



L-Università ta' Malta
Institute for European Studies

Institute for European Studies Newsletter

October 2022 | Issue 23

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Welcome Note

Prof Mark Harwood - Director



On behalf of the academic and administrative staff at the Institute, I would like to welcome you to the start of a new academic year.

During the academic year 2021-2022 the Institute resumed its work with business-as-usual as the country returned to a degree of

normalcy after the COVID pandemic. While the Omicron variant represented a small blip as we began 2022, by the beginning of the second semester things had returned to normal; in this way, 2021/2022 saw students return to campus with lectures taking place physically on campus while second semester exams also took place physically. Many of the elements of the course which we take pride in (the placement programme, Erasmus, the 'Gozo Theses Workshop') also returned to normal and the Institute continued to organise a range of events for students and the general public. As can be seen from this newsletter, the Institute had a very busy year and we should be justly proud of our output (whether teaching, research, events or publications) and the dedicated work of all the staff, administrative and academic.

Reflecting on this year, the following points are of note;

- Our student numbers continue to be buoyant and the Institute remains one of the largest academic entities at the University of Malta. In the academic year 2021/2022 we also saw the number of students on the MA programme continue to be strong and the taught MA has now one of the largest intakes of students for any Institute or Centre on campus. To maintain these numbers the Institute continues to invest in outreach, especially through social media with a new focus on the undergraduate programme. In this way, in addition to adverts on social media,

Dr Cachia, the Outreach Coordinator, visited many secondary schools throughout the year to raise awareness of our course. In terms of the Doctoral programme, numbers remain strong and during 2021/22 new applicants were interviewed and should join at the start of the new academic year.

- As indicated above, the Institute was happy to see that the Placement programme and Erasmus were able to function as normal during this academic year. Nine undergraduate and two postgraduate students followed the placement programme while seven students went on Erasmus. The placement programme continues to grow and a new entity joined the programme during this academic year, namely the Government's EU Coordination Department; as the central agency for coordinating Malta's position on policy proposals within the EU, students will gain significant experience if chosen to work there during their second year of study. In terms of Erasmus, the Institute is developing strong ties with the NHLStenden University of Applied Sciences in The Netherlands with the expectation that there will be increased Erasmus exchange with them in 2022/2023.
- Another core element of our programme, the annual 'Gozo Theses Workshop' was also able to resume as an in-person event. The Workshop has become an integral part of the third year and enables students to present their thesis research and then discuss feedback from their peers and the academics present. Due to Covid the event had to be held online in 2020/2021 but was able to return in-person this year; that said, the original plan had been to hold the event in Gozo but once the Omicron variant emerged we grew increasingly concerned about students sharing rooms in Gozo so the decision was taken to hold the event in Malta over a single day. While we did not hold the event in our normal setting, Paradise Bay Hotel was a welcome alternative and the students were very positive about the event. The success of

this seminar was then replicated in June when we held the MA theses workshop in the same venue and once again, student feedback was very positive.

- Graduation is often a highlight of the year and this year saw us hold four graduation ceremonies, two in November/December for the undergraduate students who finished in 2020 and those finishing in 2021 as well as two graduation ceremonies in March 2022 for the postgraduate students who finished in 2020 and 2021. Congratulations to all our graduates who join our ever-expanding alumni; the Institute now has over 1,000 alumni.
- In 2022 the Institute held two audits, one academic and one administrative. The audits were useful for highlighting the work of the Institute and areas for improvement; while the Institute was commended for a range of practices there were several recommendations which will help us going forward. One such recommendation, the introduction of a Student Handbook, has already been acted upon and the Institute finalised its new Student Handbook for the undergraduate course in September 2022.
- As the Campus Hub adjacent to University opens, the Institute now finds itself at the centre of campus life. To reflect this new position, new signage was introduced in 2022 to ensure that the Institute's location is now clearly discernible. This is a major improvement as signage was, previously, woefully inadequate; the outside signage merely listed the acronyms of the occupants of the building so the only indication of our presence was the acronym 'IfES'. Now the signage indicates clearly our full name and three large panels have been installed on all sides of the building which ensures that anyone going into the Campus Hub can see clearly that this is where the Institute is situated.
- In 2022 the Institute launched a call for its new Paper Series marking the 20th anniversary of Malta's membership of the EU. While this event will be marked in 2024, the aim is to build a body of work

which analyses and marks this important milestone in Malta's history. The call is being coordinated by Dr Migliorati, the Research Coordinator, and also covers general issues relating to the 2004 enlargement, not only the Maltese perspective.

- In 2021/2022 the Institute Library was rebranded following the successful completion of its upgrade. Previously known as the European Documentation Centre (EDC) the library is now known as the Institute for European Studies Library (IEDC). Alongside the rebranding, the library is cooperating with the Main Library to raise awareness of our resources and the opening hours. The Library is run by Mr Stefan Bezzina who oversaw the rebranding.
- As highlighted above, the Institute offered a varied list of events during the academic year including public talks by the British High Commissioner and the French Ambassador, public talks by Mr Leo Brincat, the Maltese member of the Court of Auditors, as well as a public talk by the Deputy Foreign Minister of Lithuania. The Institute also conducted visits to the European Union's Asylum Agency and also held its Europe Day Quiz Night. The Quiz Night has always been very popular and this year did not disappoint. Over 100 students attended and the event was generously financed by the European Commission's Representation in Malta.
- A central priority of the Institute continues to be collaboration. In addition to our *Ideas in Brown Bag* seminar series with the Department of International Relations, we cooperated closely with the Department of European and Comparative Law, the Faculty of Social Wellbeing, the European Commission's Representation to Malta, the European Parliament's Office in Malta, the European Studies Organisation and JEF. Through collaboration we are better placed to achieve our strategic goals.
- During the academic year the Institute welcomed two new members of the academic staff, namely Dr Andreas Kotelis

and Dr Marta Migliorati. Dr Kotelis teaches units related to climate change and development policy while Dr Migliorati focuses on migration. During this academic year Dr Stefano Moncada left the Institute as he assumed full-time responsibilities at the Institute for Islands and Small States. The Institute thanks him for his work with us, wishes him well and will continue to work closely with him and his Institute. During this academic year the Institute also welcomed a new member of the administrative staff, Ms Milica Cirneanu while our 'Officer in Charge', Ms Corinne Fenech, went on maternity leave. Corinne gave birth in July and we wish her and the baby well.

- The Director would like to conclude this introduction with a note of thanks to the staff of the Institute who have been extraordinary in their commitment and hard work during the academic year 2021/2022. I believe we should be justly proud of our record of work, as seen in this report.

Institute Research Initiatives - Call for papers: 20 years of EU Membership: taking stock of the 2004 enlargement



In May 2022 the Institute launched a new paper series to mark the 20th anniversary of EU membership. The aim of the series is to relaunch the Institute's inhouse publications and to also prepare for this important milestone in Maltese history.

In 2004, ten countries from eastern and southern Europe joined the European Union and as we prepare for the 20th anniversary of this historic event, the Institute for European Studies at the University of Malta is launching a paper series which aims to take stock of the last two decades, both in terms of the countries that joined and the EU itself.

While the remit of this paper series is quite wide, we are especially interested in three kinds of contributions:

Papers assessing the impact of EU accession from the perspectives of countries that joined in 2004, either on individual countries or in a comparative setting. Are Europeanisation processes still in place, and in what areas of politics and policy making is the EU's impact more (and/or less) evident? How does national public opinion feel about the European Union, and how has this changed over time? Are there emerging differences between older and newer members, or are such differences declining over time?

