre's President and former Prime Minister of Slovakia and welcomed central and eastern European decision-makers and experts. The key message of this year's Forum was that the return to growth requires a renewed commitment to our core principles of reform, innovation, social justice and smart investment. In this context, 25 years after the collapse of Communism, the economies of central and eastern Europe can offer important lessons, both for the EU's eastern neighbours and other member states. For the first time during an event, a conference mobile phone application was used, allowing increased interaction and networking among attendees and speakers. The event could also be followed via livestreaming thanks to a partnership with FORA.tv, the leading platform for online conference videos.

The West rising to the challenge:

This year's **Transatlantic Think Tank Conference** was held in Brussels and welcomed participants from both sides of the Atlantic to analyse developments following crucial elections both in the US and the EU. With the so-called Islamic State (IS), Putin's Russia and other global threats emerging, the West's approach needs to be reassessed in order to outline a future strategy to cope with these challenges. Addressing these questions, the panel discussions focused on how to become more effective in transatlantic cooperation and regain trust of the European and US citizens.

A lifeline for freedom:

Throughout the year, the Martens Centre has been following with keen interest the developments in the EU's eastern neighbourhood, aiming to provide quick-reaction analysis and support. As part of the successful **Food for Thought series**, expert debates have looked at the political crisis in Georgia, presidential and parliamentary elections in Ukraine and the future of EU-Armenia relations. The Centre also dedicated a thematic number of its policy journal, the **European View** to the changing Eastern neighbourhood and launched a research paper that offers policy recommendations for a successful Eastern Partnership Initiative.

About us

- **Executive Board**
- **Academic Council**
- **Research Associates**
- **Staff**
- **Visiting Fellows**
- **Individual Members**
- **Internships**
- **Member Foundations**



The Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies, established in 2007, is the political foundation and think tank of the European People's Party (EPP). The Martens Centre 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. It currently has 29 member foundations in 22 EU and non-EU countries. The Martens Centre takes part in the preparation of EPP programmes and policy documents. It organises seminars and training on EU policies and on the process of European integration.

The Martens Centre 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, author's dinners and website, the Martens Centre offers a platform for discussion among experts, politicians, policymakers and the European public.

Executive Board

The Executive Board, composed by a maximum of eight members including the President and the Secretary Treasurer, is elected by the General Assembly of the Martens Centre. Its roles range from drafting the annual programme based on agreed research priorities, ensuring the legal representation and financial supervision of the activities of the Centre, as well as steering the expansion of the Centre's network of member organisations.



■ Mikuláš Dzurinda | President of the Martens Centre

Mikuláš Dzurinda was elected president of the Martens Centre in December 2013. He is the former Prime Minister of Slovakia, holding the position from 1998 to 2006, and has held various positions in government since first entering politics in 1990. Dzurinda is a founding member of the Slovak Democratic and Christian Union - Democratic Party (SDKÚ-DS) and was chairman of the party from 2000 to 2012. He was elected to the Slovak Parliament following elections in 2012 and is currently a member of the Parliamentary Committee for Foreign Relations.



■ Antonio López-Istúriz | Secretary Treasurer of the Martens Centre

Antonio López-Istúriz is the Secretary Treasurer of the Martens Centre, 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 Centrist Democrat International (CDI) since 2002 and is a member of the National Executive Committee of the Partido Popular (PP).



■ Joseph Daul

Joseph Daul became President of the EPP in November 2013 and was the Chairman of the EPP Group in the European Parliament from 2007-2014. He was elected to the European Parliament in 1999 as a member of the French Union for a Popular Movement (UMP). Mr Daul has been awarded the titles 'Officier du Mérite Agricole', 'Chevalier de l'Ordre National du Mérite' and 'Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur' in France. He is also a recipient of the 'Grosses Verdienstkreuz' from Germany.



■ Olof Ehrenkrona

Ambassador Olof Ehrenkrona is a Policy Advisor at the Jarl Hjalmarson Foundation. He is a former Senior Advisor for the Swedish Minister for Foreign Affairs, where he dealt with issues related to globalisation. 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** | Permanent Guest

Werner Fasslabend is the Chairman of the Academic Council of the Martens Centre. Between 1987 and 2007 he was member of the Austrian National Council, the lower chamber of the Parliament; he was the third President of the National Council (2000-2002) and served as the Federal Minister of Defence for 10 years (1990-2000). Since 2004 he has been President of the ÖVP Political Academy (PolAk) as well as of the Austrian Institute for European and Security Policy (AIES).



■ **Raymond H.J.M. Gradus**

Raymond H.J.M. Gradus is the Director of the CDA Research Institute and Professor of Public Administration and Economics at the VU University in Amsterdam. He is a Fellow at the Netspar Institute (Network for Studies on Pensions, Ageing and Retirement) and Talma Institute for care, work and welfare. 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 is a Senior Advisor to the Prime Minister of Hungary, Victor Orbán. He has served as Hungarian Ambassador to the European Union and NATO from 1990 to 1994 and as President of the Union of Hungarian Civic Cooperation from 2000 to 2002. 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, where he is Professor of History since 1985.



■ **Hans-Gert Pöttering**

Hans-Gert Pöttering is the Chairman of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation (KAS). Until his retirement in 2014 he was the only Member of the European Parliament who has continuously served since the first European elections in 1979. From 1999 to 2007, he served as the Chairman of the EPP-ED Group, and from 2007 to 2009 as the President of the European Parliament. Among many European honours Hans-Gert Pöttering has received the Grand Cross with Star and Shoulder Ribbon of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany and is Commander of the Légion d'Honneur.



■ **Yannis G. Valinakis**

Yannis G. Valinakis served as Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and member of the Greek Parliament (2004-2009) and as a Jean Monnet Professor of European Affairs at the University of Athens. He is currently the President of the Jean Monnet European Centre of Excellence of the University of Athens, and the President of the Scientific Council, Law School, University of Nicosia. He is also a Senior Visiting Fellow at the European Institute of the London School of Economics and Political Science. He has published widely in international and European journals in five languages.

Academic Council

The Executive Board nominates esteemed academics and researchers as members of the Academic Council in order to increase the academic scope of the Martens Centre and oversee the scientific standards of its research, studies and activities. This includes enhancing its standing and visibility in the academic sphere, contributing with expertise, advice and ideas to ensure the Martens Centre is always pursuing cutting-edge research. The Academic Council also proposes new and innovative projects and implements the highest standard of peer review.



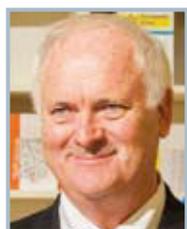
■ Werner Fasslabend

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■ Bruno Aguilera-Barchet

Bruno Aguilera-Barchet is Professor of Comparative Legal History and Director of the Institute for International Law Studies at King Juan Carlos University of Madrid. He holds a Ph.D in Law and was Dean of the Faculty of Legal and Social Sciences of the KJC University. He was a Visiting Fellow at Harvard Law School and he is currently a Visiting Professor in the Law School of the University of Paris XII. He is the author of many articles and books, especially on the rule of law in the European legal tradition. His latest published works include a book on historical Islamic Law and an article on educating democracy.



■ John Bruton

John Bruton was the Irish Prime Minister (Taoiseach) from 1994 to 1997, and he is currently the President of the International Financial Services Centre in Ireland. He served as European Union Ambassador to the United States from 2004 to 2009, and is a former Vice-President of the EPP. Bruton held a number of senior ministries in the Irish government, including Minister for Finance and Minister for Industry, Trade, Commerce and Tourism. He graduated from University College Dublin with a Bachelor of Arts degree in economics and politics in 1968 before studying to become a barrister. He holds Honorary Degrees from Memorial University of Newfoundland, the National University of Ireland and the University of Missouri.



■ Olof Ehrenkrona

Ambassador Olof Ehrenkrona is a Policy Advisor at the Jarl Hjalmarson Foundation. He is a former Senior Advisor for the Swedish Minister for Foreign Affairs, where he dealt with issues related to globalisation. 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.



■ George Galanos

George Galanos is a Lecturer in International Economic Relations in the Economic Department of the Democritus University of Thrace. He holds a Ph.D. in International Economics and Tourism Competitiveness from the University of Piraeus, an MBA focus in Tourism Management and a B.Sc. degree in Economics. During the period 2002-2009 he worked as a researcher, head of the European Programs Department, in the Research Center of 'Evaluation of Development Policies and Programs' of the University of Thessaly.



■ Jos J.A.M. van Gennip

Jos J.A.M. van Gennip is President of the Socires Foundation, Chairman at the Food First Coalition, member of the General Council at Inter Press Service (IPS) and General Rapporteur for the political platform of the EPP. Previously, he was a member of the Upper House of the Dutch Parliament and worked as Deputy Director-General at the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Chairman of the Economic Committee of NATO.



■ Martti Häikiö

Martti Häikiö is a full-time historian and Adjunct Professor at the University of Helsinki, Institute of Political and Social History since 1978. During the past 10 years he has published six books about the various aspects of telecommunications, concentrated on the interplay of innovation, regulation and business, especially during the Third Industrial Revolution. At the moment he is working on the biography of P. E. Svinhufvud, the first Head of State of independent Finland.



■ Mart Laar

Mart Laar is a member of the International Council of the Human Rights Foundation, Honorary Chairman of Pro Patria and Res Publica Union (IRL) and served as Estonian Minister of Defence from April 2011 to May 2012. 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 Prize for Advancing Liberty.



■ Lorenzo Ornaghi

Lorenzo Ornaghi, Professor of Political Science and of History of Political Thought, was Rector of the Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore for 10 years. He founded and directed the Graduate School of Economics and International Relations (ASERI), where he is now the President. From November 2011 through April 2013 he was Italian Minister for Cultural Heritage and Activities. The Pontifical University Giovanni Paolo II in Cracow awarded him with the Laurea honoris causa in Philosophy in 2013.



■ Žiga Turk

Žiga Turk has a Ph.D in technical sciences and is a Professor at the University of Ljubljana, Slovenia. In 2007-2008 he was the Minister for Growth in the Government of Slovenia, in 2008-2010 he was the Secretary General of the Reflection Group on the Future of Europe in Brussels and in 2012-2013 Minister for Education, Science, Culture and Sports in the Government of Slovenia. He is interested in strategic policy-making in the areas of innovation, creativity, R&D, and studies the impact of technology on society.

Research Associates

By building a mutually supportive and cooperative network of researchers, the Martens Centre is continuously improving its capacity to provide a timely response to the demand for expert analysis in different fields. The 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.



■ Filippo L. Calciano

Filippo L. Calciano is the Director of the International Cooperation Department at the Luigi Sturzo Institute, founder and managing partner of Urania Capital Advisors and Professor of Economics at the University of Rome. He holds a Ph.D. and a masters degree in Economics from the Centre for Operations Research and Econometrics (Louvain University) and the University of Pennsylvania.



■ Svante E. Cornell

Svante E. Cornell is Director of the Institute for Security and Development Policy (ISDP). He is Research Director of the Central Asia-Caucasus Institute & Silk Road Studies Programme, the Joint Center operated by ISDP in cooperation with Johns Hopkins University. 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 and an honorary doctoral degree from the Behmenyar Institute of Law and Philosophy of the National Academy of Sciences of Azerbaijan.



■ Hans Geeroms

Hans Geeroms obtained a Ph.D in Economics from KU Leuven after completing his undergraduate and masters studies at the KU Leuven and KU Brussels. He is Professor of European Economic Policy at the College of Europe and KUL (Brussels Campus) and adviser for European Policy at the National Bank of Belgium. Prior to this, he worked for the European Commission on EU enlargement and as adviser on EU affairs for several Belgian prime ministers. His publications are on public finance, EMU economic governance, enlargement of the EU, the EU budget and banking union.



■ Florian Hartleb

Florian Hartleb was until May 2012 a Visiting Fellow at the Martens Centre and is currently a lecturer at the University of Bonn and the University for Politics in Munich. He studied political science, law and psychology and subsequently worked as a consultant in the German parliament (Bundestag), as a Research Associate at Chemnitz University of Technology and as a Professor for political management at a private university in Berlin.



■ Katarína Králiková

Katarína Králiková is a diplomat with the Slovak Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Previously she was a Research Officer and Assistant Editor-in-Chief of the Martens Centre's policy journal, the *European View*. During her work for the Martens Centre she focused mainly on foreign policy issues. Prior to joining the Martens Centre, Katarína worked in the European Parliament in the Directorate-General for Internal Policies.



■ Michalis Peglis

Michalis Peglis is Deputy Director for EU and International Affairs at the office of the Prime Minister of Greece. He is a Ph.D candidate, holds a masters degree on Public Administration and Public Policy from The London School of Economics and Political Science and a bachelors degree with distinction on Political Science and International Relations from Panteion University of Athens.



