

# ECSA WORLD-NEWS

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## **Editorial**

*Dear Presidents,  
Dear colleagues,  
Dear friends,*

*Once more, the European Union has to face a major challenge: the immigrations tragedy in the Mediterranean has brought also some claims that some member States have not shown the needed solidarity. In fact, the problem has dimensions that are able to present -once more- the European Union as a body that is unable to solve problems, to manage in practice the principles that it defense theoretically.*

*In the last decades the European Union has been at the core of several complex crises: from the re-definition of its role in the multipolar world, to the challenge by international terrorism or the economic-financial crisis and now the humanitarian crisis linked to the illegal immigration from Africa, among others, the European institutions have been challenged by difficult problems and the population had not always the sensation that a clear and decisive answer was given in the right moment.*

*Do you remember the pirates in Somalia? There was a time in which crossing this part of the sea was extremely dangerous. And it is a very relevant sea "highway". We almost have forgotten this problem. A project of the European Union has established security for the ships and, at the same time, relevant development projects in Somalia, so that also the roots for the problem have been affected positively.*

*Success stories are possible not only in the Erasmus or Jean Monnet programs. And in the European Studies we have, of course, to look to the problems and failures, but also to the way in which some difficulties could be overcome. In ECSA we always have maintained the idea that we are not part of a communication strategy of the European institutions; the academic freedom shows the way for us: the scientific analysis and the criticism - both negative and positive. But also telling the success stories.*

*There is -also nowadays-  
need for the European Studies.*

*Best regards,  
Enrique Banús  
President of ECSA World*



# ECSAs OFFICIAL LAUNCHES

## SOUTH AFRICA

**ESA-SSA (European Studies Association of Sub-Saharan Africa - ECSA South Africa) will be formally launched at the beginning of June 2015 within the framework of the Governance Innovation Week, with more than 50 scholars attending. It will be held at the Graduate and Conference Centre of Pretoria University.**

The programme includes three keynotes and six workshops.

The keynotes are:

-“Poverty with Added Vitamins? Competing Ways to Govern the World Food System” by Raj Patel, New York Times bestselling author of “Stuffed and Starved: The Hidden Battle for the World Food System”.

- “Why Greater Equality Makes Societies Stronger” by Richard Wilkinson and Kate Pickett, bestselling authors of “The Spirit Level: Why Equality Is Better for Everyone”.

- “Within or Beyond Capitalism? Four Scenarios for the Emerging Collaborative Economy” by Michel Bauwens, Founder of the Peer-To-Peer Foundation and author of Network Society and Future Scenarios for a Collaborative Economy.

The workshops will take place around these issues: “The external dimension of the European Union’s environmental policy”, “Beyond GDP: alternative economic paradigms for the 21st century”, “Inclusive development”, “Regions without borders”, “New trends in regionalism studies” and “Inter-regional dynamics: reframing Europe-Africa relations”.

President of ESA-SSA Lorenzo Fioramonti (University of Pretoria) will make the opening remarks of the sessions “Why we need an alternative economic paradigm” and “Mobility with purpose: accommodating informal cross-border movers and grassroots non-state actors in regionalism”.

*Information provided by ESA-SSA president Lorenzo Fioramonti*



## ECSA-ACC

**The Central American and Caribbean Association of European Studies and Integration, based in Costa Rica, announces its official inauguration on the 11th and 12th of June 2015.**

As we informed in previous issues, the event will take place at the Universidad Estatal a Distancia in San José (Costa Rica). It is going to be attended by regional integration personalities, Latin and Central America ambassadors of the European Union and Costa Rica rectors from state universities. ECSA World is invited to this event.



ECSA-ACC (Central American and Caribbean Association of European Studies) was founded in September 2013 at General Assembly. The founding members are: Luis Arnoldo Rubio Ríos (PhD in Sociology), Eduardo Castillo Arguedas (Master in Management Sciences), Dunnia Marin Corrales (Master in International Trade and Regional Integration), Alonso Rodriguez Chavez (MA in European Studies and Integration), Karen Padilla Romero (Master in Business Administration), Katherine Ledezma Bravo (Master in Business Administration), Li Federico Bonilla (MD Management Sciences), Desiderio Mora Bustos (MD International Trade), Jorge Vargas Umaña (MA in European Studies and Integration), Borges Dalia Marin (PhD in government and public policy). Prof. Arnoldo Rubio is the president of the association.

The main purpose of this ECSA is the promotion and development of the European studies and integration in Central America and the Caribbean. The Association will also make research related to this topic and activities to seek solutions to economic, social, commercial, political, cultural, legal and environmental problems, all related to European Integration Studies and the Central American-Caribbean area. It is expected that experts from other countries in the region will very soon join this ECSA.