Papers assessing the impact of the 2004 enlargement on the EU. What have the effects been, under a normative, political and/or economical perspective? The recent "battles" with Hungary and Poland about rule of law, the Visegrad group's unwillingness to implement refugee quotas during the 2015 refugee crisis and the move of the European Commission against Cyprus and Malta for the citizenship by investment programmes are a few examples of tensions between the supranational level and countries which acceded in 2004.

Papers focusing specifically on the Maltese membership experience and Malta's place in the European Union. A central aim of the Institute is to contribute to knowledge on Malta and Malta's EU experience, therefore papers dealing specifically with Malta are welcomed.

The other aim of this paper series is to compile a body of literature on the 20th anniversary of the 2004 enlargement with the intension of issuing two publications in 2024 which gather all the contributions. One of the publications will focus on Malta and its EU experience and the other on wider issues and case studies.

The Editorial Board comprises:

- Prof. Fulvio Attinà (University of Catania)
- Dr Moira Catania (University of Malta)
- Prof. Michelle Cini (University of Bristol)
- Prof. Mark Harwood (University of Malta)
- Dr Marta Migliorati (University of Malta)
- Prof. Edward Moxone-Brown (University of Limerick)
- Prof. Neill Nugent (Manchester Metropolitan University)
- Prof. Roderick Pace (University of Malta)
- Prof. Ivan Sammut (University of Malta)

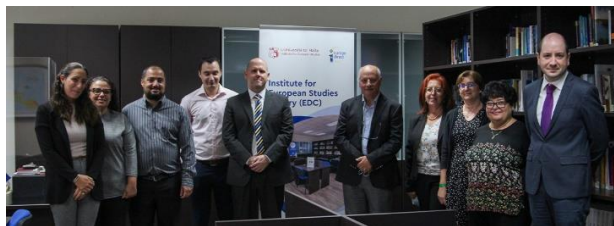
Relaunch of the Institute's Library (EDC)

On Monday 18 October 2021, the Rector, Prof. Alfred J. Vella, and Pro-Rector (and Chair of the Institute's Board), Prof. Carmen Sammut, visited the Institute for European Studies for the official opening of the newly refurbished Library for European Studies. Previously known as the European Documentation Centre (EDC), the Library underwent an extensive refurbishment in 2020 and 2021, with the installation of new flooring, shelves and desks as well as the creation of a sofa area so as to provide a more welcoming area for students to interact with each other.

As explained by the Institute's Director, Prof Mark Harwood, during the opening, the refurbishment was partly funded by the European Commission as well as investment from University through its capital funds.

The library has an extensive range of books on a broad range of topics related to European Studies as well as hosting the EDC which remains a

depository for EU information and forms part of the EU's network of Europe Direct information centres which can be found across the Union.



The Rector, Pro-Rector and Institute Staff



The Institute Library banner

New Signage

Throughout 2021/2022 the Institute was in close contact with Estates and the Communications Unit to discuss new signage for the building. The Institute is situated in a building that was on the periphery of University while also suffering from a lack of clear signage. There was nothing on the building façade that indicated that the building hosted the Institute for European Studies other than a front entrance with the initials 'IfES' under reference to 'MEDAC'. It was felt that the building was not serviced with adequate signage while the construction of the Campus Hub now means that the Institute is no longer on the periphery of University but is now situated at the centre of traffic moving in between University/Hub/Hospital. To ensure that the building was now clearly visible as the location of the Institute, the Director coordinated a common approach by the Institute, MEDAC and the IOI to ask Estates for new signage. Meetings were held throughout Spring 2022 and in June 2022 new signage outside and inside the building was installed.

The building is now clearly discernible as hosting the three institutes and signage inside the building is now more standard and clearer.

The hope is that the new signage will ensure that students find it easier to locate the Institute and use its resources while also hoping that the increased traffic now moving around the building (as the entrance to the hub is next to our building) will ensure that more people notice and see where the Institute is located.

Below are photos of the new signage.



It should also be referenced that the upgrade of the office area, which involved the installation of new, glass doors, is now complete and the only remaining item for upgrade relates to the flooring in the office area.

Graduation Ceremonies in 2021/2022

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, graduation ceremonies had been postponed for the students graduating in 2020. In this way, during the academic year 2021-2022, four graduation ceremonies were held where our students could celebrate the completion of their degree programmes. In November 2021 undergraduate students who completed their studies in 2020 graduated, see photo below.



In December 2021 graduation was held for the undergraduate students who completed their degree in 2021, see photo below.



In March 2022 graduation was held for the MA students who finished their degree in 2020, see photo below.



In March 2022 graduation was held for the MA students who completed their degree in 2021, see photo below.



2021/2022 Best Dissertation Award

In December 2021 the Institute was proud to present the best dissertation award for the Bachelor's programme to Ms Claire Galea. Her thesis, on 'the Front Line of Europe's Borders: Malta's Customs Department Enforcement Unit and the EU's Security Challenges' was awarded the highest mark in her year. Ms Galea is seen being given her prize by the Director of the Institute, Prof. Harwood.



The MA Dissertation prize was awarded to Mr Owen Bell. Mr Bell was unable to attend graduation and therefore did not receive his prize in person. Mr Bell's thesis was titled 'Socio-Economic Determinants of Wellbeing in Malta and the EU: A Comparative Longitudinal Study'. Below is Mr Bell with his prize.



Dissertation Events

13th Gozo Theses Workshop (16 February 2022)

The Gozo Workshop has become an integral part of the Institute's academic calendar. Normally held in February, 3rd year students on the Bachelor's programme travel to Gozo with the academic staff for 2/3 days of intensive discussions regarding their dissertations. Students present to their classmates and the assembled academics their research proposal and discuss any difficulties they have encountered. While the Institute had managed to hold the 2019/2020 Workshop in Gozo as normal (just before the COVID-19 restrictions were first introduced) the 2020/2021 Workshop could not be held as a physical event.

In 2021/22 plans were enacted to hold the event, as usual, in Gozo. Accommodation was sought and preparations were well advanced when the Omicron variant took hold and concerns were raised about students sharing rooms as the chosen location included rooms where students would have had to share 3 beds to a room. With concerns growing the decision was taken to shift the 'Gozo' Workshop to a single day event and to situate it in Malta so that students would not need to stay overnight.

The Theses Workshop was held on 16 February at the Paradise Bay Hotel in Cirkewwa. Twenty-one students presented an overview of their work with the academic staff providing feedback. The Workshop went well and student feedback was very positive.



Photo of students and staff at the Theses Workshop

Placements

The Institute has been running a successful placement programme over the past decade, with agreements in place with various entities in the public and private sectors as well as with a number of NGOs. Placement opportunities are included as an elective study unit in the programme of studies for both the Institute's under-graduate as well as post-graduate students.

During the academic year 2021/22, the Institute liaised with the University's Legal Services to streamline and update the placement agreements. Furthermore, the Institute continued to expand its placement opportunities with a new agreement being signed with the EU Coordination Department, Ministry for Foreign and European Affairs and Trade, thus offering further relevant work experiences to the Institute's students.

During the year, nine undergraduate students and two postgraduate students undertook placements as part of their academic programme. These students carried out their placements in different entities, namely the EU Coordination Department, the European Parliament Office in Malta, Ernst and Young, the Malta Business Bureau, the Malta Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Malta Chamber of SMEs, the Ministry for Finance and Employment, the Planning and Priorities Co-ordination Division, Servizzi Ewropej f'Malta and Zaar Crowdfunding.