■ Nikolas Tzifakis

Nikolaos Tzifakis is Assistant Professor of International Relations in the Department of Political Science and International Relations of the University of Peloponnese. His research interests focus on International Relations, EU external policies and Balkan politics. His recent publications include articles in *Cambridge Review of International Affairs*, *Ethnopolitics*, *European Foreign Affairs Review*, *Global Society* and *International Journal*, amongst others.

Staff 2014

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Deputy Director
Head of Research



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Alumni 2014

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Benjamin-Tedla Hecker

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Visiting Fellows

The Martens Centre 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.



Antonis Klapsis

Greek

Antonis Klapsis is a Professor and the Head of International Cooperation and Research Programmes at the Konstantinos Karamanlis Institute for Democracy. His research interests focus on political and diplomatic history, as well as the development of international relations in the twentieth century. Currently, he has also been working on subjects related with the rise of far-right political extremism in Europe.



Salome Samadashvili

Georgian

Former Head of Georgia's Mission to the EU and Parliamentarian, Ambassador Samadashvili has broad expertise in democratisation and political reforms of the countries in the Eurasian region, as well as the geopolitics of the region, the EU integration process and security issues.

Individual Members

Kristóf Altusz

Timothy Beyer Helm

Joseph Daul

Antonio López-Istúriz

Jacob Lund Nielsen

João Marques de Almeida

Baron Charles Ferdinand Nothomb

Nicolás Pascual de la Parte

Kostas Sasmatzoglou

Filippo Terruso

Marianne Thyssen

Antti Timonen

Internships

The Martens Centre offers internships of three to six months for university graduates and young researchers from Europe and world-wide. The internship programme is intended to provide the trainees with the opportunity to deepen their knowledge of European affairs and to have close insights into the daily work of the European institutions in Brussels.

Are you interested in an internship with the Martens Centre? Apply now!
Please visit www.martenscentre.eu/join-team for more information.



In 2014 our interns were:

Angelos Angelou (GR), **Viktor Artemenko** (UA), **Bogdana Depo** (UA),
Simon Forster (DE), **Gerald Gilmore** (FR), **Vlad'ka Vojtišková** (CZ),
Kathryn O'Donovan (IE), **Eoin O'Driscoll** (IE), **Federico Reho** (IT).

Member Foundations



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New Initiatives Centre

New Initiatives Centre

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Research and Publications

- **Research Papers**
- **Policy Briefs and Essays**
- **In Focus**
- **European View**



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



The first research theme, **Party structures and EU institutions**, aims to explain EU policies to voters and covers matters such as the arguments, methods and funding of populist parties.



Economic and social policies is the second theme and focuses on the main issues related to economic growth and welfare. The Martens Centre aims to enhance the 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. The third theme, **EU foreign policy**, covers topics like the Arab revolutions, the European integration of the Western Balkans and Turkey's transformation and its implications for the EU.



The fourth research theme, **environment and energy**, aims to analyse the developments in environmental and energy policies, which have become a challenge for Europe's political and economic role on the world stage. Energy security and fighting climate change have become important research priorities.



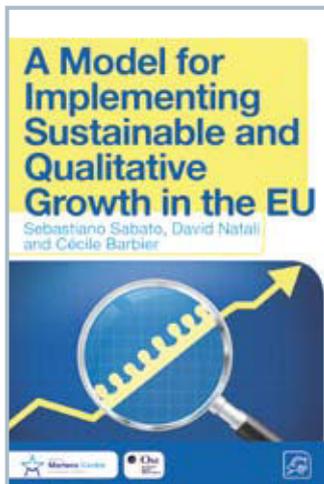
In the context of an increasingly multiethnic society, monitoring cultural, religious and social developments is essential. The fifth research theme, **ethics, values and religion**, considers issues of importance to Europe's identity like religion. It also focuses on challenges to Christian Democracy and the whole centre-right movement.



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

All publications are available at: www.martenscentre.eu/publications

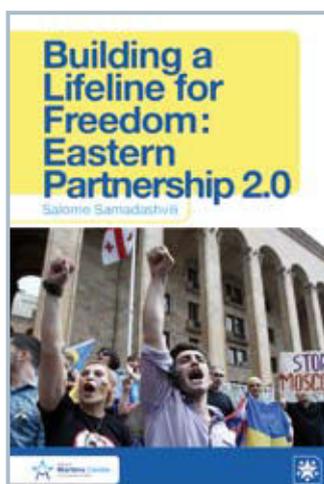
Research Papers



■ A Model for Implementing Sustainable and Qualitative Growth in the EU

By **Sebastiano Sabato, David Natali and Cécile Barbier**

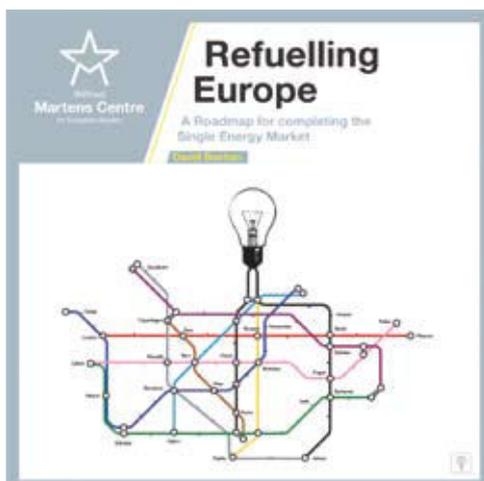
The period since the outbreak of the financial, economic and social crises in Europe has witnessed a renewed focus on the need to develop a more sustainable and qualitative growth model. A model where the traditional focus on economic growth (i.e. GDP growth) is complemented by an adherence to a wider range of qualitative indicators. Indicators which more broadly characterise the well-being of society as a whole. This paper defines a model for Sustainable and Qualitative Growth in the EU and questions if existing EU economic and social governance arrangements are consistent with this wider approach to building a sustainable growth model.



■ Building a Lifeline for Freedom: Eastern Partnership 2.0

By **Salome Samadashvili**

The Eastern Partnership (EaP) Initiative is the bridge which connects Europe to the countries in its eastern neighbourhood. Those countries were left out of the cycle of peaceful development, which the European project brought to the continent following the Second World War. It aspires to transform these countries into more democratic and prosperous societies. Over the last five years, the EaP has achieved more in some partner countries than in others. Structural policy weaknesses and different socio-economic realities of the partner states notwithstanding, the main challenge to the success of the EaP has come from Russia, which chose to view this policy as a zero-sum game for geopolitical dominance in its shared neighbourhood with Europe. This paper argues that in order to achieve the desired transformations, the EaP needs a fresh start, focusing on different players, methods and political technologies. Failure of the EaP to achieve its goal could deprive another generation of Georgians, Moldovans, Ukrainians and others in the EaP countries of an opportunity for a better life.

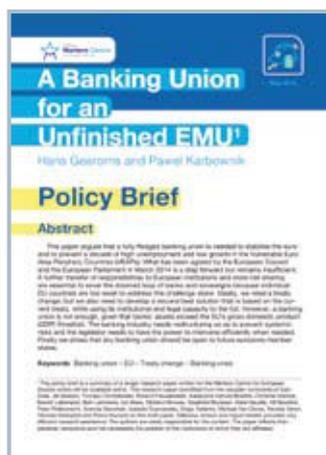


■ Refuelling Europe: A Roadmap for completing the Single Energy Market

By **David Buchan**

This research highlights that integration of the internal energy market should still be the EU's main instrument to reach its three goals of cost competitiveness, security and emission reduction. The goals of energy security, affordability and sustainability have never been higher on the EU's agenda. All three goals would be served if Europe truly unified its energy market. National leaders have it in their hands to complete this slow and difficult integration process, if they can just summon up the necessary political will to do so.

Policy Briefs and Essays



■ A Banking Union for an Unfinished EMU

By Hans Geeroms and Pawel Karbownik

This paper argues that a fully-fledged banking union is needed to stabilise the euro and to prevent a decade of high unemployment and low growth in the Vulnerable Euro Area Periphery Countries. What has been agreed by the European Council and the European Parliament in March 2014 is a step forward but remains insufficient. A further transfer of responsibilities to European institutions and more risk sharing are essential to sever the doomed loop of banks and sovereigns because individual EU countries are too weak to address this challenge alone. Ideally, we need a treaty change, but we also need to develop a second best solution that is based on the current treaty, while using its institutional and legal capacity to the full. However, a banking union is not enough, given that banks' assets exceed the EU's gross domestic product threefold. The banking industry needs restructuring so as to prevent systemic risks and the legislator needs to have the power to intervene efficiently when needed. Finally, we stress that any banking union should be open to future eurozone member states.



■ The Christian Democratic Origins of the EPP

By Barend Tensen, Vít Novotný, Federico Ottavio Reho and Steven Van Hecke

The European People's Party (EPP) examined its values at the Bucharest Congress in October 2012. The result of this reassessment, the Bucharest Party Platform, affirmed the six core values of the EPP: the dignity of human life in every stage of its existence, freedom and responsibility, equality and justice, truth, solidarity and subsidiarity. These values are inspired by the Christian Democratic philosophy. Although today's EPP includes also parties that do not consider themselves Christian Democratic, all member parties of the EPP draw inspiration from these values. After an exploration of the foundation of the EPP, this paper examines the party's core values, tracing their origins to religious writings. The paper outlines how these values translate into the practical policies of the EPP: the party's response to Europe's economic crisis and addressing issues around free movement and access to social benefits in the EU. The paper demonstrates that values underpin the party's policies but also that practical politics leaves room for interpretation.

In Focus

IN FOCUS is a new series of commentaries, in which the Martens Centre looks closely at current policy topics, dissects the available evidence and challenges prevailing opinions.



■ Free Movement IN FOCUS: is One of the EU's Freedoms at Risk?

By Boyan Tanev and Vít Novotný

The success of national populists in European Parliament elections in France, the UK and Denmark poses an increased risk for the EU freedom of movement. This new briefing comments on claims about the so-called welfare tourism in several Western European countries. It argues that there is very little substance to the allegations about the abuse of benefits by migrants from Romania and Bulgaria. It calls for mainstream political parties to confront the populists with facts and stand behind the basic EU principles.



■ The EU's Reform Cycle IN FOCUS: Romania and EU Growth Dynamics

By Eoin Drea

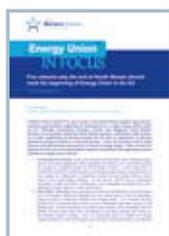
The EU's uneven recovery from the economic turbulence of recent years has highlighted a fundamental shift in Europe's growth dynamics. The briefing argues that as much of 'old Europe' struggles to regain economic growth, several of the 'new Europe' member states of Central and Eastern Europe (such as Romania) seem poised to drive economic activity forward in the coming decade. This shift, allied to the significantly improved medium-term growth prospects of 'programme' countries (Ireland, Greece, Cyprus, Spain and Portugal), illustrates the positioning of more peripheral EU member states as reform leaders who may act as the catalyst for longer-term growth in the EU.



■ EU-Russia Relations IN FOCUS: How the EU should handle the Mistral Case

By Benjamin Barth

For the time being, France is still committed to delivering both Mistrals to Russia, but on the other hand, it is unthinkable that France would help modernise the Russian navy given the aggressive behaviour of Russia in Ukraine and the general future outlook for the whole region—and especially the rather offensive character of the weapon system concerned. This commentary assesses the viable alternative to the sale of the Mistrals to Russia.



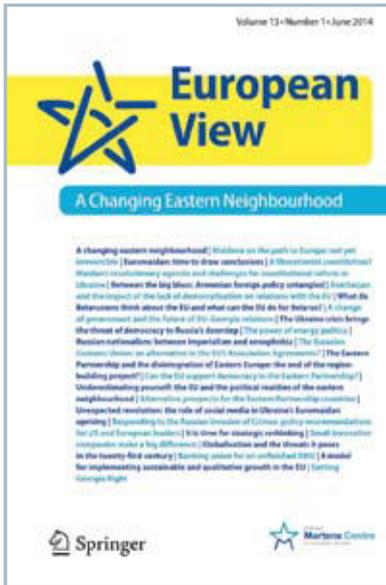
■ Energy Union IN FOCUS: Five Reasons why the End of South Stream should mark the Beginning of Energy Union in the EU

By Eoin Drea

President Putin's decision to cancel work on the South Stream pipeline may have far-reaching consequences regarding the development of a single energy market within the EU. Although Commission President Juncker (and Bulgarian Prime Minister Borissov) have publicly stated that South Stream remains a potentially viable project, its de facto mothballing by Russia provides the EU with an opportunity to develop alternative energy scenarios in south east Europe. These are scenarios which would improve both the diversity and security of the EU's energy supply. This IN FOCUS sets out five key reasons why the end of the South Stream pipeline should mark the beginning of moves towards an energy union in the EU.

European View

The *European View*, the policy journal of the Martens Centre, serves as the intellectual platform for politicians, opinion makers and academics to tackle contemporary themes of European politics, focusing on one specific topic in each issue.



