

IN AND OUT UNDERSTANDING THE EUROPEAN UNION BEYOND ITS BORDERS



Newsletter, August 2018

JEAN MONNET CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE European Union beyond its borders

The Department of International Relations and European Integration of the National University of Political Studies and Public Administration (SNSPA) launched on the 1st of September 2015 the Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence In and Out: Understanding the European Union beyond its Borders, co-financed by the Executive Agency for Education, Audiovisual and Culture of the European Commission through ERASMUS+ Programme. This project will be implemented in the period September 2015 – August 2018.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The project aimed to:

- // Increase and improve the knowledge level regarding the EU's borders through specific research activities, the results of which will be published in order to reach maximum visibility;
- // Improve border management at the EU's Eastern border by developing content and tools on this EU subject, by implementing high-quality professional trainings in this area;
- // Raise interest on border management by enhancing debates and sharing good practices about EU border management activities between different categories of stakeholders - academia, civil servants (frontier workers), policy-makers, civil society, etc. – from the three countries envisaged by the project (Romania, Republic of Moldova and Ukraine).

In search for solutions to counteract the risks from the common borders

The research activities were aimed at fulfilling two objectives. Firstly, they contributed to the elaboration of the final documents that served as didactic materials for the courses that were held and also contributed to the advancement of knowledge on European policies by filling in the existing gaps regarding European border management. Secondly, the research activities aimed to evaluate and offer solutions to tackle the risks from the neighbourhood common borders. The impact of the research was evaluated through periodically SWOT analysis.

Courses in Romania, Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova

The third and final round of preparation courses for frontier workers from Romania, Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova took place in Chişinău, in March this year. The six teachers representing the institutions involved in the project utilized the updated didactic materials (course supports) for the teaching activity.

Analysing EU borders

Three conferences, roundtables and study visits were organized during the duration of the project. The conferences coincided with the opening, mid-term evaluation and completion of the project. These events gathered representatives of the civil society, academia and decision-makers from Romania, Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova for discussions regarding responsibilities on border management.

The roundtable debates provided an opportunity for discussion with officials and civil society representatives on the risks and challenges of border management in Romania. The study visits organized in Chişinău and Odessa were aimed at identifying the problems and needs of border management systems of Ukraine and Moldova.



The courses, conferences, roundtables and research activities contributed to the overall objective of the project, namely expanding European studies towards a professional category that normally do not enter in contact with the domain, although their work is related to European issues.

Also, between September 1st 2015 - August 31st 2018, the Department of International Relations and European Integration was the coordinator of the activities in the Centre of Excellence Jean Monnet „Structures of Interconnectivity in the EU’s Neighbourhood”, which is connected to the new EU approaches on the European Neighbourhood Policy, focusing on the impact of institutional reform on the

development and economic, social and political integration of the partner countries.

SO FAR:

EU Studies on Border Management Virtual Platform

The e-learning platform “EU Studies on Border Management” was launched in September 2015 and stores all the details regarding the events and activities organised. Moreover, the platform hosts all the necessary information required for the courses and online teaching, but also a database with the primary and secondary sources regarding border management.

For further information, please click: <http://europolity.eu/in-out-centre-of-excelence>

In / Out Centre of Excellence



IN AND OUT: UNDERSTANDING THE EUROPEAN UNION BEYOND ITS BORDERS

Financed by: The European Commission, Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency

Host institution: The National University of Political Studies and Public Administration, Department of International Relations and European Integration

Updating the Database

The database provides information on EU legislation regarding border management. At the same, information regarding the national legislation from the Republic of Moldova, Ukraine and Romania on the specific aforementioned subject is available. Moreover, we provide reports, analyses and academic articles regarding border management in the region.

For further information, please consult: <http://europolity.eu/database>



Courses in the Republic of Moldova (Chişinău)

The third and final round of training courses on border management for the Moldavian frontier workers took place between March 25th and 30th. The courses were attended by professionals from the Customs Office, Agencies or specialized Directorates of the institutions in the central administration, as well as students undergoing preparation in the field. The six teachers representing the higher education institutions involved in the project utilized the updated course supports for the teaching activity.

