

SECURITY & SOVEREIGNTY
IN THE 21ST CENTURY
international conference
BOOKLET OF ABSTRACTS



SESCO
2017
BUDAPEST



Security and sovereignty in the 21st century
International Conference
10 November, 2017

Booklet of Abstracts



**Challenges of European cosmopolitanism and global nationalisms.
The European Council on Foreign Relations' role in forming
the Common European Defence and Foreign Policies**

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The European Council on Foreign Relations a leading think tank organisation established in 2007, a knowledge centre forming European Union's foreign policy. After the Lisbon Treaty with establishment of the European External Action Service and the High Representative for Foreign Affairs the EU officially took the role of an international global actor.

"The European Council on Foreign Relations (ECFR) is an award-winning international think-tank that aims to conduct cutting-edge independent research on European foreign and security policy and to provide a safe meeting space for decision-makers, activists and influencers to share ideas. We build coalitions for change at the European level and promote informed debate about Europe's role in the world. In 2007, ECFR's founders set about creating a pan-European institution that could combine establishment credibility with intellectual insurgency. Today, ECFR remains uniquely placed to continue providing a pan-European perspective on some of the biggest strategic challenges and choices Europeans need to confront, with a network of offices in seven European capitals, over 60 staff from more than 25 different countries and a team of associated researchers in the EU 28-member states."

As from the ECFR mission is clear, the EU is a global actor, with pan-European perspectives. It is a new political unit, but the ECFR sees it as an UN like global organisation. Traditional IR theories (Realism, Liberalism, Constructivism, Evolutional, Critical) or theories of the EU (Neo-functionalism, Intergovernmentalism, Liberal Intergovernmentalism, Multilevel Governance) are unable to explore the phenomena of the EU: is it a region-state or empire, it can be a cosmopolitan region state or cosmopolitan empire? Or it can be treated a neoliberal international policy regime? The ECFR's six themes for analysing the activity of the EU as a foreign policy actor are the next:

- An empire like policy: the EU neighborhood, Great Europe, later (after the Arab Spring) MENA policy
- In case of Russia and China the EU behaves as a cosmopolitan power, with strong accent on human rights, and cosmopolitan democracy
- Traditional realist state's like balance of power policy: relations with the USA, China, Russia
- An International governmental organisation type policy: multilateral issues.

In case of the European H2020 and earlier programmes we could see a new interest researching the empires as political units. Most studies concerning the EU made their research from the point of view is it a state or is it an intergovernmental organisation. After the Lisbon Treaty the EU was transformed into a new polity. If we want to understand this transformation we need to explore the nature of the EU in its external environment, and the nature of the EU from inner structure. The new approach for studying the EU as a polity in its environment, to compare it with a classical category in the study of politics with the

empire. In case of the inner structure the new approaches connected with global political ideologies, using theories of cosmopolitanism and populism. The first part of the article investigates the challenges of the EU as an empire, the second part of the research focuses on dynamics of cosmopolitan and populist divide, the third part of the research investigates the role of the EU in world politics as a great power, balancing the European-Asian international area, the fourth element is evaluating the EU activity as universal power in multilateral issues.

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The EU and Regional Cooperation in Southeast Europe

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Nowadays the Southeast European states have engaged in a growing number of cooperation initiatives, despite the region's divisive historical legacies and the turmoil of the 1990s. The main reason of the developing cooperation is that countries in the region have common strategic goals such as providing security, political stability, building market economy, all of them is seen as an integral part of the preparation for the euroatlantic integration. In this case the EU itself became the main international facilitator of regional co-operation in SEE. Its first initiative known as the Royaumont Process to stabilise SEE was launched in December 1996 followed by Regional Approach in the next year. It became evident that the countries in the region needed to establish bilateral and multilateral relationships among themselves, and therefore the international community introduced a regional multilateral tool called the Stability Pact for Southeast Europe, adopted in 1999. In 2008, this internationally driven framework of the Stability Pact was handed over to the South East European countries, and transformed into the "Regional Cooperation Council" (RCC), coordinated by the SEE-governments through the South-East European Cooperation Process (SEECPP).