■ A Changing Eastern Neighbourhood

European View (Volume 13, Number 1)

The Spring 2013 issue 'A Changing Eastern Neighbourhood' analyses the developments in each of the Eastern European countries. It addresses the geopolitical issues found in the eastern neighbourhood and examines the EU's policy in this regard. Contributions were made by politicians, policy advisers, and leading academic experts including **Jacek Saryusz-Wolski**, **Salome Samadashvili**, **Stephen B. Nix**, **Monika Panayotova**, **Svante E. Cornell**, **Ingrid Habets**, **Andrew Wilson** and **Hans-Jürgen Zahorka**.



■ Europe's Defining Challenges

European View (Volume 13, Number 2)

The Autumn 2013 issue, entitled 'Europe's Defining Challenges', takes a look at the broad range of challenges that the new European Commission and the European Parliament will have to deal with in the next five years. Thus, the topics range from internal challenges like populism and extremism to external challenges such as rising geopolitical powers like China and Russia. This issue includes articles by **Vladimir Urutchev**, **Artis Pabriks**, **Pedro Agramunt**, **Katarína Králiková**, **Michel Lebrun**, **Lorenzo Vidino**, **Antonis Klapsis** and **Žiga Turk**.

Events

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





Wilfried
Martens Centre
for European Studies



WELCOME

Economic Ideas Forum

On 16 to 17 October 2014, the Martens Centre organised its fifth annual Economic Ideas Forum (EIF), hosted by **Mikuláš Dzurinda**, President of the Martens Centre and former Prime Minister of Slovakia. With more than 200 participants, 300 global viewers via live online streaming and 40 high-level speakers, this year's EIF was a great success.

The Forum, entitled 'Innovation and Reform: Setting the Growth Agenda', aimed to discuss the key issues that will determine Europe's ability to return to sustainable, long-term economic growth. It focused on topical themes dealing with the various aspects of Europe's recovery process. These themes revolved around the centrality of innovation and entrepreneurship in fostering job creation, sustaining economic

growth and maintaining the EU's position in an increasingly competitive global economy. A further theme running throughout the Forum was that Central and Eastern European economies are vital in driving EU economic growth. The staging of the EIF in Bratislava symbolised the progress made by these economies over the past 25 years.





Mikuláš Dzurinda welcomed the assembled participants. **Andrej Kiska**, President of Slovakia, officially opened the Forum, highlighting the positive role that Slovakia can play in finding answers to Europe's economic challenges.



Panel I Blazing the Trail to Jobs and Growth: Innovators and Entrepreneurs

The first panel's speakers included **Martin Bruncko**, Co-Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Nubi, former Senior Director and Head of Europe at the World Economic Forum; **Kumardev Chatterjee**, Founder and President of the European Young Innovators Forum; **Gunnar Hökmark**, MEP; **Markku Markkula**, Member of the EU Committee of the Regions; and **James Waterworth**, Vice President for Europe of Computer and Communications Industry Association. Panel I discussed how an overabundance of regulation and the fear of failure are hindering innovation in Europe. The panel was moderated by **Christian Kremer**, Deputy Secretary General of the EPP.



Panel II Central and Eastern Europe: New EU Economic Tigers



The second panel was moderated by **Eoin Drea**, Research Officer at the Martens Centre. The speakers were **Enikő Győri**, Hungarian Ambassador to Madrid, former Minister of State for EU Affairs of Hungary; **Siegfried Mureşan**, MEP; **Luděk Niedermayer**, MEP; and **Marcin Piatkowski**, Senior Economist at the World Bank office in Warsaw. The panellists discussed the significant economic growth and improved living standards experienced by Central and Eastern Europe in the last twenty-five years and how further economic reforms are needed to strengthen economic outlooks and to make their growth levels sustainable.

Panel III Going Digital: New Business for New Social Horizons

The third panel, moderated by **Erika Widegren**, Executive Director of Atomium Culture, agreed that creating a digital single market is the true growth agenda. The challenge is to harmonise the 28 digital markets, which are governed by different rules, overregulated and competing with one another. The speakers at this panel were **Ján Figel'**, Vice President of the National Council of Slovakia, former European Commissioner

for Education, Training and Culture; **Olof Ehrenkrona**, Senior Advisor for the Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs; **Karim Lesina**, Vice President of AT&T's International External Affairs for the EU, Caribbean, Latin America and Trans-Atlantic Relations; **Ivan Mikloš**, MEP; and **Adina-Ioana Vălean**, Vice President of the European Parliament.



Panel IV Old Allies and New Friends: Transatlantic Partners and Fast-Growing Global Economies

Chaired by **Ambassador Mark Green**, the President of the International Republican Institute, the panel focused on the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership and the challenges that must be overcome before we can see the partnership signed, both in the EU and the US. The panellists included **Reuben Abraham**, CEO and Senior Fellow at the IDFC Institute; **Elmar Brok**, MEP, Chair of the Committee on Foreign Affairs; **Anthony L. Gardner**, US Ambassador to the European Union; and **Harld Peters**, UPS Vice President.



Antonio López-Istúriz White, the Martens Centre Secretary Treasurer and Secretary General of the EPP, closed the first day of the Forum. He asked the participants to think not only about innovative economic ideas but also about how to effectively communicate them to the general public.





In the evening there was a gala dinner, with a keynote speech by **Mikuláš Dzurinda**, who introduced a new Martens Centre project that aims to advocate the reforms necessary for Ukraine by bringing the expertise of senior decision-makers from EU states to the attention of Ukrainian civil society.





The second day began with an opening address by **Joseph Daul**, President of the EPP. According to the President, active efforts are needed to improve European energy markets and to engage the European citizenry in dialogue about the reform agenda.

Panel V European Innovation Union. Winning the Race for Competitiveness

A keynote speech was given by **Steffen Kampeter**, State Secretary of the German Federal Ministry of Finance, who stressed the important emphasis that the EPP places on both free trade and social policy. The panellists **Pedro Mota Soares**, Minister of Solidarity, Employment and Social Security of Portugal and **Frank Held**, Bayer Managing Director for Czech Republic and Slovakia, focused on strategies to achieve growth and boost competitiveness and concluded that the EU's research and development spending must be increased. The panel was moderated by **Tom Nuttall**, Charlemagne columnist at The Economist.



Panel VI Banking on Tomorrow: Financial Innovation in a Post-Crisis EU

The sixth panel agreed that banking union has created the necessary regulations to manage the risks of financial innovation, but that the ultimate outcome depends on the quality of national supervision. The speakers at this panel were **Bernhard Felderer**, President of the Austrian Fiscal Advisory Council; **Brian Hayes**, MEP; **Vladimír Šucha**, Director-General of the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission; and **Nicolas Véron**, Senior Fellow at Bruegel. The panel was moderated by **Gabriele Steinhauser**, European Economy Reporter at the *Wall Street Journal*.



Panel VII East-East Economic Cooperation. Exporting Transformation Models to the EU's Eastern Neighbourhood

In his keynote address, **Valdis Dombrovskis**, Vice President Designate of the European Commission, responsible for the Euro and Social Dialogue, summarised how Latvia, under his leadership, successfully returned to strong economic growth after the financial crisis. The panellists **Mikuláš Dzurinda**, President of the Martens Centre and former Prime Minister of Slovakia; **Salome Samadashvili**, Martens Centre Visiting Fellow and former Head of Georgia's Mission to the EU; **George Logush**, President of Kyiv School of Economics; and **Žiga Turk**, Professor and Researcher, former Minister of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of Slovenia, shared how their countries implemented reforms in the transition from socialism to capitalism. The panel was moderated by **Roland Freudenstein**, Martens Centre Deputy Director and Head of Research.



EIF 2014 Outreach

The EIF generated a large amount of online buzz and generated social media conversations and much engagement. All panels were streamed live on FORA TV, the well-known conference and event video platform, where over 200 people world-wide followed the EIF live online. On Twitter, there was a lively conversation about the EIF's topics. Speakers, attendees and the press made good use of the official hashtag #EIF14, and shared the photos from the Martens Centre Flickr account.

This year, the Martens Centre was proud to introduce the EIF event app. The app provided the programme, speaker biographies, venue information, and other information on the EIF and also functioned as a real-time social network, a networking tool and a platform for feedback through surveys. The results of the surveys were displayed during the panels, so that the speakers on the stage were able to react to the public opinion in the room. The app was used by almost all participants, who together posted 200 comments, 133 photos, 148 reviews and 258 status updates in the app.



Transatlantic Think Tank Conference



On 3 to 4 December, the Martens Centre, together with the International Republican Institute (IRI) and the Hudson Institute, held the fifth Annual Transatlantic Think Tank Conference in Brussels. The event brought together high-level think tankers, experts, policymakers and other stakeholders from both sides of the Atlantic to discuss important themes in transatlantic relations.





The conference was opened by two of the foundations' presidents: **Mikuláš Dzurinda**, President of the Martens Centre and former Prime Minister of Slovakia, and **Kenneth Weinstein**, President of the Hudson Institute. Both emphasised the continued relevance of the transatlantic relationship in facing renewed political challenges 25 years after the collapse of Communism. Speaking on the same theme, Dzurinda also paid tribute to late President Wilfried Martens who, with his political vision and character, shaped the transatlantic bond between the EPP and the Republican Party.



Panel I State of the Unions



In his keynote address **Joseph Daul**, President of the EPP, assessed current political developments in Europe. The following panel discussion, moderated by **Jan Erik Suretchak**, European Regional Director at the IRI, considered the implications of the recent election results on both sides of the Atlantic and their implications for the future political agenda. Distinguished speakers such as **Anthony Teasdale**, Director General at the Research Services of the European Parliament, and **Christopher J. LaCivita**, President of Advancing Strategies LLC, contributed significantly to this panel.



Panel II Russia and the Eastern Neighbourhood: a Threat Analysis

The second panel chaired by **Nico Lange**, Deputy Head of Department Politics and Consulting at the Konrad Adenauer Foundation, discussed Russia's political, military and notably, ideological challenge to the West. Speakers included **Peter B. Doran**, Director of Research at the Center for European Policy Analysis; **Sandra Kalniete**, MEP, Vice President of the EPP Group responsible for the Eastern Neighbourhood; and **Roland Freudenstein**, Martens Centre Deputy Director and Head of Research.



Panel III A European-American Reaction: EU and NATO



Kenneth Weinstein, President of the Hudson Institute, moderated the third panel discussion about the current relationship between the EU and NATO in the context of recent Russian aggression in Ukraine. Speakers included **Jan Techau**, Director of Carnegie Europe; **Artis Pabriks**, MEP and former Latvian Minister of Defense; and **Daniel Kochis**, Research Assistant at the Margaret Thatcher Centre for Freedom at the Heritage Foundation.

Elmar Brok, MEP and Chair of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, delivered a keynote address at that evening's dinner.

Panel IV Debating Freedom: is Liberal Democracy at Risk in Times of Crisis? Is the West tired of Democracy?

The conference's second day began with a discussion about the general state of liberal democracy in today's world, moderated by **Miriam Lexmann**, Director of the IRI EU Office. **Abram N. Shulsky**, Senior Fellow at the Hudson Institute and **Marion Smith**, Executive Director at the Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation, vividly discussed the current status of liberal democracy across the globe and stressed the need to actively defend our democratic values.



Panel V The Middle East: Endless Enemies?



Davis Lewin, Deputy Director and Head of Policy and Research at the Henry Jackson Society, chaired this panel on the Middle East. The panel discussed security risks for the EU and the US by the recent surge of IS and political Islam in the region. Speakers included **Scott Mastic**, Director of the IRI Middle East and North Africa Office; **Christian Berger**, European External Action Service Director of Division North Africa, Middle East, Arabian, Peninsula, Iran and Iraq; and **Max Primorac**, President of the Institute for Stabilisation and Transition.



Panel VI Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership

The majorly important Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) was discussed in the sixth panel, kicked off by remarks from **Matthias Schäfer**, Head of Economic Policy at the Konrad Adenauer Foundation; **James M. Roberts**, Institute for Economic Freedom and Opportunity at the Heritage Foundation; and **Fredrik Erixon**, Director of the European Centre for International Political Economy. The panel debate focused on possible benefits from any agreement reached and the domestic obstacles for both sides in ensuring its completion. The panel was chaired by **Jared Parks**, Director of Advocacy and External Affairs at the US Chamber of Commerce.



Public event: Rising to the Challenge: the West in a more Complex Global Environment

Tomi Huhtanen, Martens Centre Director, welcomed participants and guests to the conference's public event. **Ambassador Mark Green**, President of the IRI, then addressed attendees with a keynote speech. The panel discussion was moderated by **Roland Freudenstein**, Martens Centre Deputy Director and Head of Research, and benefited from the rich expertise of the panellists including **Mikuláš Dzurinda**, President of the Martens Centre and former Prime Minister of Slovakia; **Ambassador João Vale de Almeida**, former Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the US; **Kenneth Weinstein**, President of the Hudson Institute; and **Ambassador Mark Green**, President of the IRI. **Antonio López-Istúriz White**, Martens Centre Secretary Treasurer and Secretary General of the EPP, closed the event with a call for a 'Renaissance of the West'.