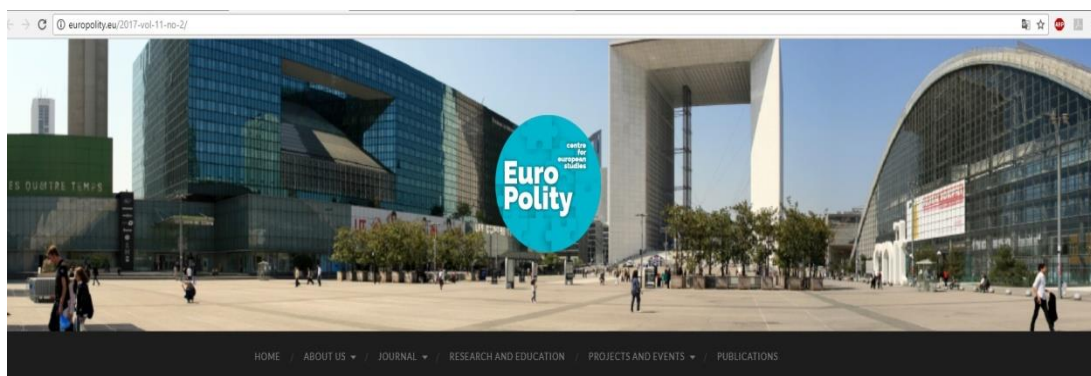
The courses combined traditional lecture elements with interactive approaches, involving participants in debates regarding the relationship of their country with the EU from the perspective of economic, political and security ties, the latter instance also touching upon aspects such as the management of borders.

During the three year duration of the project, 181 certified professionals and students working/studying in the fields connected to frontier/border management have been trained in subjects such as the functioning of the EU's institutions and decision-making process, the geopolitics

of Central and Eastern Europe, evaluating the cross-border cooperation, the EU's CFSP or the insights of the Horizon 2020 programme. The training activity was designed to cover a target group of 36 people/year or a total of 108; however, the courses were highly appreciated which prompted the state institutions and agencies that the implementation team cooperated with to send more people for the training.



Research



2017 - vol. 11, no. 2

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CALL FOR PAPERS VOL. 12, NO. 1 / 2018

Two academic articles have been published as a result of the research activities carried out, such as study visits, conferences and round tables. The purpose of these articles is to familiarize the target group with public policy issues and programme evaluation, focusing in particular on cross-border cooperation and its impact on improving governance. Both articles can be found in the international academic journal *Europolity*, Vol. 11, no. 2 from 2017.

// The first article titled **"THE CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION BETWEEN ROMANIA AND UKRAINE IN THE CONTEXT OF THE EASTERN PARTNERSHIP (EPP) AND ASSOCIATION AGREEMENTS"** belongs to Professor Mircea Brie. This article aims to analyze the European Neighbourhood Policy for the Eastern Border, focusing specifically on neighbourhood relations developed with Ukraine.

Link: <http://doi.org/10.25019/europolity.2017.11.2.03>

// The second article titled **"GEOPOLITICS AT THE EASTERN BORDERS OF THE EUROPEAN UNION: EASTERN EUROPE BETWEEN EU AND RUSSIA"** belongs to Professor Dacian Duna which presents a comparative analysis of the EU's Eastern neighbourhood policies in the pre-accession and post-accession period. In other words, the author aims to analyse the extent to which a new Russian geopolitical renaissance can influence EU policies in its Eastern neighbourhood.

Link: <http://doi.org/10.25019/europolity.2017.11.2.05>

// There is also a third incoming article by George Anglițoiu, titled **"PUTINIZATION VERSUS NEO-CONTAINMENT"**, which will be published in the December edition of the academic article *Europolity*.

Updating the teaching materials

The process of updating/adapting the seven course supports was completed prior to the third and final round of courses of the third year, between December 2017 and January 2018 in order to better accommodate the needs of border workers.

Teaching Content and Didactic Materials



The project is based on seven courses which will combine elements of traditional lecturing with interactive approaches involving participants in debating EU border aspects. Moreover, the didactic material that will accompany the course is a specific result of a research activity undertaken within the project for each course that will help the participants engage in a powerful learning activity through its multidisciplinary approach. This didactic material will serve as a theoretical common basis for the target group and will contain all the key concepts and



Available presentations:

[Arhitectura Institutelor UE-Ro](#)

[Evaluarea cooperării transfrontaliere](#)

[Geopolitica Europei Centrale și de Est](#)

[H2020](#)

[Identitatea minoritatilor nationale si noile forme ale frontierelor spatiului european](#)