The placements offer the Institute's students exposure to practical work in the area of European studies. The tasks carried out differ depending on the core activities of the entity where the placement is carried out. These include research activities and report writing on EU topics, work related to the application for and management of EU funded projects, as well as public relations and the management of social media platforms. The placements enable the students to gain important skills and relevant work experience in the area of European studies, thus preparing them for their future work careers.

Placement Experience at the Planning and Priorities Coordination Division (PPCD) – Nicole Pace

During my third year of studies, I had the opportunity to participate in the placement programme provided by the Institute. This unique experience helped me acquire new skills which I can carry forward to my future career in European affairs.

I was selected to carry out my placement at the Planning and Priorities Coordination Division (PPCD), which is the Managing Authority for EU funds in Malta. PPCD is responsible for ensuring full transparency and information as regards to the funds that are regulated by the organisation. In order to perform this function, PPCD organises educational and training courses, information sessions and addresses the general public to reach potential applicants requiring financial support. Working at PPCD was one of the most fruitful and rewarding experiences throughout my studies. I was given the opportunity to explore several important EU projects, attend meetings, communicate with the individuals and organisations benefitting from these funds, and I could also shadow other people working at PPCD.

The dedicated officials helped me realise the importance of having an eye for detail, which is a key ingredient to strengthening one's analytical and problem-solving skills. These attributes proved to be highly valuable assets when working in a professional environment. Thanks to this experience, I obtained a better understanding of PPCD's role in managing funds and learned to appreciate the value of teamwork in an organisation. I encourage other European Studies students to take the chance to participate in the Institute's placement programme because I can honestly say that I have left PPCD as more well versed in the area of EU funds. Those students interested in gaining relevant work experience should seize this opportunity as it helps you gain confidence in your line of work and above all, it opens many doors for prospective career paths.



Nicole Pace

Placement Experience at the EU Coordination Department – Mildred Attard

One of the main reasons why I chose to carry out my Masters degree in European Politics, Economics and Law was due to having the option of choosing placements as part of my study units. Having also conducted my BA in European Studies, I believed that choosing placements meant having the opportunity to finally put into practice what I learnt about the European Union (EU) during the past years.

I conducted my placement at the European Union Coordination Department (EUCD) within the Ministry for Foreign and European Affairs and Trade. The EUCD is responsible for ensuring that Malta effectively participates in EU structures and policy making. It also coordinates the transposition and implementation of EU legislation.

In the beginning of my placement, I was given various readings to be able to understand the role of the EUCD, such as on COREPER I, COREPER II, and on the Inter-Ministerial Coordination (IMC) units. As I started to become more familiar with the different units, the following weeks I was given more hands-on tasks. One of these tasks included writing briefs for instruction notes which would be

then used by the respective Minister during Council meetings. Another task was concerned with identifying which Ministry will take the lead role on a respective dossier. The EUCD comes across these issues frequently in relation to the European Commission's proposals, reports, communications, or even Working Group meetings.

Choosing placements as a study unit is an experience I would recommend to all students for different reasons. After years of studying on the EU, this placement served an opportunity to assure myself that choosing a career in EU studies was the right choice. The placements also help students to put into practice the topics learnt in different study units. They also enable you to learn relevant skills which are useful both for academic studies as well as for future working life. Therefore, I believe that by means of these placements I will now be more prepared for my career in the area of European affairs, as I now know what to expect and moreover what is expected from me.



Mildred Attard

Erasmus

The Institute currently holds Erasmus agreements with various Universities in Estonia, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Poland, Turkey and the UK.

Postgraduate students also have the opportunity to travel on Erasmus. The Institute currently has three post-graduate agreements with universities in Hungary, Ireland and Poland.

Following the hiatus in Erasmus student exchanges during 2020 and 2021 due to the covid-19 pandemic, during the academic year 2021/22, seven students went on an Erasmus exchange. During Semester I, one third year student completed her Erasmus learning agreement at the Hague University, the Netherlands. Furthermore, during Semester II, six second year students completed their Erasmus learning agreements at the Università' di Bologna, Italy; the University of Warsaw, Poland; the Hague University, the Netherlands and Konstanz University, Germany.

Erasmus Experience at the University of Warsaw – Giulia Bugeja, Yana Cremona and Maia Zammit

Throughout our time studying at the University of Warsaw we were given the opportunity to meet different people from various countries. Living in Warsaw, we quickly came to realise that the city is very much structured around student life, offering various social settings for students to meet up, socialise and learn independently from the typical university setting. This, along with various activities organised by student organisations allowed us to integrate and make friends easily.

Warsaw's geographical location also granted us the opportunity to travel to different cities within Poland itself as well as neighbouring countries. This allowed us to explore not only Warsaw but other parts of Poland further whilst also learning about their different customs and culture.

Furthermore, during our Erasmus exchange, we also experienced a different educational system to that at our home university. Studying at the University of Warsaw was an enlightening experience.

The classes we attended were part of the Erasmus study units and so, our classmates were other Erasmus students from various countries, including, Spain, France, Croatia, Mexico and many others. This is vital to mention as at the University, class discussions and the students' notions on certain topics were held in high regard. Thus,

hearing others' opinions, especially when coming from different countries, was a learning experience in itself.

Moreover, the methods of assessment varied between exams, group assignments and presentations, recording a podcast and class participation. This ensured student engagement at all levels.

Our Erasmus exchange was also marked by the war in Ukraine, as Poland is a neighbouring country. Indeed, two fundraising events were organised to raise money for displaced Ukrainian refugees seeking refuge in Poland. Through the funds raised, food products and other essentials were delivered to the tents which were set up at the central railway station in Warsaw.

It was moving to see volunteers from all over the world filling the city with courage and positivity. Moreover, symbols of support continue to flood the city from signposts, flags, protests, and information points sending out a strong message that we all stand together. Heart-warming would be the most fitting word to describe this experience.



Giulia Bugeja, Yana Cremona and Maia Zammit

Erasmus Experience at the Università di Bologna – Maya Attard

During the second semester, I had the opportunity to spend six months living in Bologna, Italy. This opportunity came about through the Erasmus exchange program which I had decided to apply for. What influenced me to opt for the Università di Bologna as my first preference was that it is well

known for its educational system and it is also the oldest university in Europe. Moreover, Bologna itself is a beautiful, bustling city that is rich in art and history which effortlessly combines modernity with its historic centre. In addition, from Bologna I could easily visit other cities such as Ravenna and Milan.

During this experience, I grew on a personal and on an academic level. The idea of living alone without my family and friends was daunting at first, as it is not easy leaving everything you are used to behind and being completely immersed in a new culture, way of living. Indeed, the first few weeks were a massive test of mental strength and determination for me; however, through this experience I grew as an adult. During my stay, I was enrolled under the School of Political Sciences and I studied subjects such as *Topics in Economic Policy* and *History and Institutions of the Modern Middle East*. An aspect that I really liked was the system used in Italy: unlike in Malta, the system is very flexible as students are allowed to schedule their exams, since each exam is offered on several dates, and in addition, students can either accept or refuse their mark if they are not happy with their result, which is based on a 30-point scale. Therefore, I highly recommend going on an Erasmus exchange as my semester abroad was an invaluable experience in which I made a vast amount of memories and friends that I will always cherish.



Maya Attard

5+5 Strategic Studies

For the second year the Mediterranean Foundation of Strategic Studies organized the 5+5 Defense initiative for young graduates. Gabriel Nicholas Galea was chosen to represent the Institute and provided the following testimonial of his experience in Toulon.

It was a privilege to have taken part in the first physical edition of the 5+5 Strategic Studies session for future leaders and military. The 2022 session was organised by Institut FMES and took place from March 21st to March 25th in Toulon, France.