During that evening's gala dinner **John C. Fortier**, Director of the Democracy Project at the Bipartisan Policy Center and **Ambassador Mark Green**, President of the IRI, shared some insights on the current state of US politics and explored possibilities for the future of the transatlantic relationship in their addresses.



CES Events on the Side-Line of the EPP 2014 Election Congress

On 6 to 7 March, the Martens Centre organised three breakfast events on the side-line of the EPP 2014 Election Congress in Dublin.

Workshop I The Crisis in Ukraine and a Relaunch of the EU's Eastern Neighbourhood Policy

On 6 March, a workshop was held that focused on five main topics: Ukraine; Russia; a common Western reaction to Russia's aggression; comparisons with the Georgian war and the future of the Eastern Neighbourhood. Speakers on the panel included: **Mikuláš Dzurinda**, President of the Martens Centre and former Prime Minister of Slovakia; **Alexander Stubb**, Minister for European Affairs and Foreign Trade of Finland; **Yusif Bagirzade**, Chairman of National Independence Party of Azerbaijan; **David**

Bakradze, Georgian MP - United National Movement party and leader of the parliamentary minority; **Leonid Gozman**, President of the Union of Right Forces, Russia; **Stephen B. Nix**, Regional Director for Eurasia of the International Republican Institute; and **Salome Samadashvili**, Martens Centre Visiting Fellow and former Head of Georgia's Mission to the EU. The panel was moderated by **Roland Freudenstein**, Martens Centre Deputy Director and Head of Research.





Workshop II Western Balkans in the EU: Prospects and Challenges

Parallel to breakfast workshop I, the Martens Centre organised a second workshop on the future of the Western Balkans, with a special focus on Bosnia and Herzegovina, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Albania. The opening remarks were delivered by **Eduard Kukan**, MEP and **Ivana Maletić**, MEP. The speakers of the panel were **Lulzim Basha**, President of the Democratic Party of Albania; **Werner Fasslabend**, President of the Political Academy of the Austrian People's Party; **Vladimir Gjorchev**, MP in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia; **Mladen Ivanić**, Member of the House of Peoples

of Bosnia and Herzegovina, President of the Party of Democratic Progress; **Nikola Lovrinović**, Vice President of the Croatian Democratic Union of Bosnia and Herzegovina; **Isa Mustafa**, President of the Democratic League of Kosovo; **Jan Erik Surotchak**, Regional Director for Europe of the International Republican Institute; and **Željana Zovko**, International Secretary of the Croatian Democratic Union of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The panel was moderated by **Tomi Huhtanen**, Martens Centre Director.





Transatlantic Roundtable: Beyond the Trade and Investment Partnership: How to get from a Transatlantic Spoiler to a Transatlantic Booster

On 7 March, the Martens Centre organised a transatlantic roundtable discussion on the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership. The discussion focused on four main topics: confidence; public opinion; leadership and trust. Speakers at the roundtable were **Mikuláš Dzurinda**, President of the Martens Centre and former Prime Minister of Slovakia; **John Bruton**, former Taoiseach of Ireland, Academic Council Member of

the Martens Centre; **Ambassador Mark Green**, President of the International Republican Institute; **Kenneth Weinstein**, President of the Hudson Institute; **Karim Antonio Lesina**, Vice President of AT&T for International External Affairs; **Godelieve Quisthoudt-Rowohl**, MEP; and **Alicia Richart**, Spanish Digital Champion and former Executive Advisor in the Cabinet of the Spanish Minister of Industry.





Religion in Public Life

On 7 April, the Martens Centre held a conference on the role that religion and people of faith can have in modern political life. Prominent themes were the historical evolution of the relationship between religion and state, and the importance of Christian ethics. In particular, forgiveness can play a role in today's political debate.





Speakers included **Hippolyte Louis Jean Simon**, Archbishop of Clermont and **Rik Torfs**, Rector at KU Leuven. The discussion was moderated by **Roland Freudenstein**, Martens Centre Deputy Director and Head of Research.



The Presidential Elections in Ukraine: Preliminary Results and Expectations



On 28 May, the Martens Centre hosted a meeting to discuss preliminary results and expectations in the immediate aftermath of the Ukrainian presidential elections. The 25 May elections were a historic moment for Ukraine whose future hung in the balance following Russian aggression.





Speakers included **Olha Ajvazovska**, Head of the Board of the OPORA Civic Network; **Oleksandr Solontay**, Head of the Programme of Applied Politics at the Institute of Political Education; **Svitlana Kononchuk**, Head of the Programme of the Ukrainian Center for Independent Political Research; and **Krzystof Lisek**, MEP. Martens Centre Director **Tomi Huhtanen** gave opening remarks and the panel discussion was moderated by **Salome Samadashvili**, Martens Centre Visiting Fellow and former Head of Georgia's Mission to the EU.

The panel discussed the political implications of this historic election and looked at the possibilities for Ukraine's political future. The panellists spoke of the election of Petro Poroshenko as signalling Ukrainian national unity. During the discussion the need for the strengthening of ties between the Ukraine, the EU and the West in general was stressed.



Assessing the Parliamentary Elections: has Euromaidan Transformed the Ukrainian Political Landscape?

On 5 November, the Martens Centre hosted a meeting to discuss preliminary results and expectations in the immediate aftermath of the Ukrainian parliamentary elections and the enduring impact of Euromaidan.

Speakers included [Svitlana Kononchuk](#), Head of Programme of the Ukrainian Center for Independent Political Research; [Svitlana Zalischuk](#), Ukrainian MP, Petro Poroshenko bloc; [Hanna Hopko](#), Ukrainian MP, Self-Reliance Party; [Alona Shkrum](#), Ukrainian MP, All-Ukrainian Union; and [Andrej Plenković](#), MEP, Head of the European Parliament Observer Mission to Ukraine. The discussion was moderated by [Salome Samadashvili](#), Martens Centre Visiting Fellow and former Head of Georgia's Mission to the EU. [Olena Prystayko](#), Executive Director of the Ukrainian Think Tanks Liaison Office in Brussels offered concluding remarks.





Exchange Programme with Algeria

On 28 January, the Martens Centre welcomed a delegation of parliamentarians and party representatives from Algeria. **Tomi Huhtanen**, Martens Centre Director, welcomed the delegation, while **Ingrid Habets**, Research Officer at the Martens Centre, gave a presentation on the Centre's work and links with the EPP.

The delegation had a good discussion with **Roland Freudenstein**, Martens Centre Deputy Director and Head of Research, following his presentation on the origins and principles of the EPP family.



Prospects for the Periphery under the Banking and Monetary Union 2014-2019



On 9 September the Martens Centre hosted a panel of experts to discuss the potential impact of the Banking and Monetary Union on those periphery members of the EU most affected by economic crisis.

Donal Donovan, Member of the Irish Fiscal Advisory Council and former Deputy Director of the IMF gave the keynote address. Speakers included **Hans Geeroms**, Research Associate at the Martens Centre and Professor at the College of Europe and KU Leuven; **Diego Valiante**, Head of Capital Markets Research and Research Fellow at the Centre for European Policy Studies; **Michael G. Arghyrou**, Reader in Economics at the Cardiff Business School; and **Eckhard Wurzel**, Senior Economist at

the OECD. Opening remarks were given by **Tomi Huhtanen**, Martens Centre Director and the discussion was moderated by **Eoin Drea**, Research Officer at the Martens Centre.

The event coincided with the launch of the Martens Centre publication of *A Banking Union for an Unfinished EMU* and discussed the emerging EU Banking and Monetary Union.



Food for Thought



Wilfried
Martens Centre
for European Studies

In 2014, the Martens Centre organised a series of lunchtime seminars that brought together high-level speakers from the world of politics, academia and business.

Comprising of eight events, the series discussed international political developments.

Registra

Prospects for the Middle East Peace Process: an Outlook for 2014

On 22 January, the Martens Centre organised an event to assess the obstacles to peace between Israelis and Palestinians.

David Pollock, Kaufman Fellow at the Washington Institute for Near East Policy delivered a presentation assessing the current situation in the Middle East and the possibilities for peace. This was followed by a Q&A session moderated by **Roland Freudenstein**, Martens Centre Deputy Director and Head of Research. Opening remarks were given by **Tomi Huhtanen**, Martens Centre Director.



The event was held six months after the opening of new talks between the Israeli state and the Palestinian Authority following a US initiative. This event discussed the progress that had been made towards a peaceful resolution of the Arab-Israeli conflict and the prospects for a sustainable settlement.



The Future of EU-Armenia Relations: What's Next?

On 12 February, the Martens Centre hosted an event discussing the prospects for the future of the EU's relations with Armenia following the re-orientation of Armenian foreign policy away from European integration and towards closer ties with Russia.

Speakers included **Paul Engel**, MEP; **Gunnar Wiegand**, European External Action Service Director for Russia, Eastern Neighbourhood, Central Asia and OSCE; and **Eduardo Lorenzo Ochoa**, Director of European Friends of Armenia. The discussion was moderated by **Ambassador Salome Samadashvili**, Martens Centre Visiting Fellow and former Head of Georgia's Mission to the EU. Martens Centre Director **Tomi Huhtanen** gave the opening remarks.



The paramount importance of security concerns in prompting the Armenian decision to switch policy from the pursuit of European integration to seeking membership of the Eurasian Customs Union was stressed by the event's speakers. The need for the EU to adapt its Eastern Neighbourhood Policies to deal with the advent of the Eurasian Customs Union was discussed in depth. Speakers emphasised the commitment of Armenia to European values.



The Messages from Kiev's Euromaidan for Brussels

On 13 February, the Martens Centre hosted an event looking at what EU decision makers can learn from Euromaidan. The event included a screening of the film 'The Music of Euromaidan' by young Ukrainian activists.

Speakers included [Dmytro Shulga](#), Senior Manager of the European Programme at the International Renaissance Foundation; [Krystof Lisek](#), MEP; and [Jerzy Pomianowski](#), Executive Director of the European Endowment for Democracy. Opening remarks were given by [Tomi Huhtanen](#), Martens Centre Director. The event was moderated by [Ambassador Salome Samadashvili](#), Martens Centre Visiting Fellow and former Head of Georgia's Mission to the EU.

The event built on previous Martens Centre events focusing on Ukraine and offered an insight into the realities on the ground in Maidan. It discussed the evolution in Ukrainian public opinion from the election of President Yanukovich to pro-European protests on the streets of Kiev. It emphasised the centrality of Yanukovich's brutality in perpetuating the protests and looked at the role of civil security organisations.



Turkey: sailing from Bad to Worse?

On 1 April, immediately after the local elections in Turkey, the Martens Centre organised a lunch event with **Alojz Peterle**, MEP; **Ian Lesser**, Executive Director of the German Marshall Fund; and **Serdar Yeşilyurt**, Executive Director of the TUSKON EU Representation. The discussion was moderated by **Roland Freudenstein**, Martens Centre Deputy Director and Head of Research. Opening remarks were given by **Tomi Huhtanen**, Martens Centre Director.

The elections were an important indicator of the overall performance of the ruling Justice and Development Party (AKP) and the main opposition party, the Republican People's Party (CHP). The results showed the dominance of the well-organised AKP and its charismatic leader Recep Tayyip Erdoğan.



From Reform to Growth: the Post-Crisis EU Economy

On 2 April, the Martens Centre hosted an event entitled 'From Reform to Growth: The Post-Crisis EU Economy'. The debate focused on the EU's post-crisis economic challenges, such as the EU's competitiveness in the global economy, how to ensure fiscal consolidation measures are consistent with long-term growth objectives and the role of financial markets in the aftermath of the financial crisis.

The panel consisted of [Eckhard Wurzel](#), Senior Economist at the OECD; [Ivana Maletić](#), MEP; [Andreas Schwab](#), MEP; and [Gunnar Hökmark](#), MEP. The debate was moderated by [Eoin Drea](#), Research Officer for economic policy at the Martens Centre. In his opening remarks, Martens Centre Director [Tomi Huhtanen](#) outlined the main topics of the debate.



Where Next after Crimea? Discussion on Russia's Political and Economic Future



On 27 May, the Martens Centre hosted a meeting assessing Russia's future prospects after the invasion and annexation of Crimea.

Speakers at the event included **Leonid Gozman**, President of the Union of Right Forces; **John Lough**, Associate Fellow at the Russia and Eurasia Program of the Chatham House; and **Ambassador Salome Samadashvili**, Martens Centre Visiting Fellow and former Head of Georgia's Mission to the EU. Opening remarks were given by **Tomi Huhtanen**, Martens Centre Director, and the discussion was moderated by **Roland Freudenstein**, Martens Centre Deputy Director and Head of Research.

