



Göteborg University

School of Economics and Commercial Law



Invitation and Call for Papers to the conference

“Whither Europe? Borders, boundaries, frontiers in a changing world”

Göteborg University 16-17 January 2003

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Since the end of the Cold War the situation in Europe may be described as a state of flux characterised by contradictory processes. The process of political and economic integration is partially followed by social and political disintegration. Old political borders are losing their traditional importance, which opens up for the creation of new communities as well as the disruption within old. The enlargement of the European Union will cross old frontiers, but also result in a new internal European borderline between insiders and outsiders. To what extent this new line of demarcation will be excluding to its character remains to be seen.

As a normative civil system, Europe pretends to move its frontiers towards east and south, a process that takes place in a framework of globalisation. As a peace project, the European Union has put an end to interstate wars between the Member States. However, intrastate conflicts and social and political violence has not disappeared in Europe, and could also within Member States even be on the increase.

A conference with the above-mentioned theme will address the contemporary and future Europe in discussions regarding the implications of new regional identities due to the changes raised in this brief introduction.

The conference will be held at the School of Economics and Commercial Law at Göteborg University 16-17 January 2003. The first day of the conference will offer plenary talks and panel discussions, while the second day will be dominated by a variety of workshops.

The conference is organised by:

Jean Monnet European Centre of Excellence at Göteborg University
Centre for European Research at Göteborg University (CERGU)

The organising Committee is:

Professor Per Cramér, Jean Monnet Chairholder, Department of Law,
Professor Rutger Lindahl, Jean Monnet Chairholder, Department of Political Science
Professor Ulla Björnberg, Department of Sociology
Professor Björn Hettne, Department of Peace and Development Research
Associate Professor Per Månson, Department of Sociology
Associate Professor Mats Andrén, Department of History of Ideas and Theory of Science

CALL FOR PAPERS

We welcome paper proposal in anthropology, business, economics, government, law, modern history, politics, sociology, and other fields that investigate relevant aspects. So far three workshops are proposed:

“Human rights”

This workshop will address issues on human rights connected to 1. Minorities and citizenship rights. New kinds of borders is likely to sharpen and complicate minority tensions. 2. Refugees and migrants. How are living conditions and asylum status granted to different kinds of migrants and refugees? 3. Family ties across borders – problems regarding marriage, care of dependant relatives (old parents and children) 4. Trafficking and prostitution, women and children - questions concerning human rights in the treatment of the persons concerned within the country to which they have been brought and also in the country to which they are sent when discovered. We welcome papers dealing with the mentioned and other aspects of human rights.

“Migration, citizenship and identity”

The second workshop deals with the wide range of topics that has to do with migration, citizenship and identity in relation to changing frontiers and new borders in post communist Europe. In Eastern Europe the independence has brought statelessness for parts of the populations. In Western Europe the migration of the last decades has in a number of ways questioned the established cultural boundaries and thus has become a key factor for recent discussions political as well as within the social and human sciences on citizenship and identity. The coming membership in the Union for Central European states presents new aspects on the theme. The workshop welcomes papers on historical and up to date aspects of the theme.

“The development of a new European Security architecture”

Since the early 1990's we find a diffuse European political landscape in which there exist neither a classical balance of power structure nor a functioning effective all-European peace order based on mutual trust. Furthermore, the agenda of Security Policy has been given a somewhat new character where the risks for interstate conflicts to a large extent has been substituted for less concrete threats such as imploding state structures, ethnically motivated strives within states, terrorism, environmental catastrophes etc.

The structures for Security Policy co-operation that were established during the Cold War have successively been reformed and developed with the objective to answer up to these new threat perceptions as well as to further a process whereby the idea of balance of power in Europe is transcended.

The objective of the workshop is to address questions relating to the construction of a new European security architecture beyond the classical logic of balance of power.

The deadline for papers is Friday, November 1, 2002. Send or email the paper to:

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