Since 1999 SEE countries established a number of multilateral cooperation which could be classified into three groups: cooperation on security related issues and politically oriented projects, cooperation on a specific technical (thematic) subjects, and initiatives aiming to achieve reconciliation and eventually transformation of the region. The aim of this paper is to overview the emerging regional cooperation in Southeast Europe, to evaluate the effects of regional cooperation, to debate its character as a condition for the EU-integration and to investigate the European Union role in the regional approach of SEE.

Keywords: regional initiatives, multilateral cooperation, the EU as a facilitator

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Turkey-Iraqi Kurdistan regional government relations within the frame of Syrian Civil War

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Up to present all Ankara governments maintained a political relationship with Iraq Kurdistan regional government or other Kurdish local administrations through Baghdad government. Particularly, mutual political developments between Turkish and Kurdish authorities increased much more at the end of the Gulf War I. Besides that, Turkish-Kurdish relations were shaped within the frame struggle against PKK (Kurdistan workers' party). In the general sense, there was quite cooperative and based on interests' relations between Turkish and Barzani-led Kurdish (Erbil) government for long time because both governments carried out a destructive and aggressive policy against PKK. Struggling against PKK was one of the main common interests between Turkish and Kurdish governments. Kurdish population in Turkey, Iraq, Iran and Syria is became a minority after the collapse of Ottoman Empire. Turkish government authorities did not get in touch with other Kurdish local administrations and carried out a disregarding policy. After the outbreak of Civil war in Syria, Kurdish people have not received any support from Turkey even when fighting against ISIS. On the other hand, Kurdish fighters from Erbil participated The People's Protection Units (YPG) due to fight against ISIS. So both Kurdish sides got the chance to improve the relations between Northern Syria Kurds and Northern Iraq Kurds. The demise of state authority in Syria is creating an unprecedented opportunity for Syrian Kurds, who have acted with speed to organize themselves politically and militarily. Across the region, Kurds seem to sense that their moment has arrived. On the other part, Turkish government was uneasy about these developments. Because the powerful and united existence of Kurdish people in the Middle East could have posed a danger for Turkish interest. That's why Turkish-Kurdish regional government relations retook shape after the outbreak of Syrian civil war. This study will concentrate on Turkish-Kurdish regional government relations during the Syrian civil war and how Northern Syria Kurds affect the relations.

Keywords: Turkey, Kurdish regional government, Barzani, Erdogan, Syrian Civil War, PKK, YPG

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The EU's counter-terrorism strategy

Tamar Buachidze (Corvinus University of Budapest)

Counter-terrorism, political or military activities, represents one of the leading priorities of European Union to prevent terrorism. Terrorism, violence with political objectives against civilians designed to have specific secondary effects, explicitly is threat to the whole world if we consider the situation in Syria, Iraq, Yemen, Europe, West Africa, South and South-East Asia. The reality and extent of jihadist terrorist threat across Europe clearly urges appliance of stricter measures, especially in France, which has been the most affected Member State in 2015, losing 148 citizens and more than 350 injured according Europol. The most recent

attack, taking place in Nice on July 14, 2016, alarmed Europe and resulted in tightening security on the short-run, but we need to wait for EU's strategic impact on long-term basis.