[Politicele Uniunii Europene](#)

The updated teaching materials can be consulted at:

- * <http://europolity.eu/teaching-content-and-didactic-materials/>
- * <http://europolity.eu/learning-tools-charts-infographs-working-sheets/>

Debate: Cross-border cooperation: a solution for ensuring the EU borders



A roundtable entitled "Cross-border cooperation: a solution for securing the EU borders" was held on March 14th at the headquarters of SNSPA where Cornel Ciurea, an expert from the Foundation for a Modern Democracy (The Republic of Moldova) was invited to. This event created the opportunity to generate debates between the speaker and all those present key issues regarding the border management challenges and risks faced by the Republic of Moldova involve as an EU border state.

Closing Conference of the Project: Challenges to the EU's borders in the 21st Century

The conference, entitled "Challenges to EU's borders in the 21st Century", took place on May 22nd 2018. The event aimed at gathering experts (Stanislav SECRIERU- European Union Institute for Security Studies, France; Tetyana MALYARENKO-Centre for Transatlantic Relations, Ukraine; Denis CENUȘĂ (Institut für Politikwissenschaft, Justus-Liebig-University, the Republic of Moldova), academics, policy makers (Teodor MELEȘCANU- Minister of Foreign Affairs of Romania) and stakeholders to discuss opportunities for collaboration between institutions involved in border management and debating how to improve security at the EU's Eastern borders. Moreover, the closing conference contributed to the evaluation and dissemination of the results obtained, focusing on the strengths and vulnerabilities identified in order to adapt and improve the project. Given the participation of the frontier workers involved in the project, the aspects that needed revision were pointed out more easily. Last but not least, the dissemination impact of these elements among the participants, including academics, researchers, public administrators and civil society representatives was also important.



WHAT IS NEXT?

The dissemination of the project results will be further pursued by the implementation team that will also seek to consolidate the relationship that was developed during the three project years with the institutions and agencies that provided the people for the training activities since the latter also expressed their desire to participate in future thematic courses in their area of expertise. Additionally, the research conducted within the project will further continue not only as a means to enhance the project's continuity and visibility, but also because the academics involved in its activities have a demonstrated professional interest in subjects connected to the EU neighbourhood and CFSP. The research component will continue to bring added-value to the project.

TEACHING STAFF:

1. Professor Iordan Gheorghe BĂRBULESCU, PhD. Teaching/Research: The architecture of the European Union: institutions and decisional process; The policies of the European Union;
2. Professor George ANGLIȚOIU, PhD. Teaching/Research: The European Union's Foreign Affairs and Security Policy
3. Professor Ioan HORGA, PhD. Teaching/Research: The evaluation of cross-border cooperation
4. Professor Mircea BRIE, PhD. Teaching/Research: The identity of national minorities and a new type of frontier in the European area
5. Professor Adrian IVAN, PhD. Teaching/Research: Horizon 2020: Eastern Europe
6. Lecturer Dacian DUNA, PhD. Teaching/Research: Geopolitics of Central and Eastern Europe

Administrative staff: Prof. Iordan Gh. Bărbulescu, PhD. – Academic Coordinator; Ana-Maria Costea, PhD. – Academic Assistant; Alexandra Loy, PhD. Candidate – Academic Assistant, Luminița Bogdan, PhD. candidate – Assistant; Amira Sawan – PhD. candidate, Assistant; Alexandra Prelipceanu, PhD. – Webmaster.

For further information, please consult the link: <http://europolity.eu/in-out-centre-of-excelence>

OTHER THEMATIC ACTIVITIES OF DRIIE

Call for papers Europolity – Continuity and Change in European Governance Vol. 12, no. 2 (2018)

Europolity is an academic journal that is indexed in 7 international data bases, for publication of new ideas, research results and fundamental advances in all aspects of International Relations, European Studies and Political Science.

- Authors should send their abstracts (200-250 words) to contact@europolity.eu before 15 September 2018.
- Early submissions are strongly encouraged. Applicants will be informed about selection until 30 September 2018.
- The deadline for paper submission is 30 October 2018.

A special Section will be dedicated to researches focused on the Romanian Presidency of EU's Council of 2019. We strongly encourage scholars to send us their contribution in this field.

Full guidelines for the presentation of the papers and more details about the editorial policy of the journal are available in the editorial policy section on the website: <http://europolity.eu>.