In the context of the extremely frosty EU-Russia relations following Russian aggression against Ukraine, this event sought to provide some insight into the likely development of a 'post-Ukraine' Russia. It looked at the possible effects of the invasion on political forces within Russia, particularly democratic movements; analysed the impact of EU sanctions against Russia and discussed the security concerns of those European states in close proximity to an aggressive Russia.



Why Belarus is Different

On 23 June, the Martens Centre and the Office for a Democratic Belarus co-organised a lunch event to discuss the current state of affairs in Belarus. The event showed that the popularity of Lukashenka's regime is increasing due to the country's economic and political stability. The EU should invest in its relationship with citizens and business to convey the EU message on democracy promotion and EU aid.



The panel consisted of [Dzianis Melyantsou](#), Senior Analyst at the Belarusian Institute for Strategic Studies; [Siarhei Bohdan](#), Senior Analyst at *Belarus Digest* and Chief Analyst at the Ostrogorski Centre; and [Jana Kobzová](#), Programme Officer at European Endowment for Democracy. The discussion was moderated by [Ingrid Habets](#), Research Officer at the Martens Centre. Opening remarks were given by [Tomi Huhtanen](#), Martens Centre Director.



The Results of the European Parliament Elections and the EU Agenda for the Next Five Years

On 8 July, the Martens Centre held an event discussing the impact of the 2014 European Parliament elections in setting the EU agenda for the next five years.



The event was chaired by **Mikuláš Dzurinda**, President of the Martens Centre and former Prime Minister of Slovakia and **Klaus Welle**, Secretary General of the European Parliament gave a keynote speech.

The session focused, largely, on the theme of Welle's speech: 'this time it is different'. It focused on the systemic change brought through the Spitzenkandidat system and the democratic legitimation of the incoming **Jean-Claude Juncker** Commission. The session discussed the hope that these systemic changes would result in a more effective Commission and an EU that is better connected with its citizens.



Projects with Member Foundations

In 2014, the Martens Centre continued to expand its network of like-minded organisations which now includes 29 member foundations and 11 official partners from 22 countries. The Martens Centre organised in cooperation with most of its member foundations and partners, a record number of successful events across Europe.





Amaro da Costa Institute (IDL)

The Martens Centre organised two event series in cooperation with IDL:



Around Books

'Around Books' was a series of monthly events held from May to December in Lisbon. The series aimed at promoting and disseminating works of political science and international relations from the IDL library. Each session attracted a small group of selected people.



Lunch Lectures

IDL also held a series of monthly lunch lectures between January and December. At each event a lecture was delivered by a key politician or expert on a topical issue in European or Portuguese affairs. The setting is informal to facilitate open debate. This was the fourth year that the lunch lectures were organised, as the format continues to be successful.



Anton Tunega Foundation (NAT)

The Martens Centre organised two projects in cooperation with NAT:



Roma Inclusion

This project consisted of one conference with the title 'The Conception of Roma Integration', taking place on 22 January in Košice, Slovakia. The conference was co-organised by the Hanns Seidel Foundation (HSS). Among the speakers were **Martin Axmann**, Director of the HSS; **Roman Čonka**, Representative of the Office of the Plenipotentiary of Slovakia Government for Roma Communities; **Jaroslav Kling**, Representative of United Nations Development Programme for Slovakia; and **Vít Novotný**, Senior Research Officer at the Martens Centre.



Slovak Economic Expert Forum

The Slovak Economic Expert Forum consisted of three separate events on three different topics.

The first conference was held from 4 to 5 April and was entitled 'Social and Healthcare Insurance, Demographic Development'. The second conference looked at the topic of 'Small and Medium Enterprises' and took place on 16 and 17 May. The last conference, co-organised with the Konrad Adenauer Foundation, was held on 24 November and aimed to develop a policy to strengthen the economic capital of families in Slovakia. Among the expert speakers were **Ján Figel'**, Vice Chairman of the National Council of Slovakia and Chairman of the Christian Democratic Movement (KDH); **Marek Degro**, Director of NAT; and a variety of politicians, university professors and business owners.



Association 'Citizens for European Development of Bulgaria' (AGERB)

The Martens Centre organised two events in cooperation with AGERB:



Encouraging Youth Employment and Entrepreneurship

The first event was a two-day seminar on the topic of youth employment and youth entrepreneurship. It took place in Veliko Tarnovo, Bulgaria on 4 to 5 April and was attended by 150 young people. The seminar received wide coverage in regional and national media.



Among the speakers were **Tsetska Tsacheva**, Vice Chair of AGERB and former Chair of the National Assembly; **Daniel Panov**, Mayor of Veliko Tarnovo; **Tsvetan Tsvetanov**, Chair of the Parliamentary Group of GERB and Vice Chair of GERB; **Monika Panayotova**, MEP; **Milena Damyanova**, MP and former Vice Minister of Education; and **Totyu Mladenov**, MP and former Minister of Labour and Social Policy. The Martens Centre was represented by **Eoin Drea**, Research Officer.



Migration Challenges for Bulgaria as an External EU Border Country

The second event was an international conference, co-organised with the Hanns Seidel Foundation Bulgarian Office (HSS) that took place in Sofia on 15 December. The conference was introduced by **Yordanka Fandakova**, Chair of AGERB, Deputy Chair of GERB and Mayor of Sofia and **Bogdhan Mirchev**, Representative of HSS Bulgarian Office. There were eight presentations from different speakers, among them **Krasimir Tsipov**, Deputy Minister of the Interior and **Tsvetan Tsvetanov**, Chair of the Parliamentary Group of GERB and Vice Chair of GERB.



Research Institute of the Christian Democratic Appeal Party (CDA-WI)

The Martens Centre organised two projects in cooperation with CDA-WI:



Family Policy, Ageing and Pensions

The first project focused on family policy, ageing and reform of the pension system. An expert meeting took place on 14 January on Dutch pension system reforms, where the speakers were **Pieter Omtzigt**, Dutch MP; **Peter Arensman**, chair of the CDA Business Club; **Willem Stevens**, Vice Chair of the CDA-WI Board; **Raymond Gradus**, Director of the CDA-WI; and **Theo Nijmijn**, Scientific Director of Netspar and Professor at the University of Tilburg. Also, an article was published on reforming the Dutch pension system, which was presented by one of its authors **Raymond Gradus** at a conference in Switzerland on 22 and 23 August. Comprehensive research on the topic was conducted in 2014 and will be published in 2015.



CDA under the Magnifying Glass: What do the Three Letters stand for?

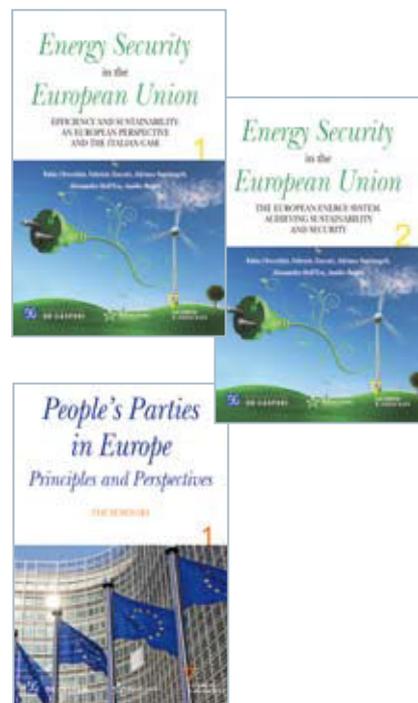
The second project explored the meaning of the three components of the CDA party's name: Christianity in politics, Democracy and Appeal to society. Within this project, the CDA-WI and the Martens Centre organised a symposium on 15 April in the Netherlands. Speakers included **Sybrand van Haersma Buma**, Leader of the Party and CDA Group Leader in the House of Representatives; **Ernst Hirsch Ballin**, former Minister of Justice; **Theo Bovens**, Chairman of the CDA Research Institute; **Jan Schinkelshoek**, former Chair of CDV and **Ruth Peetoom**, CDA Chairwoman.

De Gasperi Foundation (FDG)

The Martens Centre published three books and organised one event in cooperation with FDG:

Energy Security in the European Union

The issue of energy is crucial for the future of the European Union and its people. Italy and Europe are at the forefront of many of the problems that the scientific community and the public are now discussing. This text aims to make a useful contribution to solving some of these problems, offering case studies and reflections of leading researchers and intellectuals. The book was published in two parts. The first part is titled *Efficiency and Sustainability: A European Perspective and the Italian Case*, the second part is titled *The European Energy System. Achieving Sustainability and Security*.



People's Parties in Europe: Principles and Perspectives

Knowledge of European history and culture are prerequisites to fully feeling part of the future of the European Union. It is essential, therefore, to bring European institutions closer to the people and in particular to the younger generations, through spreading the ideals of those who have helped to make European unity possible. With this aim in mind, the FDG, in cooperation with the Martens Centre, organised, in October 2013, a training course to examine the contribution of this European political movement to the process of creating the European Union. *People's Parties in Europe* is a publication issued in 2014 which contains the most relevant and interesting outcomes of the training course, especially those related to the identity, principles and perspectives of the EPP and its member parties.

Lampedusa-Europe: a Common Way

This event took place in Rome on 2 December. Irregular immigration and refugee problems were discussed, along with the solutions that the EU can offer to tackle them, specifically for Italy. Among the speakers at the event were **Lorenzo Malagola**, Secretary General of FDG; **Angelino Alfano**, President of FDG and Italian Minister of Home Affairs; **Mikuláš Dzurinda**, President of the Martens Centre; and **Hassan Abouyoub**, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Morocco to the Italian Republic. A publication was issued afterwards with the minutes of the event.



Dr. Jože Pučnik Institute (IJP)

The Martens Centre organised five projects in cooperation with IJP:



5th Academy of Active Citizenship and Entrepreneurship

The 'Academy of Active Citizenship and Entrepreneurship', held on 10 to 12 October in Piran, was an opportunity for young Slovenian professionals to gather for one week and discuss their ideas and proposals for future entrepreneurship. During the Academy, organised in cooperation with the Network of Ideas, the participants were asked to take part in a challenge and find solutions to problems introduced by the presenting companies.



Business Debates

IJP also held its annual series of business debates, where experienced business professionals were invited to share their expertise and to discuss political issues connected to their work. This year's main speakers were **Borut Pahor**, President of Slovenia; **Jeff Jonas**, IBM Leading Analyst; **Milan Zver**, Vice President of the Slovenian Democratic Party; **Janko Medja**, Chairman of the NLB Bank Board; and **Aleš Hauc**, Chairman of the NKBM Bank Board. The Debates were organised in cooperation with the Network of Ideas.



Lectures of Network of Ideas

On 15 December, IJP in cooperation with the Network of Ideas, organised a lecture by **Viki Grošelj**, an accomplished Slovenian mountaineer, writer and co-director of many documentaries about mountain wildlife and alpine achievements. The main message of his lecture focused on persistence and the strength of human will as a key aspect of everybody's life and activity.



Evening of Ideas

IJP, with the support of the Network of Ideas, organised on 24 June a dinner with the Director of IBM Slovenia, **Julij Božič**, in Ljubljana. It was an opportunity for a selected group of young professionals to confront strategic issues related to new technologies, new business and entrepreneurship.



Think Freely

The 'Think Freely' project consisted of four events that took place in November and December in Ljubljana. The topics of the events were: media and public discourse; ethics in politics, economy and law; present and future challenges of the Slovenian EPP parties; and democracy in light of the 25th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall.



European Academy for Democracy (EAD)

The Martens Centre organised one event in cooperation with EAD:



Christian Values and the European Union: is Secularisation a Threat?

This conference, which took place on 2 October in Prague, discussed religion, Christianity and Islam in relation to centre-right politics. Speakers stressed the need for politicians to foster the Christian foundations of European civilisation; a lively debate on this topic ensued.



Introductions were given by **Jan Bartošek**, Deputy Chairman, Chamber of Deputies; **Jiří Mihola**, Chairman, KDU-ČSL Group in the Chamber of Deputies; and **Vít Novotný**, Senior Research Officer, Martens Centre. The speakers at the event were **Tomáš Zdechovský**, MEP, KDU-ČSL; **P. Marek O. Vácha**, Biologist, Ethicist, Catholic priest; **Ondřej Benešík**, Chairman, Committee on European Affairs, Chamber of Deputies, KDU-ČSL; **Marek Benda**, MEP, ODS [Civic Democratic Party]; and **Vít Novotný**. The debate was moderated by **Jan Málek**, Deputy Director, EAD.



Foundation for a Civic Hungary (PMA)

The Martens Centre organised one project in cooperation with PMA:



Good Governance Index 2013

This research project consisted of a publication and a launch event.