Overall aim of my essay is to show gradation of the most important EU counter-terrorism strategies with their pros and cons between 2001–2016. First, I will address historical roots including very first measures and organizations, 9/11's impact on EU policies and assessment of Madrid and London attacks. Continuation and intensification of the attacks at that point did question the effectiveness of the EU counter-terrorism strategy especially regarding Countering Violent Extremism (CVE) and foreign fighters. Consequently, EU and Member States' (MS) close cooperation was indubitably essential for internal and external measures that I analyse under second subtopic of my essay. Further focus is also put on border security measures, assessment of counter-terrorism strategies between 2000–2007 and initiatives before Paris and Brussels attacks. Between 2009–13 1,010 attacks – aborted, foiled or successful – occurred, which led to the deaths of 38 people according statistical data. The flow of my essay continues with assessment of two most disruptive, Paris and Brussels attacks and recently planned or applied strategies such as establishing ECTC and IRU within Europol, strengthening role of TFTP, developing hotspot approach and revising the Schengen Information System (SIS) which I believe to be some of the most crucial initiatives. There are other important aspects of the topic that I will not address in details including cooperation with the U.S., NATO and UN on internal and external measures of counter-terrorism strategy in different parts of the world as well as the EU's external strategy, which is largely discussed and analysed in "Terrorism and counterterrorism" written by Brigitte Nacos.

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A treaty to remember

More than 55 years of French-German relations in a historical perspective

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The year 2018 will mark a great anniversary in Franco-German relations. This year we are celebrating the 55th anniversary of the Élysée Treaty. This treaty is considered to be the basis of modern relations between the two states. Since then, the 'French - German tandem' – after the opposition of a century – has been regarded as the driving force of the integration in Europe. During the 20th century the old enemies have gradually become cooperative partners that significantly determined the operation of the European political system after 1945. Their former opposition eased as a result of the perception of safety and their agreement contributed to further development of the European Union. The cooperation may be an example for several nations that are still confronting with each other politically and psychologically. So we can confidently ask ourselves, "What has the Élysée Treaty ever done for us"? In this contribution to the diplomatic history of Franco-German relations, I am looking for the answer to this question. I would like to highlight a number of aspects of the creation of the Élysée Treaty and also emphasise the importance of the treaty for today's EU.

One Belt and One Road: Understanding the New Silk Road Case Studies of Hungary and Pakistan

*Veronika Annamária Tóth (European Master in Law and Economics)**

During the academic year 2016–2017 I was pursuing the European Master in Law and Economics programme* in Bologna, Hamburg and Mumbai. I wanted to choose a thesis topic which involves both Europe and Asia, and which is very relevant nowadays politically and economically. For this reason, I choose to investigate the One Belt & One Road Initiative - which was announced by the Chinese President Xi Jinping in 2013 – from a law and development perspective. Till now, the OBOR involves 65 countries and the huge infrastructure project's aim is to connect Europe, Asia and Africa, for geostrategic ambitions and economic aims. The thesis consists of three main chapters divided into twelve subchapters. In Chapter 1 the initiative will be presented: the main corridors, the Action Plan and the financial and economic scope of the OBOR will be analyzed. Chapter 2 will analyze the law and development perspective of the project and the main focus will be on human rights issues and environmental concerns. In Chapter 3, I will introduce two case studies: Hungary's and Pakistan's role will be presented. While the project may improve transport and logistics, many concerns were raised as the countries involved have different political and economic background which can lead to conflict of interests during the implementation.

*The European Master in Law and Economics programme is sponsored by the European Commission through its Erasmus+ key action 1 (Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Programs)

Keywords: China, New Silk Road, infrastructure, trade

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Fundamental human rights of the unaccompanied refugee children

Krisztina Kállai (National University of Public Service)

Refugee children are children firstly, and as children, they should get unique care. Our duty is to improve the protection and care of refugee children. These children experience more distress than average children. The study examines the United Convention on the Rights of the Child, the European Convention on Human Rights and the European Social Charter which say a child who owns refugee status cannot be forced to return to the country of origin and no distinction is made between children and adults in social welfare and legal rights.

All children should get basic human rights, including legal representation during asylum processing.