The participants were made up of two from each country of the 5+5 dialogue, with one student from a university or similar organisation in a relevant field and one officer from a military academy. We followed a program in which we discussed a variety of ideas and strategies from our thematic visits, seminars and conferences in order to create a common vision of the future of the Mediterranean.

Personally, I found the theme of defence and security to be particularly interesting. This included a dynamic visit to Toulon's naval base (the largest in Europe) where the French Navy showed us their Multi-Mission Frigates and an advanced warship operations simulation tool. We were also given a seminar on Mediterranean Operations by Commander Jacky Loro in which he presented and explained the high volatility present in the Mediterranean. From the other themes, the seminars on the Geopolitical Approach by Pierre Razoux and the Cyber Approach by Gilles Ginestet were also very compelling.

We presented our final work on the last day and it was received from each of our universities and relevant governmental bodies respectively in the form of an article to hopefully contribute towards a better understanding of our region and an improved cooperation between neighbouring Mediterranean countries.

I'm glad to have had the opportunity to make new friends with people of different ages, backgrounds and cultures within our region. Thanks to this experience, I feel I have gained a better understanding of the complexities of the

Mediterranean and I look forward to participating in similar schemes again.



Gabriel Nicolas Galea



Participants of the event



Activities organized as part of the training session

Sixth Year of the Research Seminar Series – Ideas in Brown Bags

The Institute for European Studies in cooperation with the Department of International Relations continued to organise the *Ideas in Brown Bag* seminar series. The central aim of the series is to present cutting-edge research in the area of European and international politics and economics as well as to serve as a platform for doctoral students to present their ongoing research. The IBB is also structured in a way to enhance cross-departmental collaboration with the aim to extend this cooperation to other departments.

The seminar series is coordinated by Dr Jean Claude Cachia on behalf of the Institute and Dr Angela Pennisi on behalf of the Department of International Relations. Dr Cachia is Outreach Coordinator.

In the academic year 2021/2022, there were 3 seminars:

Cristina M. Zamora Gómez
Raylene Abdilla
Joseph Matthew Debono

Events – IES and EDC

Throughout the academic year a series of events and research initiatives were undertaken by the Institute. Each event was designed to target a varied audience and allowed an opportunity for the Institute to collaborate with a wide and diverse group of academic and student organisations. In particular, the Institute continued to work closely with the European Studies Organisation, JEF as well as the European Commission's Representation in Malta and the European Parliament's Malta Office. The events are presented in chronological order.

Panel Discussion with the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Lithuania and the Parliamentary Secretary for EU Funds – November 2021

The Institute for European Studies hosted a panel discussion on the Future of Europe with the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Lithuania and the Parliamentary Secretary for EU Funds within the Office of the Prime Minister. The event, held on 24

November at University (and live-streamed) tackled a range of issues from the EU and its response to COVID to the tensions in EU-Belarusian relations and the influx of irregular migrants being channelled through Belarus.

The Deputy Foreign Minister of Lithuania, H.E. Arnoldas Pranckevicius, also spoke about the tensions in Sino-Lithuanian relations after Lithuania allowed Taiwan to open an office in Lithuania. Both Ministers also spoke at length about the challenges posed by irregular migration and the need for greater EU assistance in dealing with this issue. The European Students Organisation and JEF helped the Institute in the organisation of this event.



Prof Harwood moderating the panel discussion with H.E. Pranckevicius and the Hon. Azzopardi Zrinzo



H.E. Pranckevicius and the Hon. Azzopardi Zrinzo addressing the event

Inauguration of Institute for European Studies Library Talks – November 2021

On 29 November, The Institute for European Studies Library (EDC) hosted the first of a series of talks on topics related to the Conference of the Future of the European Union. The series was launched by Prof Mark Harwood and the first talk was given by Professor Roderick Pace, Jean Monnet Professor and resident academic at the Institute. Entitled Europe in the World: Europe's Place in Asia's Century, the talk focused on "Asian Century", referred to also as "China's Century".

The term originates from a view of world history claiming that while the nineteenth century was the "European Century", and the twentieth was the "American Century", the current century is the "Asian Century". Almost the whole of Asia is in a state of upward change that is predicted to revolutionize the international system. However, there is no denying that China is the main political, economic and cultural motor of Asia and the rest of the world. China is now the EU's second-biggest trading partner after the USA and the EU is China's biggest trading partner.

The talk was followed by an interesting Q&A with the audience present.



Photos from the event showing Prof Pace addressing the group and Prof Harwood opening the event

The British High Commissioner visits the Institute for European Studies – February 2022

On 28 February 2022, the High Commission of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to Malta, H.E. Katherine Ward LVO OBE visited the Institute for European Studies to give a talk entitled 'Malta-UK Relations: The Road Ahead'. The talk was divided into three parts. Firstly, the historical relationship between the UK and Malta, secondly, the relationship between the UK and the EU, and thirdly, the future relationship between the UK and Malta. During the talk, Her

Excellency highlighted that due to historical affinities the UK has always had a special relationship with Malta, even when the former comprised part of the Union. This is attributed to the fact that Malta was previously under British rule and is now part of the Commonwealth.

The High Commissioner noted that Malta and the UK are engaged in close cooperation given that they are numerous Maltese residing in the UK and the latter is of great importance for Malta given that it is a popular tourist destination. In addition, the High Commissioner stated that given the special relationship between Malta and the UK, the two sides are able to meet and discuss important issues. The session ended with a Q&A with students currently enrolled in their undergraduate and postgraduate degrees.



The British High Commissioner speaking to the students



Malta-UK Relations: The Road Ahead

Speaker: H.E Katherine Ward LVO OBE
British High Commissioner

DATE: 28 February 2022

TIME: 3pm

VENUE: Institute for European
Studies (Library)

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The poster of the event

Visit by H.E. the French Ambassador to speak about the French Presidency of the Council of the EU – March 2022

On March 3rd, Her Excellency Agnes von der Muhll, Ambassador to Malta for the French Republic, visited the Institute to speak about the French Presidency of the Council of the EU, running from January to June 2022. M. von der Muhll spoke about the French presidency of the EU and took questions from students. The primary focus of the questions were about the Russian invasion of Ukraine and the Future of Europe Conference. The Ambassador spoke at length about the Russian invasion of Ukraine and how this had unsettled many assumptions about Europe's near abroad and relations with Russia.



The French Ambassador speaking to students during the event

L-Università ta' Malta
Institute for European Studies

The French Presidency of the Council of the European Union

Speaker: H.E. Agnès von der Mühl
Ambassador of the French Republic

DATE: 3 March 2022
TIME: 14:00 – 15:00
VENUE: LC 119

Registration: stefan.bezzina@um.edu.mt

L-Università ta' Malta



The poster of the event

Visit to EUAA – March 2022

Students from the Institute for European Studies visited the European Union Agency for Asylum on Monday 21 March. The visit, organised in the context of the students' studies on EST2234 (Malta-EU Relations) as well as

EST2233 (Contemporary Migration Issues across the Mediterranean) was an opportunity for the students to learn about the EU's Asylum agency, based in Malta and employing nearly 500 staff. Mr Anis Cassar, Head of Communications and Public Relations, spoke to the students about EUAA and its mission.

The Agency, previously known as EASO up until the end of 2021, is 'an agency of the European Union mandated with supporting Member States in applying the package of EU laws that governs asylum, international protection and reception conditions, known as the Common European Asylum System (CEAS). The EUAA acts as a resource for Member States in the field of international protection, with the ability to provide practical, legal, technical, advisory and operational assistance in many formats. The ultimate aim of the EUAA's work is to reach a situation where the asylum practices in all EU+ Member States are harmonised in line with EU obligations, meaning that an application of an individual in any of the EU+ Member States will always receive the same result.' (EUAA website).