The publication, *The Good Governance Index*, examines the governmental performance of the four Visegrád countries (the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia) in the year 2013. The *Index* compares the countries on the basis of political stability, social relations and economic perspective.

At the launch event on 17 April, speakers included **Csaba Fodor**, Director of Nézőpont Intézet; **Gergely Gulyás**, Director General of PMA; **Zoltán Kmetty**, Head of Political Polling at Nézőpont Intézet; **Vlastimil Havlík**, Assistant Professor at Masaryk University; **Maciej Szymanowski**, former Director of the Polish Institute; **Tamás Pesuth**, Head of Economic Research at Nézőpont Intézet; and **Peter Spáč**, Assistant Professor at Masaryk University.



Hanns Seidel Foundation (HSS)

The Martens Centre organised six projects in cooperation with HSS:



From Reform to Growth: Germany as an Example for Europe?

This event took place on 12 February and was opened by **Tomi Huhtanen**, Martens Centre Director. Among the speakers were **Markus Ferber**, MEP; **Prof Rolf Caesar**, University of Hohenheim; **Martina Dalić**, Croatian MP; and **Piotr Buras**, European Council on Foreign Relations.



Unemployment Challenges

This project consisted of two seminars, one in Athens on 19 February and in Brussels on 12 May. The project was co-organised with the Konstantinos Karamanlis Institute for Democracy (KKID). The seminars were based on a KKID survey on unemployment in Greece.





The Priorities of the Italian Presidency

On 18 June, HSS and the Martens Centre, in cooperation with the De Gasperi Foundation, invited Italian and Brussels-based experts to debate the key points of the Italian EU Presidency's working programme



Montenegro and the Perspectives of the Western Balkans in the EU

This event was held on 20 February, and speakers included [Andrej Plenković](#), MEP; [Ambassador Aleksander Andrija Pejović](#), Secretary of State for European Integration and Chief Negotiator of Montenegro; and [Alexandra Cas Granje](#), DG Enlargement, European Commission. The panel discussion was moderated by [Roland Freudenstein](#), Martens Centre Deputy Director and Head of Research.



Inflation or Deflation? Euro Policy in Light of the Greek Crisis

This conference, co-organised with the KKID, took place on 4 November in Brussels. Speakers included [Prof Pantelis Sklias](#), Head of the Academic Council of KKID; [Markus Ferber](#), MEP; [Kostis Hatzidakis](#), Greek MP; and [Valerie Herzberg](#), Member of Cabinet of EC Vice President Jyrki Katainen.



The European Agenda under the Latvian EU-Presidency

On 2 December, HSS and the Martens Centre invited Italian and Brussels experts to debate the key priorities of the working program of the Latvian EU-Presidency. A keynote speech was given by [Krišjānis Kariņš](#), MEP.



Institute for Modern Slovakia (IPMS)

The Martens Centre organised three projects in cooperation with IPMS:



Commemoration of the 17 November Revolution

This project consisted of a large-scale event and a publication of the photographs of the winners of a photo competition on the topic *Politics, photography and everyday life*. The event was held on 17 November, entitled 'This is it! 25 years since the fall of Communism', and focused on the young generation that did not experience the communist regime. The day started with discussions with former and current politicians, activists and leaders of the November 1989 revolution. There were also photograph exhibitions during the day, and concerts in the evening.



Kosovo Know-How

This project consisted of a four-day seminar in Bratislava entitled the 'Role of the youth wings of the political parties in the process of the transformation of the country'. It was followed by a publication about EU enlargement, structures and membership of EPP, entitled *Road to European People's Party*. The event dealt with the question of how a political youth organisation can have an effect on society both in Slovakia and in Serbia.



Shaping Slovakia: the Future of Slovakia in the European Union. Part II.

As a continuation of last year's 'Shaping Slovakia' project, this year six seminars were organised to discuss the future of Slovakia within the EU and one book was published with the same title. Among this year's seminar speakers were **Eduard Kukan**, MEP and **Lucia Klapáčová**, Chief of the IPMS Board.



Institute for Popular Studies (ISP)

The Martens Centre organised five projects in cooperation with ISP:



Leadership School

On 4 to 5 October, the ISP in cooperation with the Martens Centre and HSS organised the 'Leadership School', a traditional training session targeting promising party members, focusing on different issues around the topic of leadership.



Communication, Democracy and Leadership: keeping Electoral Promises and communicating Political Ideas

On 6 to 10 November, the ISP in cooperation with the Martens Centre and HSS, and in partnership with the Ratiu Democracy Center, organised a seminar to train participants in communicating centre-right political ideas.



Leadership Academy

On 2 to 7 December, the ISP in cooperation with the Martens Centre and HSS hosted a 'Leadership Academy' aimed at young politicians and civil society representatives. The Academy was organised to expand the scope of the previously held 'Leadership School', with a focus on more practical aspects.



The Democracy and Leadership Road Show

Between 10 and 20 December, the ISP in cooperation with the Martens Centre and HSS, organised a series of presentations and training sessions on democracy and leadership. These sessions took place in Bucharest, Cluj/Turda, Constanta and Timisoara.



Public Policy in Formal and Non-Formal Education

On 19 December, the ISP organised a round table event to review public policy issues in all formal and informal educational levels. Among the attendees were [Serban Iosifescu](#), Chairman of the Quality Assurance Agency for Pre-University Education; and [Diana Certan](#), co-founder and CEO of the New Horizon Foundation.

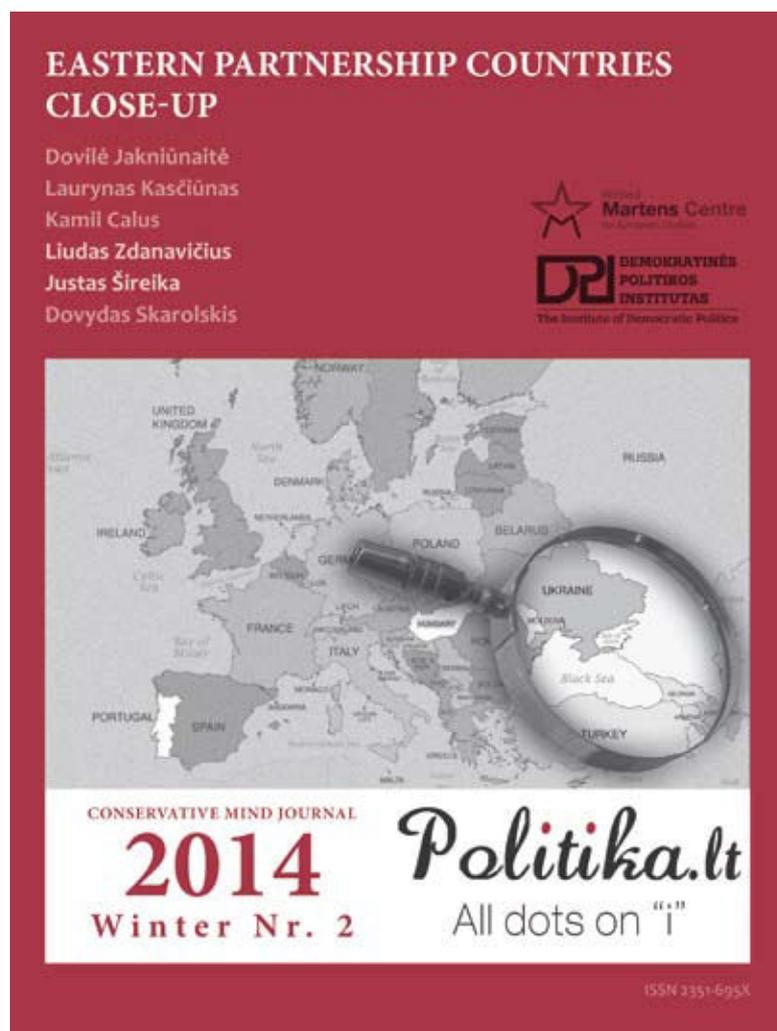
Institute of Democratic Politics (DPI)

The Martens Centre published one book in cooperation with DPI:



Eastern Partnership Countries Close-Up

In *Eastern Partnership Countries Close-up*, a number of expert authors offer their analysis of the countries which form the European Union's Eastern Partnership. The publication deals with topics such as the development of democracy, relations with the EU and Russia, (energy) security and the situation of human rights amongst other topics.



Luigi Sturzo Institute (ILS)

The Martens Centre organised two projects in cooperation with ILS:



The European Semester of the Italian Presidency: the Neighbourhood from the Mediterranean to Eastern Europe

ILS organised a series of conferences about Italy's priorities during the Italian Presidency of the Council of the European Union. The conferences were organised in collaboration with the Konrad Adenauer Foundation (KAS) and with the patronage of the Representation in Italy of the European Commission, and included the following topics: 'Europe and Russia: a Way Forward' (May), a 'Summer School on Democracy and Participation in the European Union' (June), 'Europe and the Regional Cooperation in the Baltic Sea' (September), 'The European Future of the Western Balkans' (November), and 'Europe and the Mediterranean: Cooperation between Challenges and Opportunities' (December). The project also included a series of seminars on the topic of 'Europe and Democracy', from October to December.



Christian Democrat Internationalism: its Action in Europe and Worldwide from Post-World War II until the 1990s. Volume III: The European People's Party, Continental and Social Cooperation

This publication is a final result of a series of international scientific meetings that studied the impact of Christian Democrats on an international level. The publication focuses on internationalism as a key element for the Christian Democrat identity and explores the ideologies that can be found at the roots of the EPP. It also shows the need to use this historical knowledge to reflect on the present and consider the course of action for the future.



Konrad Adenauer Foundation (KAS)

The Martens Centre organised a large number of projects in cooperation with KAS offices around Europe:

KAS Bulgaria:



Church, Society and Politics in Bulgaria – Challenges for a Better Understanding

4 to 5 April, Sofia
9 to 10 May, Velicko Tarnovo
30 to 31 May, Varna
20 November, Sofia



Social Policy for Growth – The Centre-Right Way

Research
17 July, Sofia
21 November, Sofia

KAS Czech Republic / Slovakia:



GLOBSEC 2014 – The Leading Foreign Policy and Security Forum in Central Europe

14 to 16 May, Bratislava

KAS Germany:



Leaflet on the Benefits of the Euro

Publication



Europe – No Thanks?

Publication



We have United for the Better – My European Way

Publication

KAS in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia:



EU Policy Dialogues

4 June, Struga
5 June, Skopje
5 November, Skopje
21 November, Skopje
11 December, Skopje



Bridging Politics and Civil Society

11 to 14 December, Veles



Relations Between Religious Communities and the State

15 to 16 November, Prizren, Kosovo



Strengthening Dialogues in South Eastern Europe through the EU Integration Process

21 to 23 March, Krusevo



Visions and Wishes for Europe: shaping the Future of Europe

13 to 16 February, Skopje
14 to 16 March, Skopje
9 to 11 May, Strumica
16 to 18 May, Skopje
19 to 21 September, Ohrid

KAS Greece:



For Startups (in cooperation with KKID)

4 to 7 December, Athens

KAS Italy:



Backing Small Business

27 Feb to 2 March, Rome

KAS Moldova:



Youth creating Changes for Europe

24 to 28 September, Chisinau

KAS Serbia:



**Montenegro in the Process of the EU
and Euro-Atlantic Integration
(in cooperation with CEDEM)**

26 to 28 February, Kolasin

5 to 7 June, Budva

KAS United Kingdom and Ireland:



**London Events 2014 - Europe's Economy
from 2014-2019: Risks and Opportunities
for the New Term**

8 to 9 April, London



KAS Romania:



Summer School: Europe of the Young

12 to 17 August, Brasov



**School of Philosophy, Economics and Politics:
Freedom and Prosperity in Europe.
Shaping the European Agenda for 2050**

23 to 28 September, Brasov



Konstantinos Karamanlis Institute for Democracy (KKID)

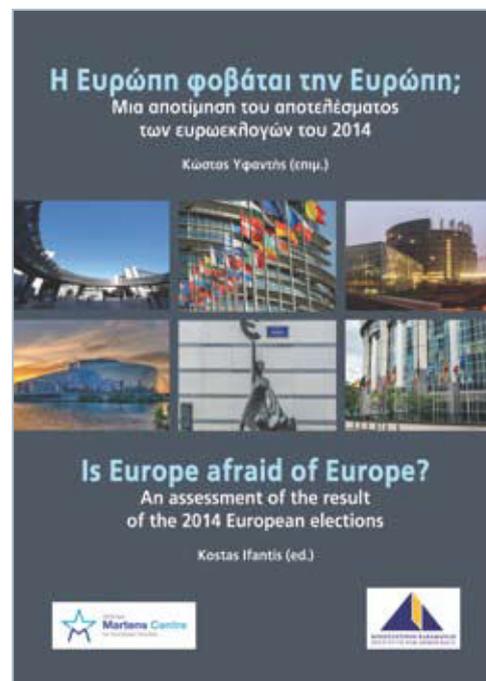
The Martens Centre organised two projects in cooperation with KKID:



Is Europe Different after the Elections?

