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CESAA NEWS

CESAA Essay Competition 2020

The CESAA Essay Competition was again a success in 2019, with, Abigail Leblanc, an undergraduate student from the University of Melbourne winning with her essay on the Franco-German relationship as the foundation stone of the EU. The paper was published in the most recent issue of the Australian New Zealand Journal of European Studies (ANZJES) and we thank Abigail for her submission and contribution to European studies in Australia.

We look forward to running the competition again this year and will provide updates in due course.

CESAA Website

CESAA Committee would strongly suggest all scholars and those interested in EU - Australian affairs to stay 'tuned' to the [CESAA](http://www.cesaa.org.au) website. This website contains up to date CESAA activities and it is also the site where you can find the Australian and New Zealand Journal of European Studies (ANZJES) publication.

CESAA Twitter account

CESAA is on twitter and it is a great source for up to date information on current and relevant seminar events, news stories and links. Follow us here

[CESAA Twitter](https://twitter.com/cesaa)

AUSTRALIA—EU NEWS

Aus-EU FTA

Negotiating Round Five was held in Canberra on October 14-18 with DFAT leading the Australian delegation. The talks have been described as positive and constructive, following the publication of product names the EU wants to protect as geographical indicators (GIs). A sixth round of negotiations is scheduled in early 2020. A full report can be found at the following link [5th round report](#). The 6th round of negotiations will take place in February 2020

EU NEWS

Brexit and the UK.

The election win with a majority for Prime Minister Boris Johnson has seen some clear direction for Brexit and the UK. The question is no longer if the UK will leave but when, this date now January 31 2020. The exit deal was ratified by European Parliament MEPs by 621 votes to 49. The final agreement was signed by Ursula von der Leyen, Charles Michel, the European Commission and Council presidents before being sent to the UK. Mr Johnson described the moment as "fantastic". The departure will be followed by a transition period where both sides will continue to negotiate their future economic relationship. The debate is expected to be tough with subsidies, taxes, state aid, workers rights and fishing to be key contention areas. The scheduled end of transition is 31 December 2020, during this time the UK will follow EU rules.

In preparation for the departure, the Bank of England has chosen to leave interest rates at 0.75% despite cutting GDP forecasts.

Scotland

Head of the Scottish Government, Nicola Sturgeon formally requested a transfer of power for the organisation of a new referendum. The request was denied by Prime Minister Johnson who wrote of now being the time to 'bring the whole of the United Kingdom together' as an independence referendum would 'continue the political stagnation that Scotland has seen for the last decade'.

Slovenia

Prime Minister Marjan Sarec announced his retirement leading to the end of his minority coalition government. The president Borut Pahor is scheduled to begin discussions with the remaining parties to see if a new coalition can be formed. If the process cannot be completed within 30 days, the country will have fresh elections.

Ireland

Current Irish Prime Minister, Leo Varadkar announced the dissolution of Parliament on 14 January with a snap election to be held 8 February.

ECB and Inflation rate

The December 2019 inflation rate is 1.3% and ECB interest rates remaining unchanged.

2020 Portugal Budget

The draft Portuguese budget submitted to the EU has been rejected. Upon review the budget was considered a risk of non-compliance to the Sustainability and Growth Pact.

PUBLICATIONS

Journals

Australian and New Zealand Journal of European Studies

Volume 11 (2) is now available.

[ANZJES Vol 11, No 2](#)

EVENTS

Call for Papers

ANZJES - Call for Papers

We encourage the submission of papers from research presented at the CESAA conference 'Europe in a Year In Transition: Challenges and Opportunities' for publication in the ANZJES journal. Submission for consideration in the journal can be found [here](#)

17 th Borders and Crossings Travel Writing conference Theme - 'Travelling differently'

The 2020 event is now calling for papers.

Contemporary Australia, and its founding settlement of Sydney, epitomise borders and crossings. It is founded on different types of travel: forced and chosen, tourism and exile, appropriation and return, movement of ideas and cultures, movement of species and their shifting environments. We thus invite conference participants to reflect on the theme of 'travelling differently'.

Deadline for submission of abstracts: 1 March 2020

All enquiries can be sent to Conference Convenor Bronwyn Winter - bronwyn.winter@sydney.edu.au

The Future of EU Enlargement and Partnership Policies: EU Actorness in South-Eastern Europe and the Eastern Neighbourhood

A call for papers has been issued in the lead up to the conference to be held in **Athens, Greece, 25-26 May 2020**

Please submit abstracts of about 250 words with your name, title and affiliation to the conference administrative coordinator, Ms. Eleni Georgoulia (elenigeorgoulia@uop.gr), by 10 February 2020. The organisers expect to inform participants of the acceptance of their papers by 1 March 2020.

The conference organisers expect to publish one or more edited volumes (a book or a special journal issue) from the selected papers presented at the conference.

Participants will be invited after the conference to submit an extended and enhanced version of their papers for possible publication.

For any further information please contact the conference administrative coordinator, Ms. Eleni Georgoulia, or one of the programme coordinators listed below.

Conferences

National

14 - 17 April 2020

Eurovision Down Under: The World's Longest-Running Song Contest Embracing Diversity

University of Sydney

The Eurovision Song Contest has had a growing following in Australia since national multicultural broadcaster SBS began broadcasting the contest in 1983. Its 65th anniversary in 2020 is testament to its success, both as light entertainment and as an expression of European cultures, societies and politics. The formal Australian participation, which celebrates its own milestone in 2020—its fifth year of participation—has opened a new chapter in this story.

It is thus timely to celebrate Eurovision at 65 and Eurovision Down Under through the first international academic conference on the ESC to be held in Australia, at one of its leading research universities. The theme of Eurovision Down Under 2020 is 'The World's Longest-Running Song Contest: Embracing Diversity'.

At the conference we will present the edited collection Eurovision & Australia: Interdisciplinary Perspectives from Down Under, which includes chapters by the convenors of this conference, Bronwyn Winter and Nina Markovic Khaze.

Confirmed speakers at the event include Ivan Raykoff, Jessica Carneil and Chris Hay.

The conference is currently calling for papers.

20 - 23 July 2020

17 th Borders and Crossings Travel Writing conference
Conference theme - 'Travelling differently'

University of Sydney

The Borders and Crossings conference will come to Australia for the second time, and will have as its core theme the idea of differences and diversity in means and experiences of travel.

The conference is currently calling for papers.

International

5-26 May 2020

The Future of EU Enlargement and Partnership Policies: EU Actorness in South-Eastern Europe and the Eastern Neighbourhood

Athens, Greece

The conference seeks to reconsider two EU policies - enlargement and eastern partnership through theory and policy perspectives. Papers from a broad range of disciplines are welcome, including but not limited to: political science, history, economics, sociology and cultural studies.

Keynote speaker - Professor Geoffrey Pridham, Emeritus Professor at Bristol University.

Other

Horizon 2020

Closing date: project dependent

Horizon 2020, the EU Research and Innovation program, is a Europe 2020 flagship initiative aimed at securing Europe's global competitiveness. Funding is based on competitive calls open to everyone. Participants from countries associated to the EU research framework program have the same rights as EU participants; for other countries, the situation varies.

Further information is available via the links below:
[horizon2020](#)

Membership

2020 CESAA Membership

Individual, student and institutional memberships to CESAA for 2020 are now available

For further information on joining CESAA,, see the CESAA website at [cesaa.org.au](#)

Contributions

Please forward any items you would like considered for inclusion in the next issue of the CESAA Bulletin to info@cesaa.org.au by the 20th of each month

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