Mr Anis Cassar speaking to students



Mr Anis Cassar explaining the role and functions of the EUAA

'Europe Day' Quiz Night – May 2022

The Institute for European Studies recently held its annual 'Europe Day' Quiz Night at Is-Suq Tal-Belt in Valletta. Held annually since 2017, the event had been on hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic but returned this year with a full house, hosting over 100 students. The event, to mark 9 May, Europe Day, covered a range of European themes, including questions on the EU, European sports and Eurovision.

The event was generously supported by the European Commission's Representation to Malta who financed the event. Prizes were given by a range of sponsors including the European Parliament's Office to Malta and others. The winning teams were 'The Council', 'I thought this was speed dating', 'never gonna give EU up', 'Been here done that in 2018' with 'Democratic People's Republic of Hamrun' declared as the overall winner.

The event was opened by Prof. Mark Harwood, Director of the Institute, and the event was compered by Ronald Briffa, an alumnus of the Institute. As part of Europe Day (9 May) on the Quad, the Institute also helped support the European Studies Organisation's Stand as well as JEF's Vino e Vino event.



Students attending the event as well as the winning team



The winning team

Visit by the Irish President to the EUAA and meeting with University of Malta – May 2022

On 13 May 2022 the Irish President, H.E. Michael Higgins, undertook a state visit to Malta which included a visit to the EUAA and a meeting with University of Malta students and academics. Prof Mark Harwood led a group of Institute students to the event where the Irish President spoke about the importance of understanding migrants, migratory pressures and Europe's role as a source and destination for migrants throughout history.



Prof Harwood with Institute students



The Irish President speaking at the event



The University delegates listening to the Irish President

Online Q&A with Mr Leo Brincat, Member of the European Court of Auditors – May 2022

Mr Leo Brincat, Malta's representative on the Court of Auditors held a Q&A session with students on Monday 16 May 2022 at 14:00. In his presentation he spoke about the of the Court of Auditors within the European Union and the various reports he was involved in, including the report on the EU Migration Policy. In addition to speaking about his work with the Court, he also spoke about the importance of internships and that students should be pursuing such opportunities as such experience is often invaluable for applicants wishing to work with the European Union. The Q&A was opened by Prof Harwood and concluded with various questions from the students, many focusing on the difficulties of ensuring that Court recommendations are adhered to and enforced.

While arranged online, the event was a hybrid event with students being hosted in a zoom room on campus and joining the event where the main speaker participated virtually.



Mr Brincat speaking to students

Publications and Activities of Institute Academics

Professor Mark Harwood



Prof Mark Harwood is Director of the Institute for European Studies and Associate Professor in European Comparative Politics. As part of his work as Director, Prof Harwood oversees all degree programmes and chairs all internal boards of the Institute including the Boards of Study and the

PhD Committee. Prof Harwood coordinates the undergraduate degrees directly and coordinates the various elements that constitute these programmes, in conjunction with Dr Thede (exam and theses coordinator), Dr Catania (Placement and Erasmus coordinator) as well as other colleagues. He teaches EST 1030, EST 2140, EST 2234 and EST 2236 on the undergraduate programme and EST 5070 and EST 5080 on the MA programme. In 2021/2022 he supervised 2 undergraduate students and 3 MA students.

Prof Harwood is also supervisor of the following MPhil/PhD students:

Adrian Ellul (EU Council Coordination Systems and Small States: a comparative analysis with Malta) – Institute for European Studies

Silvio Galea (The Influence of the European Parliament and its Political Groups on the process of European Integration) – Institute for European Studies

During the academic year 2021/2022 Prof Harwood published the following articles/chapters:

Harwood, M. (2022) 'Brexit and Malta's Coping Strategies: diverging shelters', *Journal of Contemporary European Studies*, doi.org/10.1080/14782804.2022.2056732

Harwood, M. (2022) 'Solidarity as the Small State Mantra for Malta's EU Membership' in *Solidarity in Action and the Future of Europe: Views from the*

Capitals. Pollack, J.; Schmidt, P.; Kaeding, M. (2022) (eds.). Springer, Cham.

Harwood, M. (2022) 'Malta and the Benefits of Centralised Politics in Reacting to a Pandemic' in *Governments Responses to the Covid-19 Pandemic*, Lynggaard, K. (ed.) Palgrave Macmillan UK.

Harwood, M. (2022) 'Malta's 2022 General Election and the Drastic Drop in Participation', BLUE (Electoral Bulletins of the European Union), Issue 3.

Harwood, M. (2022) 'Malta-Russia Relations and the Libyan Civil War', M. Kaeding, J. Pollak & P. Schmidt (Eds.), *EU-Russia Relations and the Future of Europe*, Springer, Cham.

He also coedited the following book:

Harwood, M., Azzopardi Lane, C., Naudi, M. (eds.) (2021) *Mapping the Rainbow Volume II*, Ministry for Equality, Research and Innovation, Malta.

The following articles have been reviewed and are awaiting publication:

Harwood, M (2022). 'The Parliamentary Administration of Malta: the Parliament of Malta' in T. Christiansen, E. Griglio and N. Lupo (Eds.) *The Routledge Handbook of Parliamentary Administrations*, Routledge UK.

Harwood, M. (2022) 'Malta and Climate Change: balancing opportunities with limitations' in *Climate Change and the Future of Europe: Views from the Capitals*. Pollack, J.; Schmidt, P.; Kaeding, M. (eds.). Springer, Cham.

The following articles are under review:

Harwood, M (2022) 'Malta's Political Conundrum: Europe's leading country for LGBT rights and the ban on abortion', *International Journal of Sociology*.

In terms of research networks and academic collaboration:

Prof Harwood is the Institute's representative on the European University of the Seas network based within the University of Malta.

Prof Harwood is the MC member of the Cost Action CA20123 which will study the Intergovernmental

Coordination from Local to European Governance. The action should run for 3 years.

Dr Harwood is the Maltese delegate of the BLUE's Scientific Council. Blue is a publication by the *Groupe d'études géopolitiques*, the independent research centre and think tank behind the journal [Le Grand Continent](#). BLUE is designed as a new publication providing the public with open-access, high-quality analyses of electoral and political dynamics at regional, national and EU levels.

Prof Harwood is a reviewer for the *Journal of Politics and Law*, the Canadian Centre of Science and Education.

In 2021/2022 Prof Harwood participated in the following conferences/events:

Attended the 1st management COST action committee meeting on 30 September 1 October. Held online over two days. The Cost Action CA20123 will study the Intergovernmental Coordination from Local to European Governance.

Prof Harwood participated as a panelist in a public debate hosted by the European Studies Organisation, 10 November 2021. The debate centred on Angela Merkel as her departure from office loomed. Ambassador Walter Hassmann, Prof Mark Harwood, Dr Kathrin Schoedel and journalist Aslan Ali constituted the panel which met at Dar Manwel Magri but was also streamed online.

On 18 January 2022, Prof Harwood appeared on NET TV in a special programme marking the election of Dr Roberta Metsola to the position of President of the European Parliament.

In January 2022, Prof Harwood also participated and spoke in the EU Careers/EPSO seminar on EU career's, 'University Career Services Seminar'. The event was held online.

Prof Harwood participated in the University of Malta's *Strategic Implementation Forum - Societal Factors and Impact*, 9 Mar 2022. The event was held online.