On 5 June, the Martens Centre and KKID organised an event to discuss the European Parliament elections of 22 to 25 May 2014. The event started with a welcome by **Tomi Huhtanen**, Martens Centre Director and **Konstantinos Tasoulas**, President of KKID. Speakers at the conference were **Yannis G. Valinakis**, Member of the Executive Board of the Martens Centre; Giorgos Koumoutsakos, former MEP; **Konstantinos Ifantis**, Associate Professor at the University of Athens; and **Christos Chomenidis**, novelist. The discussion was moderated by **Manolis Kottakis**, a prominent journalist.

At the end, an analysis of the May 2014 European elections was presented. This publication, called *Is Europe Afraid of Europe?* looks specifically at the rise of Eurosceptic far-right and far-left parties in Europe and the message this sends of fear, anger and insecurity towards the EU.



Unemployment and Social Cohesion

For a first time on a national scale in Greece, the Martens Centre and the KKID commissioned a survey, which was conducted by Metron Analysis on the social impacts of unemployment. The results were presented in two events co-organised by the Martens Centre, the HSS and the KKID in February and May, in Athens and Brussels respectively.

Kós Károly Academy (KKA)

The Martens Centre organised three projects in cooperation with KKA:



Ethnic Hungarians from Transylvania in the European Union 2007-2014

The Hungarian community within Romania has a unique attitude towards the European Union and has special expectations from it. The goal of this paper is to present an overview of the attitudes of Hungarians from Transylvania towards the European Union and the changes in these attitudes since Romania's EU accession in 2007.



Online Communication and Mobilisation Trainings

KKA in cooperation with the Martens Centre organised two seminars in Romania on 20 to 21 September and on 27 to 28 September. The 42 participants had the opportunity to learn online communication techniques and how to create successful online ads and content. They also assessed the do's and don'ts of the EP election campaign and started preparing for the upcoming presidential elections in Romania.



EU Camp

The EU Camp was a thematic summer school focused on European topics, such as local governance in the EU, the role of multilingualism and multiculturalism in the EU institutions, youth in politics, and opportunities for university graduates on the job market. The first EU Camp was organised in Izvoru Mureşului on 8 to 13 July. A second EU Camp, named 'EU Academy' was organised on 19 to 21 September in Băile 1 Mai.



Political Academy of the Austrian People's Party (PoIAk)

The Martens Centre organised seven projects in cooperation with PoIAk:



How Europe works

With the 'How Europe works' project, organised by the Martens Centre and PoIAk in cooperation with the Robert Schuman Institute, participants were offered a complete educational programme on the functioning of the European Union. On 10 to 14 February, participants from EPP affiliated parties in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Albania were invited to follow the course. At the second round on 7 to 10 October, participants from EPP affiliated parties in Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine participated.



Perspectives on Politics, Security and Europe

A conference on 'Perspectives on Politics, Security and Europe' was held on 26 March. The keynote speaker was [Michael Spindelegger](#), Austrian Vice Chancellor and Federal Minister of Finance. The event was also an opportunity to launch a recent publication of PoIAk on foreign policy, security policy and global trends and developments.





EDS Student Forum ‘Our Europe, Our Choice’

On 28 to 30 March, European Democrat Students came together in Vienna to follow workshops on a wide range of EU topics, with a focus on political extremism and education issues. The Forum finished with a training for student activists for their work in student representation.

EUPAS Conference

On 17 to 19 October, the first meeting of the European Pupils Association (EUPAS) took place in Vienna. Founded in 2014, EUPAS gives European pupils a voice in the European Union and improves cooperation and communication between several national pupil organisations.

Day of Europe 2014

On 8 May, the Day of Europe, PolAk and the Martens Centre organised a conference on ‘Challenges for Economy and Security in Europe’, hosted by the Diplomatic Academy of the Vienna School of International Studies.

European Forum: Current Challenges for Europe 2014

On 24 June, a panel discussion on the relationship between Russia and Europe took place at the Diplomatic Academy in Vienna. On 14 November, the yearly European Forum took place, with the general theme of ‘Strategic perspectives for CFSP and CSDP’. [Wolfgang Brandstetter](#), Austrian Federal Minister of Justice, was the key speaker of the event.

Summer Academy for Leading Senior Citizens 2014

On 12 to 14 June, the Martens Centre, PolAk, the European Senior Citizens Union and the EPP organised the annual three-day academy for senior citizens. Representatives of senior citizen organisations from all over Europe, scientists, as well as political and economic experts participated in the discussions. The general theme of the conference was ‘Forming a better European Union’.

Pro Patria Institute

The Martens Centre organised four projects in cooperation with the Pro Patria Institute:

Student Conference Global Security

The Martens Centre, Pro Patria and KAS hosted the 'Global Security Conference' in Tallinn on 8 to 13 July. The conference included visits to the parliament of Estonia and featured presentations and panel discussions by entrepreneurs and public figures about cyber security and the creation of a European digital single market. Among the speakers were **Jaak Aavik-soo**, Minister of Education and Research and **Marko Mihkelson**, Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee.



MEU Tallinn 2014

On 27 July to 1 August, the Martens Centre, Pro Patria, KAS, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Estonia and Hasartmängumaksu Nõukogu organised 'MEU Tallinn 2014', a week-long course to teach young Eastern Europeans how to move its countries towards being a European democracy. The course contained simulations of several EU institutions.

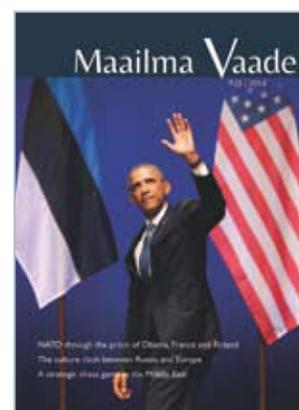
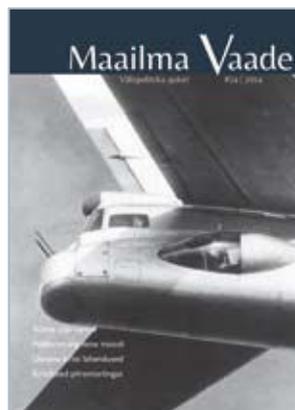


Share your World

The *Share your World* documentary tells the story of Lithuanian people who engaged in resistance activities in the 1970s and the dangers they faced risking their careers and freedom. They tell the story of the repression of dissidents as a result of a determined KGB campaign and the political trials held in the early 1980s. The documentary aims to teach young adults about Estonia's past under the Communist regime.

Maaailma Vaade (World View)

Pro Patria in cooperation with the Martens Centre published two editions of the foreign policy magazine *Maaailma Vaade (World View)*. This year's articles focus on Euro-Atlantic relations, NATO, Russia, Ukraine, Arctic regions, the United Kingdom and the Middle East.



Toivo Think Tank

The Martens Centre organised four projects in cooperation with Toivo Think Tank:



Deregulation in Public Services

Toivo Think Tank and the Martens Centre published *Tales of Red Tape in Finland*. It contains seven articles about deregulation. The book was launched at a public event entitled 'Deregulation in Public Services: the case of Finland' on 19 December. Among the speakers were **Markku Pyykkölä**, Director of Toivo Think Tank and **Martti Häikiö**, Member of the Academic Council of the Martens Centre.



Ideology Club

There were two 'Ideology Clubs' organised: Part I, titled 'Money following the Patient' took place on 9 April and focused on the healthcare system. Part II, titled 'How to succeed in Structural Reforms' took place on 18 June and focused on the practical ways to succeed in reforming outdated and ineffective service structures in society.



London Not calling: Tories and Europe, do they match?

This seminar took place on 2 to 4 November in London, where a selected group of participants met with members of the Conservative Party, Tory representatives and EU experts, to gain insight into the political situation in the UK and the large role that immigration issues play in it.



Web Security: making it Smart and Safe for All

On 14 March in Tallinn, the Toivo Think Tank and the Martens Centre organised, with the support of Pro Patria, a seminar on Internet security and cyber attacks. The keynote speaker was **Urmus Reinsalu**, Minister of Defence and Chairman of Pro Patria and Res Publica Union, who discussed cyber defense in the Estonian security strategy. Internet security has been of particular public interest in the light of Edward Snowden's disclosures in media over the role of the NSA. Estonia hosts the headquarters of the NATO Cybersecurity Centre and is considered a front runner in embracing e-technologies.



Projects with Partners

In 2014, the Martens Centre continued to build strategic relationships with organisations throughout Europe. This year, the European Values, the Institute for Policy and Reforms and the Qvorum Institute were added to the list of Martens Centre Partners.





Centre for European Affairs

The Martens Centre organised one event in partnership with the Centre for European Affairs (CEA):



TATRA Summit

The TATRA Summit took place on 27 January and consisted of a large forum and a number of debates on European policy-making. The theme of the Summit was 'Economic and Monetary Union Governance: Impact on the European Union and Beyond'. The opening statements were given by, amongst others, [Ambassador Ivan Korčok](#), the Permanent Representative of Slovakia to the EU and [Guntram Wolff](#), Director of Bruegel. Other speakers included a large number of prominent politicians, policymakers, experts and journalists from all over Europe.



Central European Policy Institute

The Martens Centre organised one event in partnership with the Central European Policy Institute (CEPI):



Hub of Future European and Transatlantic Leaders

Organised by the Martens Centre in partnership with the CEPI, this closed-format expert debate took place on 11 December in Bratislava. The goal of the debate was to develop participants' ability to identify and solve complex challenges facing societies in Slovakia and Central Europe and to enhance their capacity to shape and strengthen the democratic process through their respective positions. The participants were welcomed by **Milan Nič**, Director of CEPI; **Miroslav Mizera**, Head of Secretariat of Presidency in Council of the EU 2016, Ministry of Defence of Slovakia; and **Miriama Gurínová**, Desk Officer at the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of Slovakia. The panel consisted of **Ambassador Rastislav Káčer**, Honorary President of the Strategy Council and **Ambassador Martin Bútora**, Honorary President of the Institute for Public Affairs. The discussion was chaired by **Róbert Vass**, Executive Vice-President & CEO of the Strategy Council.



European Values

The Martens Centre organised one project in partnership with European Values:



National Seminars

In recent years, Europe has witnessed the rising influence of extremist and populist leaders and political parties that follow them. A lack of sufficient political communication is a major factor in the domination of the public debate by populists and extremists. Genuine measures and political action are needed in order to face and stop this process. To provide the expertise for tackling this challenge, the European Values think-tank and the Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies organised five national seminars, carried out in the five countries of Central Europe, within the framework of the common project 'Defining Responses to the Rise of Extremism in Europe'. A final conference entitled 'Gaining votes back from the populists' was organised in Brno on 30 to 31 October and served as a training for central European politicians.

The speakers involved in the project were experts from think tanks and civil society organisations from the country where the seminar was organised. In the Czech Republic, **Jiří Dienstbier**, Czech Minister for Human Rights and Equal Opportunities; **Markéta Adamová**, Czech MP from TOP09; and **Ondřej Benešík** from KDU-ČSL, were honorary speakers.



Foundation Robert Schuman

The Martens Centre organised one project in partnership with Foundation Robert Schuman (FRS):



Schuman Report on Europe 2014

Is 2014 a turning point for Europe? How is Europe developing? These questions are the focus of the Schuman Report 2014. This is an annual work of reference that offers decision-makers and observers of the European Union original, high-quality analyses and ideas. It is a vital tool for those seeking the most reliable sources for European statistics.

Among this year's contributors are **Jean-Yves Le Drian**, Defence Minister of France; **Vitor Gaspar**, former Finance Minister of Portugal; **Philippe Maystadt**, former head of the Belgian Finance Ministry; **Pascal Lamy**, former Director General of the World Trade Organisation; and **Ingrid Habets**, Research Officer at the Martens Centre.

The Schuman Report was presented at a launch event on 8 April in the European Parliament, by invitation of **Joseph Daul**, President of the EPP.



Institute for Policy and Reforms

The Martens Centre organised one project in partnership with the Institute for Policy and Reforms (IPR):



Gala Dinner on the Occasion of the 10th Anniversary of Slovakia's Accession to the European Union

This event took place on 6 May and was opened by **Mikuláš Dzurinda**, President of the Martens Centre, who reminded the audience of the numerous challenges Slovakia faced in applying for EU membership—and how much Slovakia has benefitted from its membership. The keynote speaker was **Jean-Claude Juncker**, then-candidate for the Presidency of the European Commission, who was introduced by **Ivan Mikloš**, former Minister of Finance of Slovakia. In his keynote speech, **Jean-Claude Juncker** underlined the great success of Dzurinda's government, which managed to implement crucial reforms in a very short timeframe. EU enlargement ensured that peace is now irreversible among the 28 EU member states and this is something that should never be underestimated. Enlargement has strengthened the European Union globally.



