

International conference on “The Future of European integration: challenges and opportunities for the European democracy ahead of the 2024 EP elections”

15-16 May 2024

Hall II

KEDEA building, University campus,
Aristotle University of Thessaloniki,
Thessaloniki, Greece

The conference is co-hosted by the Double Degree Master Programme “European Studies” (ESIS) organized by the School of Political Sciences at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki and the Department of Cultures, Politics and Society at the University of Turin, the Law School of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, and the Centre d’Etude de la Vie Politique (Cevipol) Université Libre de Bruxelles (U.L.B.).

Programme

Wednesday 15 May 2024

- 12.00 - 12.30** Registration
- 12.30 - 12.45** Greetings by academic authorities
- 12.45 - 13.00** **Introductory remarks** "The EP elections of 2024 – a change of paradigm?", Ioannis Papageorgiou, professor, School of Political Sciences, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki
- 13.00 - 13.30** **Keynote Speech** “Can Europe Become a Political Adult?”, Loukas Tsoukalis, Professor, Sciences Po, Paris, Professor Emeritus, University of Athens
- 13.30 - 14:15** **Buffet Break**

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**14.30-16.15**

Panel 1. **“European integration and the European values today”**. Chair Giovanni Finizio (University of Turin)

- “Violent Radicalization in the EU: Implications for Upholding European Values”, Nikolaos Gaitenidis
- “European values after the Russian invasion of Ukraine: Results from the Greek and Hungarian MEPs”, Georgios Kordas
- “Understanding domestic determinants of rule of law Europeanisation in Southeastern Europe”, Theofanis Kakarnias
- “Two flints to make a fire? The European Commission’s use of the Venice Commission’s expertise in its institutional response to the EU’s Rule of law crisis”, Andreína Victoria Hernández Ross

16.15 -18.15

Panel 2. **“Multilevel governance and the European public space”**, Chair George Andreou (AUP)

- “Towards EU Climate Neutrality. Measuring the Differentiated Politicization of the “Fit for 55” Legislative Package Negotiations”, Lara Querton
- “Domesticating” Europe- the Greek media coverage of the European Elections of 2024”, Christos Frangonikolopoulos – Kally Zarali
- “Fight for local democracy at EU level? The city diplomacy activity of Budapest and Warsaw to receive direct EU funding”, Balázs Brucker
- “Multilevel Controversies on European Sexual Democracy”, Víctor Hugo Ramírez García
- “The Conflict Between Government and Opposition on EU Bills: Analyzing the Legislative Consensus of Opposition Parties in the Greek Parliament from 2004 to 2023”, Konstatinos Saravakos

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18.15 – 20.00 Panel 3. **“European democracy and the international context”**, Chair
Lina Papadopoulou (AUTH)

- “The war in Ukraine as an anomie of values. Case studies: Poland and France in the European context”, Małgorzata Mołęda-Zdziech - Kinga Torbicka
- “Turkey’s Role in the Migration Crisis of the European Union”,
Seyit Ali Avcu
- “Analyzing the Impact of Migration on decision-making processes in the European Union ahead of the 2024 European Parliament Elections: the Polish perspective”, Eugeniusz Kuznicow-Wyszyński
- “EU’s Transformative Power: Challenges and Opportunities in the Western Balkans with a Focus on Serbia”, Ana Stevanović Đukić

Thursday 16 May 2024

10.00 – 11.30 Panel 4. **“Political parties in the European public space”** Chair
Jean Michel de Waele (U.L.B.)

- “VoteMatch Europe 2024. The Position of the Greek Political Parties on European Issues”, Ioannis Andreadis
- “Regionalist parties and movements and European integration”,
Marco Stolfo
- “Forming a European awareness?” The Europarties to the test of transnational campaigning”, Daniela R. Piccio - Antonella Seddone
- “Romania vs. Poland: EU Parliament Performance 2020-2024”,
Andrei Dumitru Olteanu

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**11.30 -13.15****Panel 5. “Populism, euroscepticism and the European elections” Chair Eftichia Teperoglou (ATh)**

- “Frames Unveiled: Reinvigoration of Populism Discourse in European Political Parties”, Ermelinda Mucaj
- “The populist discourse of Albanian political parties regarding European Union”, Jordan Jorgji
- “Right-wing movement in Georgia in terms of Euroscepticism”, Dachi Korinteli
- “The ideological ambiguities of the Five Star Movement: its views about Europe from the 2014 to the 2024 European elections” Gabriele Giordano
- “Populist and anti-EU movements in European elections: The cases of Bulgaria and Romania”, Georgios Alatsidis

13.15- 14.15**Conclusive Round Table “The EU after the 2024 elections” , Chair Ioannis Papageorgiou (ATh)**

- Jean Michel De Waele, professor, ULB
- Eftychia Teperoglou, assistant professor, ATh
- Ioannis Constantinidis, associate professor, University of Macedonia
- Susannah Verney, associate professor, University of Athens

14.10 – 14.30**Closing Remarks “Towards a new European Democratic Model”. George Andreou, asst. Professor, ATh****14.30****Buffet Lunch**

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