Prof Harwood participated in the University of Malta's *Strategic Implementation Forum - Research and Knowledge Transfer*, 16 March 2022. The event was held online.

Prof Harwood participated in the Central Bank of Malta's *20 years of the Euro, Euro Coins and Bank Notes*. The event was held online on 17 March 2022.

On Wednesday 23 March, Prof Harwood delivered the academic oration at the MA graduation held in Valletta. Prof Harwood spoke about 'Institutes, Centres and Schools and the alumni network'.

On 7 April 2022, Prof Harwood delivered the keynote speech at the NSTF event as part of the Mini-European Assembly. Prof Harwood addressed the plenary about the question of democracy and its limitations when discussed in an EU context. The event took place at the Law Courts, Valletta.

Prof Harwood participated in the Federal Government of Germany and US State Department's *Sustaining Peace Amidst the Climate Crisis*. Online conference, Berlin, 2/3 May 2022.

Prof Harwood participated in the TEPSA Debate, *The Implications of the French Presidential Election in the EU*, May 3. Held online.

Participated as a member of the panel, JEF, Europe Day Debate, 'The Russian invasion of Ukraine: The European peace project at threat?'. 9th May, Student House, University of Malta.

In June, Prof Harwood was appointed as member of the Stakeholder Committee for the academic audit of the Institute for Maltese Studies. Prof Harwood was appointed by Rector as one of the external Deans/Directors. Prof Harwood attended the audit which was held on 14 June 2022.

Prof Harwood participated as a panellist in the European Commission's Representation's 'Annual Event on Malta's Recovery and Resilience Plan'. Prof Harwood participated as part of the third panel which discussed the complementarity between the RRF and other EU Funds/instruments. As part of the event, Prof Harwood was also interviewed for Dot.eu, the television show. The event was held at the Ballroom, Phoenicia, 15 June.

In July 2022 Prof Harwood featured in the TEPSA Explainer clip on social media speaking about Malta-Russian relations. In the clip Prof Harwood explains how Malta-Russian relations have been largely determined by Russian interference in

Libya, Libya remaining a key country for Malta in terms of foreign policy and migration. The video clip can be found at the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wrFr05MY6Gs>

Professor Roderick Pace



In the academic year 2021-22, Professor Pace continued to lead the Institute's Ph.D. programme. The Institute now has four students pursuing doctoral studies and two applications are being scrutinized. Professor

Pace also served as a member of the Board of the Institute for European Studies and the Board of the Islands and Small States Institute (ISSI). He continued as a member of the editorial team of the Journal South European Society and Politics published by Routledge and was a member of the editorial board of the opensource journal Small States & Territories (SST) published by the Islands and Small States Institute of the University of Malta. He is also a member of the Institute's editorial board.

Professor Pace has taught a number of study-units and supervised dissertations on the Bachelor and Master's degrees in European Studies courses offered by the Institute, continued to supervise and co-supervisor three Ph.D. students. He has taught a course on the Institutions of the EU at the University Gozo Campus as part of the Diploma in Commerce and taught on the MA of the ISSI. Prof Pace sat on examining boards of other faculties/institutes as requested. Despite the difficulties caused by the pandemic, he maintained links with Euromesco, the network of EuroMediterranean Security Institutes of which the Institute has been a member since its inception and with the Trans-European Policy Studies Association (TEPSA) of which the Institute is also a member.

He blind refereed several academic articles for international academic journals.

On the 6 June 2022, Professor Pace participated in a workshop convened at the European University

Institute in Florence which brought together a number of former Max Weber Fellows and, led by Prof. Kaplyso Nicolaeidis on the EU's periphery.

Professor Pace has published the following:

2021

"Pragmatic Neutrality: Malta's View of EU Defence" in Clara Sophie Cramer, Ulrike Franke (eds.), *Ambiguous Alliance: Neutrality, Optouts and European Defence*. Collection of Essays, European Council on Foreign Relations. Pages 29-33.

2022

"Losing votes, losing touch? The beginning of a 'Great Refusal?'" on *Who Governs in Europe*, University of Nottingham at <https://whogoverns.eu/4566-2/>

Dr Susanna Thede



Dr Susanna Thede is a full-time resident academic member of staff at the Institute for European studies. She is a member of all Institute boards and the Institute's PhD committee. She also acts as BA exam and dissertation coordinator

at the Institute.

Dr Thede taught four BA study units and four MA study units in the 2021/2022 academic year:

- Research Methodology and Writing Skills (EST2229), BA (2nd year), 6 ECTS.
- EU Cohesion Policy Implementation and Management (EST2235), BA (2nd year), 6 ECTS.
- European Union Trade Policy (EST3193), BA (3rd year), 4 ECTS.
- The Economics of EU Policies (EST3208), BA (3rd year), 4 ECTS.
- Advances in European Union Trade Policy (EST5410), MA, 6 ECTS.
- European Union Cohesion Policy (EST5530), MA, 6 ECTS.
- Political and Economic Approaches to European Integration (EST5602), MA, 6 ECTS.

- Political and Economic Approaches to European Union Integration (EST5603), MA by research, 6 ECTS

It can be noted that she also coordinated the EU Cohesion Policy Implementation and Management study unit, which is team taught with experts from PPCD (Malta's managing authority of regional funds). In the 2021/2022 academic year, she supervised 2 BA and 3 MA students.

Dr Thede is a research associate at Örebro University School of Business, Sweden and a member of the European Economic Association (EEA) and the Forum for Research in International Trade (FREIT). She regularly acts as a referee for international academic journals including *International Trade Journal*, *Open Economies Review*, *Review of Development Economics*, *Review of International Economics and Finance*, *Southern Economic Journal*, and *World Economy*. Her work is listed on ORCID, Google Scholar, Research Gate and Publons.

Dr Thede is currently active in several projects at various stages of the research process:

Thede, S., Karpaty, P., The Effect of Corruption Experience on FDI: Evidence from Swedish Manufacturing Enterprises, *Journal of Comparative Economics* (completion stage).

Lorz, O., Thede, S., Tariff Overhang and Aid: Theory and Empirics, *Journal of Development Economics* (completion stage).

Thede, S., Gravino, D., *Foreign Direct Investment and Corruption - Multinational Enterprises' Behavior in Corrupt Environments*, Palgrave/Macmillan (contracted work - in progress)

Thede, S., Evidence on the Civilizing Effect of Trade (in progress). Recently presented at Örebro University School of Business.

Thede, S., The Trade Effect of Brexit: A Scoping Analysis (in progress). Initial research stage supported by UoM research grant EUSRPO2.

It can be noted that *Journal of Comparative Economics* and *Journal of Development Economics* are academic journals of high standing (at second rank in the Academic Journal Guide used to classify the quality of academic output in UK academic

research institutions) and that the book contracted by Palgrave/Macmillan has undergone strict peer-review.

In addition, she has set up an ERASMUS+ research collaboration with Institute for International Trade, University of Adelaide, to evaluate a prospective EU-Australia trade agreement in the coming academic year.

Dr Jean Claude Cachia



During the academic year 2021/2022 Dr Cachia was responsible for five modules including European Security, Political Parties in Europe, Small States and the EU, Research Methodology and Writing Skills (Undergrad level) and Research Methods (at Masters Level).