Jean-Claude Juncker also underlined the importance of European democracy and his conviction that despite the recent economic challenges, Europe is on the way back to growth. He emphasised that enlargement has been beneficial both for the new and the old member states and that it has led to a situation in Europe where there is no longer a distinction between new and old members. Today's reality is that its components, whether big or small, west or east, north or south, are equal. **Jean-Claude Juncker** concluded his speech by expressing his commitment to a brave and principled Europe.



International Republican Institute

The Martens Centre organised one project in partnership with the International Republican Institute (IRI):



European Leadership Institute Summer School

On 17 to 20 July, the 'European Leadership Institute Summer School' took place in Klaipeda, Lithuania. The opening speeches were given by **Vaidas Augūnas**, President of EDUCATIO; **Konstantinos Kyranakis**, President of YEPP; **Vytautas Keršanskas**, Chairman of Young Christian Democrats of Lithuania; **Kristina Kviliūnaitė**, Director of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation Lithuania; and **Thibault Muzergues**, Europe Program Director of the IRI.

The panels focused the topics 'Halfway between Vilnius and Riga: Sum-Up and Prospective', 'European Union after the European Parliament Elections: Any Changes to Expect?', 'Secure and Prosperous Europe: External Threats and how to Respond to them' and 'Baltics in the eurozone: Milestones and Post-Crisis Roadmap'. There were also training sessions on European leadership, debating and elections.



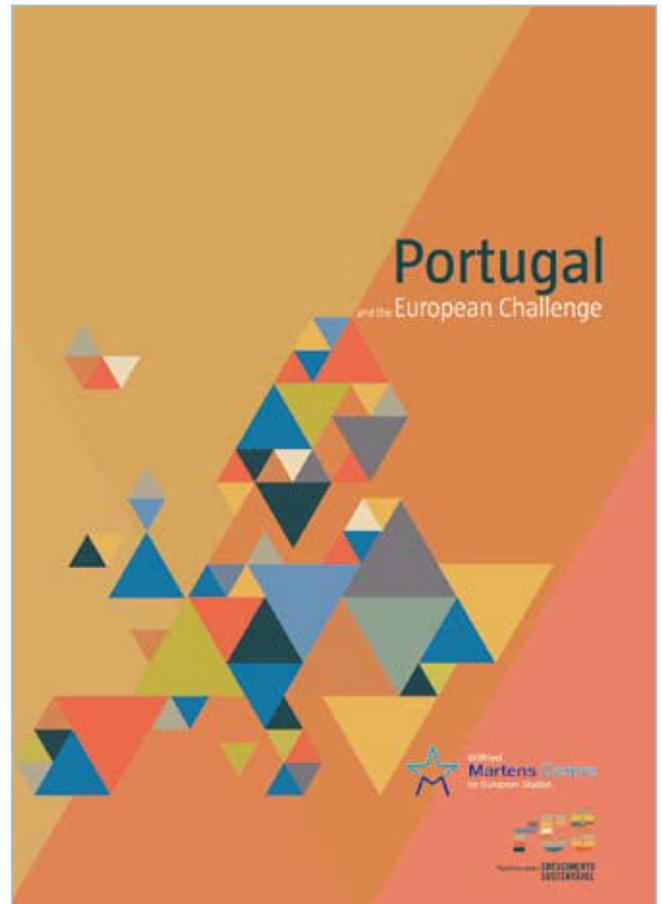
Platform for Sustainable Growth

The Martens Centre published one book in partnership with the Platform for Sustainable Growth (PCS):



Portugal and the European Challenge

This publication focuses on European affairs and the challenges facing Portugal. It aims to answer two questions: 'How should Portugal consolidate the democratic character of European governance?' and 'How should Portugal improve the European framework to support an exit from the crisis, based on sustainable growth?' This work is the first in a series looking to shed light on the challenges identified as being fundamental to unleashing Portugal's growth potential.



Qvorum Institute

The Martens Centre organised one project in partnership with the Qvorum Institute:



Introduction to the EU Institutions and Actors

This project consisted of two study visits to Brussels, one on 22 to 25 September and one on 17 to 20 November. Both visits consisted of working meetings with representatives of the European Parliament, European Commission, Council of the European Union and also with representatives of think-thanks, NGOs and public affairs companies such as the Martens Centre, Votewatch Europe, Hanns Seidel Foundation, AmCham, Think Young, and Digital Europe.

The project aimed to offer updated information about the functioning of the European institutions and the actors that influence the European decision process with a special focus on economic and social issues.



Slovak Atlantic Commission

The Martens Centre organised one project in partnership with the Slovak Atlantic Commission (SAC):



Château Béla: Central European Strategic Forum

Forty prominent experts, thinkers and policy-makers from Europe and the US met in Château Béla, Slovakia, on 5 to 7 December, to outline a strategy on the most pressing political, security and economic challenges facing the transatlantic community, particularly from a Central European perspective. The featured topics were the situation in Ukraine and Russia; the future of the European Union; the transatlantic bond; US foreign policy after the midterm elections; and the current state of the Visegrád defence cooperation.

While participants expressed deep concern about the evolution of the strategic environment, particularly with respect to Russia's policies, the panel discussions and informal talks produced outlines for a forward-looking agenda requiring urgent action on multiple fronts. Drawing on these meetings, the Strategy Council will follow up with a Château Béla Initiative to provide an independent, inclusive and action-oriented platform for institutions and individuals across the transatlantic community to effectively address these challenges through closer cooperation.



ThinkYoung

The Martens Centre organised three projects in partnership with ThinkYoung:



Entrepreneurship Summer School

The Entrepreneurship School aimed at bridging the gap between young people with startup ideas and actually creating a business. It helps aspiring young entrepreneurs unlock their true potential, through workshops with successful entrepreneurs. This year's summer school attracted 120 participants from over 30 countries. Among the speakers were **Luigi Tiziano Peccenini**, founder of the Wall Street Institute and **Corinne Goddijn-Vigreux**, co-founder of TomTom.



European Elections: Votes and Expectations of New Generations

Research was conducted to analyse the participation of European youth in the 2014 European elections, with a specific focus on preferred forms of civic engagement, the demonstrable rise in support of populist parties, turnout rates and the impact that renewed efforts to combat voter apathy have had on the democratic deficit in Europe. The final report—as well as the videos produced within the framework of the project—relates the findings of its own research: a large-scale survey on levels of trust held by young people in government institutions, aims to demonstrate how levels of trust and engagement are affected by gender, age and educational level.



Skills Mismatch

The 'skills mismatch' is the gap between individuals' skills and the demands of the labour market. Whereas most recent research on skills mismatch focuses on the impact of aging and migration, its effects on youth remain largely unexplored. This project analysed how young people between the age of 18 to 35 are affected by the skills mismatch. It aimed to find ways to reduce the existing gap, with a specific focus on the STEM sector. The research, conducted throughout 2014, resulted in a report and a video presenting the outcomes of the survey and giving a portrait of the situation in Brussels.

Outreach

The Martens Centre communicates its publications and events through online and offline outreach activities. In 2015, the Martens Centre developed its new corporate identity, was very active on social media, livestreamed its events and developed an EIF event app.







Wilfried
Martens Centre
for European Studies

New Corporate Identity

With the renaming of the organisation in 2014, the Martens Centre transitioned to a new corporate identity, reflecting and communicating its new name and its maturity. As part of this process, the Martens Centre has a new logo, and all of the Centre's publications have new, improved layouts.



Website & Social Media

The Martens Centre focused in 2014 on developing its online blog. Both the quantity and quality of the blogs have significantly improved. This has also led to a marked increase in the number of visitors to our website. On Facebook and Twitter, the Martens Centre invested in visualising its posts, with beautiful designs to promote its publications, events and blogs. Both on Facebook and Twitter, the number of followers increased, the number even doubled on Twitter.

Livestreaming

In 2014, the Martens Centre started to explore how we can most effectively livestream our events. Most of the events are relevant not just for the Brussels audience but also for target audiences throughout Europe. Through a partnership with FORA TV, the Economic Ideas Forum was viewed by over 200 people per day via livestream.

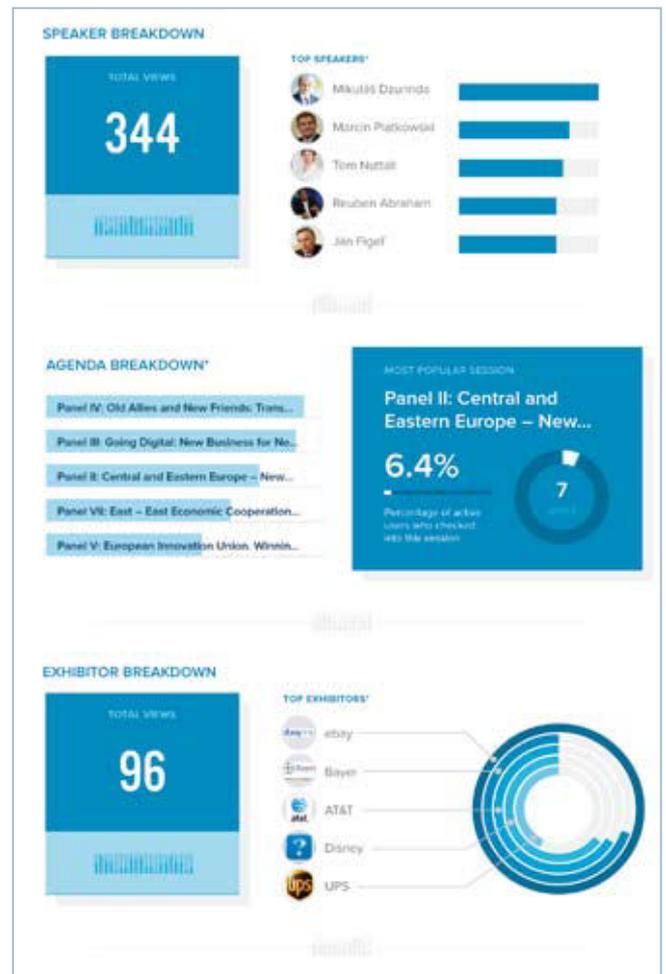
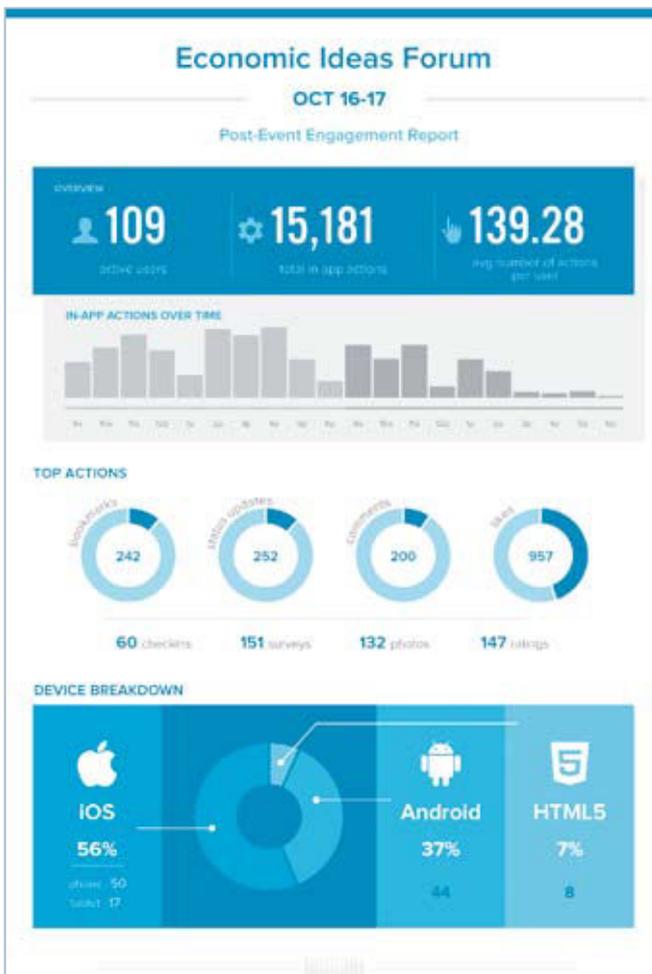




EIF event app

This year, the Martens Centre was proud to introduce an event app at the Economic Ideas Forum in Bratislava. Attendees were able to use the app for:

- Information: the EIF programme, speakers' bios, sponsors, venue information and information on Bratislava
- Real-time social networking: to upload photos, comments and status updates and like or react to other attendees' uploads
- Networking: send direct messages to speakers or attendees
- Surveys: respond to surveys on specific panel topics and see the results displayed on the big screen



In the Press

In 2014, more Martens Centre experts than ever before were invited to be interviewed, to comment on current events and to speak at high-level conferences. This has resulted in a greater press impact for the Martens Centre.