Keywords: refugee, children, exploitation, freedom, globalization, legislation

Payment of child maintenance as the facilitator of crime prevention in Germany

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In my analysis I am studying the German regulation of payment of child maintenance as crime prevention too. My choice of subject is also motivated by the topicality of the theme, namely, the rule of law is still not effective when the analysis was written that contains the changes of the payment of child maintenance. All this, however indirectly, is in close connection with the crime prevention because the new rule of law decreases the financial vulnerability of the socially disadvantaged children and their families through the disbursement of the child maintenance guaranteed for children. The lack of the financial vulnerability and the measures introduced in order to ease vulnerability can cut on the chance of becoming a criminal.

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Payment of child maintenance as the facilitator of crime prevention in Germany

Sofia Ylönen

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Since 2014, The Islamic State (IS, also referred to as ISIS), has invaded territories in Iraq and Syria and there is ample evidence that IS is committing international crimes such as genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes. This article addresses the complexity of prosecuting these crimes and seeks to find out the best venue to prosecute them. There are serious problems regarding the applicability of international criminal law in this situation. Firstly, as neither Iraq nor Syria is party to the International Criminal Court's Rome Statute, the ICC cannot exercise territorial jurisdiction over the crimes committed on the soil of Iraq or Syria. The ICC has very little competence to exercise jurisdiction if a State has not ratified the Rome Statute. It may pressure its members to refer the situation to the Security Council and hence start the prosecution but this would require the support from the permanent council members. In 2014 - despite of the fact that all other member states voted in favour of the referral - permanent member states Russia and China vetoed and made it impossible for the Security Council to adopt the resolution and make a referral. The Prosecutor of ICC also stated that the jurisdictional basis for opening a preliminary examination into this situation is too narrow at this stage.

The Prosecutor has then publicly supported an idea of a special tribunal for Syria. However, the national institution recovering from a civil war might be too weak for handling the atrocities occurred in their country. The Rome Statute states in its Preamble that the most serious crimes of concern to the international community as a whole must not go unpunished and that their effective prosecution must be ensured by taking measures at the national level and by enhancing international cooperation. A special tribunal combines international and domestic law in its statutes and rules. The establishment of one regional criminal tribunal, to

be set in compliance with two different national legal orders, taking into account of two different ideologies (Western and Islamic), would be a real legal challenge. This article however provides one possible model.

Keywords: international criminal law, Middle East, jurisdiction, International Criminal Court, Hybrid Court

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The Brexit economic effects for United Kingdom

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This paper highlights the consequences of Brexit on the economy of United Kingdom and also of Europe. The United Kingdom is officially on its way out of the European Union after 44 years as a member. This exit i.e. invocation of a part of European law known as Article 50 of the Lisbon Treaty, was triggered as a follow-up to the Brexit referendum result. Article 50 sets out the process for any country that wishes to exit the EU. Before that treaty, there was no formal mechanism for a country to leave the EU. Despite the process, there are many complications involved in any such exit. 'European Union (Withdrawal Bill)' attempts to remove one such complication i.e. to restore supremacy of UK's judiciary and laws over EU laws and to ensure smooth exit from union by adopting EU laws and regulations into the UK laws thereby, ensuring that the required regulations and standards are in place. In addition, the exit process could very well shape the future of UK's economy putting UK as part of European Economic Area (EEA) or Free Trade Agreement (FTA) or some transitional arrangement. Any such arrangement would require trading off sovereignty with liberalising trade. The Brexit impact is perceived by Bank of England to cost nearly 25% of the business investment when compared to the pre-Brexit numbers. UK is also home to the world largest financial centre and with Brexit, possible end of free movement, could very well bring the demise of the centre and the world financial system. Through this essay, we attempt to look into how the Brexit determines the economic issues of UK, and the EU. Also we wish to analyse how the relationship has changed between UK and the EU due to the Brexit. Our aim with this essay is to analyse the implications on financial sovereignty, state sovereignty due to the Brexit.

Keywords: Lisbon treaty, Brexit, EU, global challenge, financial sovereignty, state sovereignty, 'European Union (Withdrawal Bill), The Great Repeal Bill, UK

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Institute for **Cultural Relations Policy**

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International Conference, 10 November 2017





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