With regards to the administrative work, he was the Dissertation seminar coordinator and Outreach Coordinator. He organized the dissertation seminar for our final year students which was held in February 2022 and another one for our postgraduate students which was held in June 2022. As part of his outreach coordination, Dr Cachia visited a number of secondary and post-secondary schools to promote European Studies and the courses offered by the Institute. In addition, he organised a number of seminars including a Q/A session with Hon. Leo Brincat, Malta's representative on the European Court of Auditors. He has also collaborated with Professor Mark Harwood and Mr Stefan Bezzina, to organise a q/a session between our students and the British High Commissioner H.E Kate Ward and between our students and the French Ambassador H.E Agnès von der Mühl. With Professor Mark Harwood and Mr Stefan Bezzina, Dr Cachia worked to organise the annual Quiz Night with this year event being sponsored by the European Commission.

Dr Cachia has collaborated with Dr Pennisi from the Department of International Relations in the organisation of the IBB seminars. This year, a

number of PhD students from the Institute and Department presented their work. They were provided feedback with from the academic staff of both the Institute for European Studies and Department of International Relations.

As part of his research, Dr Jean Claude Cachia published an article with Mr Andre Debattista on Political Narrative, Collective Security and the State of the Union. The article was published by European Politics and Society. He co-wrote an article with Dr Mario Vassallo and Mr Andre Debattista on the role of civil society groups in the resignation of Prime Minister Muscat. This will be published by Routledge in 2023. He is also finalising a book on the Europeanisation and Party Politics in Malta. This will be published by Springer in 2023.

Dr Moira Catania



Dr Moira Catania lectures in economics and European economic integration. During the academic year 2021/22, she lectured the following study units to undergraduate students: Introductory Micro-Economics for European Studies; Introductory Macro-Economics for European Studies; Economics of European Integration and European Economic and Monetary Union. She also co-ordinated and lectured in the study unit: Economic and Financial Issues in the Euro Zone, to the Institute's Masters students. She supervised two students for their undergraduate dissertation and is currently supervising two students for their post-graduate dissertation. The topics of these dissertations include Malta and the EU-UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement, Eurobonds and 'Coronabonds', the covid-19 pandemic and the tourism sector in EU Mediterranean States and the Recovery and Resilience Facility. Furthermore, she is also currently co-supervising a student following the MSc Public Policy and Strategic Management in her dissertation on the utilisation of EU funds in Malta, focusing on social inclusion.

During the academic year, Moira Catania continued to coordinate the Institute's placement

programme. Eleven students participated in the programme during 2021/22, thus gaining relevant work experience in the area of European studies with various entities which have an established placement agreement with the Institute.

Furthermore, Moira Catania is also the Institute's outgoing Erasmus student exchange co-ordinator. During 2021/22, seven undergraduate students completed their Erasmus learning agreement. Dr Catania provided the necessary academic support to these students when they were preparing for their exchange as well as during their Erasmus semester.

During the year, Moira Catania attended and successfully completed the course: Foundations of University Teaching and Learning, which involved seminars, micro-teaching and an action research component. This programme, which took place between September 2021 and May 2022, is part of the University's professional academic development and is targeted to academics in the position of Lecturer.

During 2021/22, Moira Catania's research work focused on two main areas. A draft article on different forms of fiscal governance in the Euro Area has been completed. This research has been accepted to be presented during the 30th Anniversary of the Maastricht Treaty conference to be held in September 2022. The second area involves ongoing research work on fiscal conservatism and the economic response to the covid-19 pandemic in OECD and EU countries.

Dr Andreas Kotelis



Dr Andreas Kotelis joined the Institute for European Studies as a lecturer in January 2022. Apart from his previous collaboration with the University of

Malta as visiting Senior Lecturer, Dr Kotelis has, in the past, also taught at the State University of New York (SUNY) – Cortland, and was an Assistant Professor in Turkey, from 2013 to 2015. During the

Spring 2022 semester, Dr Kotelis taught two study-units, one on climate change for the Institute's MA students and one on sustainable development for the BA students. Dr Kotelis also offered a course for the Masters in Humanitarian Action (NOHA), which is also offered at the University of Malta.

As part of his administrative duties in the Institute for European Studies, Dr Kotelis is the MA theses coordinator and the Institute's representative at the FEMA research ethics committee.

Dr Kotelis, together with colleagues from the USA and Belgium, is currently involved in a project procured by GOPA Worldwide Consultants, and in cooperation with the EU Delegation in the USA. The project aims at the creation of new or updated versions of role-playing simulation games, which may be used in a classroom setting. Within the scope of the project, Dr Kotelis and his colleagues, organized an online workshop with several scholars and practitioners from the US in April 2022, while a second workshop with participants from European countries is scheduled for September 2022.

Furthermore, Dr Kotelis is a member of the Scientific Committee for the 12th Rhodes Model Regional Co-operation 2022, which will take place between 12-16 October (university edition) and 10-13 November (student edition), while he also attended the Commission for European Studies 2022 annual conference which took place between 28 June and 1 July in Lisbon.

Finally, Dr Kotelis, together with Prof Dimitrios Triantafyllou from Kadir Has University in Istanbul, is working on a revise and resubmit article titled "*National Role Conceptions of Greek and Turkish Foreign Policies: A Bilateral Assessment*". The article will be included in a special issue on Greek-Turkish relations by the *Journal of Balkan and Near Eastern Studies*.

Dr Marta Migliorati



Dr Marta Migliorati is Lecturer of European Studies and research coordinator at the Institute for European Studies since January 2022. She is currently teaching 5 study units at the Institute and currently supervising 2 MA and 2 BA students. She is actively engaged in the international research community in her field of specialization, i.e., European Union politics and policy making: In the 2020/2021 academic year, she presented her research in the ECPR Standing Group on the European Union in Rome and at the European Political Science Association in Prague. In this period, she published three peer-reviewed articles in the *Journal of European Public Policy*, in the *Italian Political Science Review* and *Comparative Political Studies*, as well as three working papers on the CADMUS EUI Research Repository. An article with Markus Jachtenfuchs (Hertie School) and Philipp Genschel (EUI) has recently been accepted for publication in *European Union Politics* and will appear online in the coming months. In May, she launched together with the other members of the institute a call for papers for a paper series on the 20th anniversary of the 2004 enlargement of the European Union.

Dr Migliorati works in many collaborative projects. Together with Adina Akbik (University of Leiden) and Christian Freudsperger (ETH), she is working on a revise and resubmit of an article for a special issue on *West European Politics*, as well as on another paper project to be submitted to *IO* in the fall. Both articles deal with the functioning of European Union Agencies in the context of the EU multi-level implementation system. Together with Adina Akbik she just received a revise and resubmit for an article on the *Journal of Common Market Studies* addressing the role of the European Parliament in the Economic dialogues between 2012 and 2019. With the same co-author, she is working on another paper project on legislative oversight. Furthermore, in collaboration with Fabio Franchino, Valerio Vignoli and Giovanni Pagano (University of Milan), she is working on a project addressing delegation of executive tasks to EU and national administrations from 1958 to 2019

through machine-learning techniques. Finally, Dr Migliorati is working on a paper project with Prof. Philipp Genschel on fiscal capacity building in the European Union, to be submitted to a peer-reviewed journal in the fall.

Dr Migliorati is a research associate at the Hertie School in Berlin. She regularly acts as a referee for international academic outlets including the *British Journal of Political Science*, the *Journal of Common Market Studies*, *West European Politics*, the *Journal of European Public Policy*, *European Union Politics*, the *Italian Political Science Review*.

