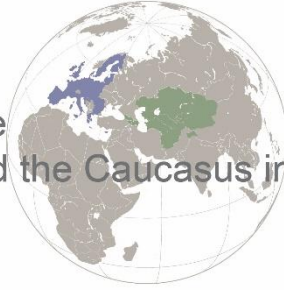


PhD Support Programme
The EU, Central Asia and the Caucasus in the International System



International Conference

Geopolitical Change in Central Asia and the Southern Caucasus: Which Future Role for Europe?

3 – 4 July 2017

#EUCACIS

Representation of the European Commission to Germany

Unter den Linden 78, 10117 Berlin

3 July 2017

2.15 pm

Welcome to the Conference by the Organisers

*Prof. Dr. Mathias **Jopp**, Director, Institut für Europäische Politik, Berlin*

*PD Dr. Matthias **Waechter**, Director General, Centre international de formation européenne, Nice*

2.30 pm

Welcome to the Conference on behalf of the Donor Organisations

*Dr. Astrid **Bothmann**, Volkswagen Foundation, Hanover*

*Richard Nikolaus **Kühnel**, Representative of the European Commission in Germany, Berlin*

2.45 pm

Panel I:

Russia and the US: New Trends in Great Power Relations and their Implications for Central Asia and the Southern Caucasus

Panel Speakers:

*Prof. Dr. Pál **Dunay**, George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies, Garmisch-Partenkirchen*

*Prof. Dr. Pavel **Baev**, Peace Research Institute Oslo*

Comments:

*Jos **Boonstra**, Centre for European Security Studies, Groningen*

*Dr. Sebastian **Schiek**, German Institute for International and Security Affairs, Berlin*

Chair:

*PD Dr. Matthias **Waechter**, Director General, Centre international de formation européenne, Nice*

Discussion

4.15 pm

Coffee

4.45 pm

Panel II:

The Importance of China and its “One Belt, One Road” Initiative: Competitor or Partner for Europe?

Panel Speakers:

Jan Gaspers, Head of the European China Policy Unit (ECPU), Mercator Institute for China Studies, Berlin

Raffaello Pantucci, Director of International Security Studies, Royal United Services Institute, London

Prof. Dr. Mirzokhid A. Rakhimov, Head of the Contemporary History and International Relations Department, Institute of History, Academy of Sciences of Uzbekistan, Tashkent

Dr. George Tzogopoulos, Democritus University of Thrace, Hellenic Foundation for European & Foreign Policy, Athens

Chair:

Prof. Dr. Mathias Jopp, Director, Institut für Europäische Politik, Berlin

Discussion

7.00 – 8.30 pm

Conference Dinner

4 July 2017

9.00 am

Parallel Working Groups for Young Researchers

(additional programme see pp. 5-6)

Participants: Young researchers from Europe, Central Asia and the Southern Caucasus

Presentations of research projects matching the thematic focus of the conference. The projects are discussed with respondents who will offer the participants suggestions to improve their research and networking opportunities with colleagues working in the same research field. The paper presenters were selected by a review board following an open call for papers.

10.30 am

Coffee

10.45 am

Parallel Working Groups for Young Researchers (continued)

12.00 pm

Light Lunch

Public Debate

H.E. Ambassador **Peter Burian**
EU Special Representative for Central Asia

speaks on

Prospects of EU-Central Asia Relations

Welcome address on behalf of the European Commission
*Bernhard **Schnittger**, Deputy Head of the Representation of the
European Commission to Germany, Berlin*

Tuesday, 4 July 2017, 12.30 pm

2.00 pm
Coffee

2.15 pm

Panel III:

Strategic Priorities for the EU's Southern Caucasus and Central Asia Policy in a Changing Global Environment

Panel Speakers:

*Andreas **Peschke**, Director for Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia Divisions,
Federal Foreign Office, Berlin*

*Prof. Dr. Ghia **Nodia**, Ilia State University, Tbilisi*

*Anna **Gussarova**, Central Asia Institute for Strategic Studies, Almaty*

Chair:

*Prof. Dr. Mathias **Jopp**, Director, Institut für Europäische Politik, Berlin*

Discussion

3.45 pm

Concluding Remarks

*Prof. Dr. Mathias **Jopp**, Director, Institut für Europäische Politik, Berlin*

Agenda for the Working Groups for Young Researchers

Working Group 1:

The EU's relations with Central Asia and the Southern Caucasus

Chair:

*Prof. Dr. Ghia **Nodia**, Ilia State University, Tbilisi*

Comments:

*Dr. Ashot **Aleksanyan**, Yerevan State University, Yerevan*

*Julian **Plottka**, Institut für Europäische Politik, Berlin*

*Dr. Laura **Yerekeshva**, R.B. Suleimenov Institute of Oriental Studies, Almaty*

The EU Global Strategy on Foreign and Security Policy, Central Asia and the South Caucasus: From the Pursuit of Values to “Principled Pragmatism”

*Dr. Stefan **Gänzle**, University of Agder, Kristiansand*

*Dr. Neil **Winn**, Senior Lecturer in European Studies; School of Politics & International Studies; University of Leeds*

The European Union as a Normative Power – EU-Turkmenistan Relations in our Near Future

*Abdülaziz Ahmet **Yaşar**, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven; and Istanbul Center for International Law, Istanbul*

Branding Kazakhstan – External Legitimization of an Autocratic Regime by the EU

*Othmara **Glaz**, European Union – Russia Studies, Johan Skytte Institute of Political Studies, University of Tartu*

Competing visions in Azerbaijan's foreign policy on European Union's Eastern Partnership and Russia's Eurasian Economic Union: Normative Transformation versus Security Priorities

*Ilgar **Gurbanov**, Research Fellow, Center for Strategic Studies under the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Baku*

Geopolitics of Democracy: The Case of Georgia and Ukraine

*Tinatini **Genebashvili**, Project Officer, UNDP/Fostering Regional and Local Development in Georgia*

Iran and the South Caucasus after the Nuclear Agreement: Expectations, Reality and a Possible Role for the EU

*Yana **Zabanova**, Independent Analyst on the South Caucasus, Berlin*

Working Group 2:

The Changing Geopolitical Context in Central Asia and the Southern Caucasus

Chair:

*Dr. Nazira **Momosheva**, Kyrgyz National University named after Jusup Balasagyn, Bishkek*

Comments:

*Prof. Dr. Damira **Omuralieva**, Naryn State University, Naryn*

*Prof. Dr. Mathias **Jopp**, Institut für Europäische Politik, Berlin*

*Dr. George **Tzogopoulos**, Democritus University of Thrace, Hellenic Foundation for European & Foreign Policy, Athens*

Chinese Soft Power in Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan: A Confucius Institutes Case Study

*Gaukhar **Nursha**, Faculty of International Relations, Al-Farabi Kazakh National University, Almaty*

Understanding Regional Priorities in Central Asia: Comparative Study of EU, Russia and China

*Ankur **Yadav**, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi*

Russian Foreign Policy and China in Central Asia. Balancing against the West

*Sona B. **Apbasova**, Catholic University of Eichstätt-Ingolstadt*

Security Challenges on Post-Soviet Space: Identitarian Perspective

*Kristina **Khutsishvili**, Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, Pisa*

When Geopolitics Challenges Democratic Transition: The Case of Kyrgyzstan

*Altynay **Kulmyrzaeva**, Graduate school 'Global and Area studies', Leipzig University, Leipzig*