# NEW ECSA PRESIDENT IN...

## SWITZERLAND:

In December 2014 the presidency of ECSA Suisse moved from Francesco Maiano to Frank Schimmelfennig.



President Frank Schimmelfennig (1963, Bad Marienberg, Germany) is Professor of European Politics and member of the Center for Comparative and International Studies at ETH Zurich, Switzerland. His main research interest is the theory of European integration and, more specifically, EU enlargement,

differentiated integration, democracy promotion, and democratization. His book *The EU, NATO and the Integration of Europe. Rules and Rhetoric* (Cambridge University Press 2003) received the Best Book Award of the European Union Studies Association. His most recent book is *Differentiated Integration. Explaining Variety in the European Union* (with Dirk Leuffen and Berthold Rittberger, Palgrave 2013).

On the other side, the vice-president of ECSA Switzerland is Prof. Samantha Besson (University of Fribourg) and the secretary is Susanne Böhm (ETH Zürich).

*Information provided by new President of ECSA Switzerland Frank Schimmelfennig*

## UNITED STATES:

After two years in front of ECSA United States (EUSA), Michelle Egan, from American University, (Washington, DC) handed over the post to Alasdair Young.

Alasdair Young is Associate Professor and Jean Monnet Chair in The Sam Nunn School of International Affairs at the Georgia Institute of Technology, and is co-director of the Center for European and Transatlantic Studies (CETS). Before joining Georgia Tech he taught at the University of Glasgow for 10 years and held research posts at the European University Institute and the University of Sussex. His research focuses on the interaction between trade and regulatory policies and politics, particularly with respect to protecting public health and the environment. His current research has three focal points: European Union trade policy and politics; EU compliance with international trade law; and the EU's ability to influence global regulatory standards.

Young has written several books, including *Parochial Global Europe: 21st Century Trade Politics* with John Peterson (Edinburgh), which was published by Oxford University Press this year. He has edited seven others, including the forthcoming seventh edition of *Policy-Making in the European Union* with Mark Pollack (Temple) and Helen Wallace (British Academy), also with Oxford University Press. He has published more than a dozen articles -- including in *Global Environmental Politics*, the *Journal of Common*

*Market Studies*, the *Journal of European Public Policy*, the *Review of International Political Economy*, and *World Politics* -- and written more than 30 book chapters. He was editor of the *British Political Studies Association* journal *POLITICS* (2006-11) and the *JCMS Annual Review of the European Union* (2006-8). He has performed consultancy work for the British government (Department for International Development, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, and Her Majesty's Treasury) and the European Commission (Directorates General for External Relations, Internal Market, and Trade).



The ECSA United States executive group is now formed by: Michelle Chang, John Occhipinti, Frederic Merand, Nanette Neuwahl, Abe Newman and Waltraud Schelkle.

*With information from Georgia Institute of Technology website and other sources*

# UNITED KINGDOM WORKSHOP ON 'FLEXICURITY'

**The event financed by UACES (ECSA United Kingdom) entitled "Flexicurity: Future directions in the age of austerity" will take place on the 28<sup>th</sup> of May 2015 in Sheffield, United Kingdom.**

Working on the principle that for the last decade the European Commission has urged EU member states to pursue 'flexicurity' policies aimed at achieving employment growth and social inclusion, this workshop will address and consider whether this approach to social policy remain viable and desirable.

The event, organised by Thomas Hastings and Jason Heyes of WOERRC, a Research Centre at Sheffield University, is funded by ECSA United Kingdom and is intended for scholars and post-graduate students with an interest in a range of themes including: flexicurity, labour market regulation, political economy and the European social model.

*Information taken from UACES website.*

## EUROPEAN UNION STUDIES ASSOCIATION ASIA PACIFIC ANNUAL CONFERENCE

**The 2015 EUSA AP conference presents a double theme, highlighting the EU's manifold roles and concepts it endeavors to endorse. It will take place in Seoul, Korea on the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> of June 2015.**

As indicated by the double theme, the conference – held on the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> of June- will be multi-disciplinary in focus and applications from a wide range of fields are encouraged to develop a deeper understanding of the complexities of the relationships.

The workshop is sponsored by the EUSA AP, a Jean Monnet grant from the Education and Culture Directorate General of the European Commission, Korea University, KU-KIEP-SBS EU Centre, EUSA NZ, the Jean Monnet Centre for Excellence at the University of Canterbury and the National Centre for Research on Europe at the University of Canterbury.

In conjunction with the EUSA AP Annual Conference there would be a Postgraduate Student

workshop on Thursday, 11 June 2015. Participation is open to MA and PhD students researching the EU, as well as advanced Honours students.

The annual Conference takes place any year at a different place, organized by the national ECSA. Last year, Melbourne hosted the event.

*Information extracted from European Union Studies Association Asia Pacific website.*