During the academic year 2021/22 Dr Migliorati published or will publish the following articles:

Freudsperger, C., Maricut-Akbik, A., Migliorati, M (2022) *Opening Pandora's Box? Joint Sovereignty and the Rise of EU Agencies with Operational Tasks. Comparative Political Studies*

Genschel P, Jachtenfuchs M and Migliorati M (2023) *Differentiated integration as symbolic politics? Constitutional differentiation and policy reintegration in core state powers. European Union Politics (accepted for publication)*

Jachtenfuchs, M., Genschel, P., & Migliorati, M. (2022). *Report on patterns of variation in DI across areas of core state power and instruments of integration.*

Jachtenfuchs, M., Genschel, P., & Migliorati, M. (2022). *Report on the expanded EUDIFF 1 dataset.*

Jachtenfuchs, M., Genschel, P., Migliorati, M., & Loschert, F. (2022). *Differentiated integration and core state powers: The EU budget and Justice and Home Affairs. Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies Research Paper No. RSC_47.*

Migliorati, M & Vignoli, V (2021) *When politicisation meets ideology: the European Parliament and Free Trade Agreements. Italian Political Science Review*

Migliorati, M. (2021). *Postfunctional differentiation, functional reintegration: The Danish case in Justice and Home Affairs. Journal of European Public Policy, 0(0), 1–23*

Mr Andre Debattista



Throughout the academic year 2021/22, Mr Andre Debattista was MA coordinator, thus coordinating various administrative tasks in relation to the two

MA programmes offered at the Institute for European Studies. In addition to this, Mr Debattista delivered lectures in connection with three study units EST2234 - Malta in the European Union, EST3207 - Agenda-Setting in the European Union, and EST3213 - Identity and Culture in Europe. He also supervised/examined a number of dissertations at post-graduate (3 MA students) and undergraduate (2 BA students) level. Throughout this time, he has also been working on his Doctorate.

Together with Dr Jean Claude Cachia, Mr Debattista presented a conference paper titled *“Political Narrative, EU Security and the State of the Union”* at the ECPR Virtual General Conference. This paper has been published in the journal *“European Society and Politics.”* He also presented two other papers; *“In-nazzjonalizmu għal Friggieri fil kumplessità globalizzata”* at a conference held at the House of Representatives in Valletta and *“Rupture in the ‘Fortress Island’: Malta and the Suez Crisis (1956)”* as part of Malta Historical Society History Week 2021: Rupture - A Historical Perspective. Both papers will be published in conference proceedings.

In April 2022, Mr Debattista took part in a Round Table Conference in Prague organised by TOPAZ, the Wifried Martens Centre for European Studies and Konrad Adenauer Stiftung. He also took part in several panels organised by different organisations in Malta. Mr Debattista also currently concluding two edited books (expected publication, 2023) and a shorter monograph (expected publication, 2022)

During the academic year 2021/22, Mr Debattista published the following article:

Cachia, J.C. & DeBattista A.P., *Political narrative, collective EU security and the State of the Union*, in *European Politics and Society* (2022), DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/23745118.2022.2082035>

Undergraduate and Postgraduate Dissertations submitted in 2021/2022 by IES Students

Undergraduate

Attard, Kay

The European Green Deal and the Farm to Fork Strategy: Food Waste in Catering Establishments in Cyprus and Malta

Baldacchino, Nathaniel

An Evaluation of the Policy Implementation regarding the Transport Sector on Climate Change: The Case of Malta and Luxembourg

Bonello, Kimberley

Human Trafficking: EU Border Control and Legislation

Camilleri, Matthew

Malta-UK Trade and the EU-UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement

Cini, Yanica

The EU's Official Development Assistance: Ireland and Malta's Promotion of the Sustainable Development Goals

Curtis, Robert

The European Union's Relationship with Albania and North Macedonia

Debattista, Michael Jeremy

A Comparative Analysis of EU Climate Action from a Small Island States Perspective

Farrugia, Matthew

The European Union and the 'Golden' Passport and Visa Schemes in Cyprus, Italy and Malta

Fenech, Martina

The European Union's Counter Terrorism Policy and its Responsiveness to Threats over the Last Two Decades

Gauci, Sarah Anne

The EU's Gender Equality Strategy 2020-2025 and Gender Mainstreaming in Malta

Holgersson, Selina Marianne
Gender Inequality in the Labour Market and
Economic Performance in Belgium and Germany

Mifsud, Briana
The Bosman Ruling in Maltese Football

Mizzi, Luke
Transport Infrastructure Projects Supported by the
Cohesion Fund in Malta: An Environmental
Perspective

Muscat, Veneziani Jessica
The Special Provisions for Islands in the EU Treaties
and Policies: Malta's Experience since 2004

Pace, Michela
Cultivating a European Identity among EU Citizens
through Education: Malta's Educational Curriculum

Pace, Nicole
Medicinal Cannabis Policies and Regulations in the
EU

Pagani, Barbara
Animal Welfare and Intensive Animal Farming in
the European Union

Pari, Elia
The European Union's Approach Toward
Misinformation

Portelli, Nicholas
The European Parliament's Approach towards
Malta's Rule of Law Issues and Money Laundering
Allegations

Spiteri, Martina
Assessing the LIFE Programme for Climate Change
Adaptation in the Three Island States of the EU

Tockarszewsky, Kelly
The Impact of the Russia-Ukraine Conflict on EU-
Russia Relations: 2015-2020

Vassallo, Michaela
The Debate on Eurobonds and 'Coronabonds' in the
Euro Area

Postgraduate

Abela, Erika
Third Country Nationals in the European Labour
Market: Latin Americans Nationals in Malta and
Spain

Alessandro, Matteo
Non-Fungible Tokens and the Development of the
Legal Concept of Ownership of Digital Property

Attard, Mildred
The EU Institutions' Role in the Formulation of the
NextGenerationEU Recovery Plan

Buhagiar, Giuseppe Andrea
The USA and EU Integration in Security and
Defence

Camilleri, Luana
The Post-Brexit Franco-German Dynamic and Small
EU Member States

Cassar, Katrina
The Erasmus+ Strategic Partnership Funding
Programme for Higher Education in Malta 2014-
2020

Cauchi, Nicholas
The EU and Regionalism: The Case of Belgium and
Spain

Curmi, Miguel
The European Parliament Political Groups
Approach to the 'Future of Europe'

Farrugia, Liam
The Maltese Media and the Rule of Law Debate
within the European Union

Farrugia, Mariah
The Euro Crisis and Shifts in Popular Euroscepticism
in Southern EU Member States

Fenech, Michaela
European Social Fund Support in the Education and
Employment Sectors in Malta, 2014-2020

Galea, Claire
Evaluating the European Union's Role During the
COVID-19 Pandemic

Galea, Gabriel Nicholas
An Assessment of EU-Funded Environmental Protection Projects in Malta, 2014-2020

Yordanova, Gergana Hristova
EU's Public Perceptions and Policy on Security and Defence

Haber, Nicole
The Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on the Tourism Sector in EU Mediterranean States

Jankowska, Julia Luiza
An Assessment of European Union Initiatives in Fostering Youth Entrepreneurship

Lomax, Mariah
Economic Resilience in EU Mediterranean States and the Recovery and Resilience Facility

Marzullo, Pablo
Mitigating Greenhouse Gas Emission in Cyprus and Malta: A Focus on the Transportation Sector

Micallef, Andrew Paul
The European Union as a Normative Power and its Relations with Israel

Nechev, Simeon
The Decline of Anti-Establishment Parties in Greece, Italy and Spain

Nikolov, Georgi Ivelinov
Perceived Corruption and Electoral Patterns in Bulgaria and Portugal

Pavia, Andrea
The EU Global Gateway as a Reaction Towards China's Belt and Road Initiative

Piscopo, Dinahlee
Evaluating Female Participation in Politics in Finland and Malta

Tanti, Jamie
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