

ECSA WORLD-NEWS

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Dear Presidents, dear colleagues, dear friends,

2016 is there! What will bring this year for the European Union – and for ECSA? We are no prophets, but regarding the situation in the European Union we only can hope that steps towards the solution of the many serious problems can be done and that the citizens can be more and more convinced that the European Union is able to attach the difficulties and challenges that cause suffering and tension to the citizens.

Very often we have underlined that we as representatives of the European Studies stay at disposal for helping –with our advice and with our research- in a constructive dialogue with the European institutions. As citizens we are aware about the critical situation Europe is facing; as academics we are convinced that our contribution is needed. Hopefully we will be able to find more and more ways for the dialogue.

In ECSA, maybe we are able to solve also some pending questions regarding the representation of all the ECSAs, the participation in the Jean Monnet & ECSA Conferences also in the first steps and in assessing some points of the Jean Monnet selection procedure without intervening in it. Let us also improve the internal communication, seeing ECSA World not as an external partner to the single ECSAs, but as a part of them – or vice versa. And let's hope that –like in the last years- we can enlarge our network to new countries.

In that sense, all my best wishes for the year 2016,

Enrique Banús

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- INSIDE THIS ISSUE -

“ECSA Moldova presents its International Conference for April 2016”

“ECSA past events”:

*The ECSA Australia Essay Prize
ECSA Suisse Annual Conference
ECSA-DK Annual Conference 2015*

“ECSA future events”

ECSA Moldova presents its International Conference for April 2016



We have been informed by the president of ECSA Moldova that next International Conference of the Moldovan association "EU Relations with Eastern Partnership: Strategy, Opportunities and Challenges" will take place in Chernivtsi, Ukraine, on April 20-21, 2016.

The event, organised with the support of Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union, aims to gather professionals in order to discuss and reflect aspects including opportunities, challenges, and risk eventualities that Eastern Europe faces. Diplomatic, political, economic, and cultural cooperation between the European Union and the Eastern Partnership countries is influenced by geopolitical games in the region. The conference resides in a broad scope and specific topics of interest, but it is not limited to them.

Finally, scientific Committee of the Conference count on the collaboration of many personalities from ECSA World:

Associate Professor Vasile Cucerescu (ECSA Moldova), Professor Gaga Gabrichidze (ECSA Georgia), Professor Ioan Horga (ECSA Romania), Professor Ewa Latoszek and Associate Professor Marta Pachocka (ECSA Poland).

To send proposals or for any question:
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vasile.cucerescu@gmail.com)

Important dates to keep in mind:

- *Deadline for application submission: January 18, 2016*
- *Deadline for abstract submission: February 18, 2016*
- *Notification of acceptance: February 25, 2016*
- *Deadline for paper submission: April 18, 2016*

Information provided by ECSA Moldova president Vasile Cucerescu.

ECSA past events

The ECSA Australia Essay Prize

Contemporary European Studies Association of Australia (CESAA) ran its annual student essay prize competition, with the support of the Delegation of the European Union to Australia and New Zealand. The competition was open to students enrolled in a tertiary institution in Australia during semester 2, 2014 and Semester 1, 2015. Essays from any discipline – history, politics, law, economics, business, sociology, cultural studies, etc. – were eligible, as long as they dealt with contemporary (post-war) Europe and/or the European Union. The competition consisted of two prizes, one for the best undergraduate entry and the other for the best postgraduate entry.

ECSA-DK Annual Conference 2015

The 2015 ECSA Denmark Annual Conference was hosted by the Department of Business and Politics of Copenhagen Business School on the 1st and 2nd of October 2015. The main

topic of the event was “The EU beyond the crisis: learning from the past, preparing for new global challenges”. So, the aim of this conference was to analyse the EU institutions and its internal and external policies from a variety of perspectives and methodological backgrounds.

There were welcomed panels and paper proposals from a broad range of EU and European studies across disciplines.

This year, there was a keynote addressed by Fabio Franchino, Professor of European Union Politics at the State University of Milan and President of the European Political Science Association (EPSA).

ECSA Suisse Annual Conference

The Annual Conference of ECSA Suisse took place last 10th and 11th of December 2015 at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich (ETHZ).

The conference did not have a specific theme but intended to reflect the best of current Swiss multi-disciplinary research on European integration. Some of the topics of the presentations included European

Union economics, Law, Politics as well as EU-Swiss relations.

The conference started on the 10th of December with a talk by Prof. Michael Ambühl (Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich - ETH) on current Swiss-EU relations, followed by remarks by Prof. Christa Tobler (Basel) and Prof. Klaus Armingeon (Bern) and a general discussion. Panels were organized for the 11th of December.

Next ECSA events

As it has been mentioned before, some weeks ago a questionnaire was send by email to all ECSA presidents in order to be up-to date- of all their past and future events and at the same time to keep -mainly through this newsletter- the whole ECSA community informed.

We present some of the ECSA events that will take place in the next months:

In the first place, ECSA Moldova – as reported separately - is organizing its International Conference “EU Relations with Eastern Partnership: Strategy, Opportunities and

Challenges” in Chernivtsi (Ukraine) for the 20th and 21th of April 2016.

What is more, the next event to be organized by the EU Studies Association Asia-Pacific Association is the Annual Conference that will take place in Hong Kong on the 28th and 29th of June 2016.

In Denmark (Copenhagen), ECSA-DK will organize the 40th Annual Meeting in October 2016 and in Switzerland, the Annual Conference will take also place at the end of the year 2016.

From ECSA Ukraine we have been informed that a webinar on “Principles and Objectives of Conflict Transformation” will be held in March 2016. Also, a workshop on “Contemporary Challenges of Conflict Transformation” is planned for April 2016 in Kiev.

Finally, in Australia, as notified by president of Contemporary European Studies Association of Australia (CESAA) Bruno Mascitelli, there is no concrete information about the next event, although expected is a conference on February 2016 on “Free Trade Agreement EU-Australia”.