

Graduate Centre for Europe 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference  
*Between Utopia and Dystopia. Redefining Europe Today*  
University of Birmingham 16-17 March 2016

***Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> March***

GISBERT KAPP BUILDING, GREEN ZONE, G8, LECTURE THEATRE 2

9.00 - 9.30 **Registration /Coffee**

9.30 - 10.00 **Welcome** - Prof Mark Webber, Head of the School of Government and Society, University of Birmingham

10.00 - 11.30 **Panel A - *State of the Union***

Chair: Dr Julian Paenke

Prof Stephen Gill (York University, Toronto)

*Utopias/Dystopias: from the Silent Revolution to Fortress Europe*

Dr Jens Maesse (University of Giessen)

*Power and Critique in Europe. On the Discursive Logic of Austerity Discourses Within a "New Weberian Universe"*

Dr Tommaso Visone (Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, Pisa)

*The Beauty and the Beast. From Dystopia to a New "Figure" for EU*

11.30 - 11.45 **Coffee Break**

GISBERT KAPP BUILDING, GREEN ZONE, G8, SEMINAR ROOM N329

12.00 - 13.30 **Panel B - *The Idea of European Identity and Civilization***

Chair: Dr Nick Martin

Sofia Mali (Loughborough University)

*Byzantium Answers to the Current European 'Dystopia'*

Kevin Hannon (Midlands European Movement)

*The Place of the EU Civilisation in the World History of Civilisations*

Julia Wdowin (University of Warwick)

*Is a National Identity Really Incompatible with a European Identity?*

13.30 - 14.15 **Lunch**

GISBERT KAPP BUILDING, GREEN ZONE, G8, SEMINAR ROOM N225

14.15 - 15.45 **Panel C - European Responses to the Refugee Crisis**

Chair: Dr Lorenzo Cladi

Gergana Tomova (Fordham University, New York)  
*Refugees Migration and Borders in the Newest EU Members*

Prof Hans Hahn (Oxford Brookes University)  
*Between Utopia and Dystopia: The Syrian Refugee Crisis, Reflected in Aspects of German Political Culture*

Tobias Scholz (University of Göttingen)  
*Europe Unchained or Europe Unchanged? A quantitative Content Analysis of the European Parliament's Debates on the 'Migration Crisis' in 2015*

15.45 - 16.00 **Coffee Break**

16.00 - 17.30 **Keynote Prof Gregory Claeys** (Royal Holloway, University of London)

*European Utopias and Dystopias: Past, Present and Future*

### ***Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> March***

STRATHCONA BUILDING, RED ZONE, R18, LECTURE THEATRE 7

9.00 - 10.15 **Keynote Dr Ulrike Guérot** (European Democracy Lab, European School of Governance, Berlin)

*Why Europe Needs to Become a Republic. A Political Utopia*

10.15 - 10.30 **Coffee Break**

10.30 - 12.00 **Panel D - Contemporary Regional Challenges: Paradiplomacy, Citizenship and Digital Democracy**

Chair: Dr Isabelle Hertner

Cairo Junqueira (San Tiago Dantas)  
*Paradiplomacy and Regional Integration Processes: a Comparative Analysis Between European Union and Mercosur Subnational Committees*

Martijn van den Brink (European University Institute, Florence)  
*EU Citizenship and Fundamental Rights: Empirical, Normative, and Conceptual Problems*

Tobias Burgers (Free University Berlin)  
*The Militarisation and Securitisation of the European Cyberspace and What It Means for the Utopia of Direct Digital Democracy*

12.00 - 12.45 **Lunch**

NUFFIELD BUILDING, RED ZONE, R9, LECTURE ROOM G13

12.45 - 14.00 **Panel E - Narratives of Utopia and Dystopia**

Chair: Dr Paolo De Ventura

Marlene Schrijnders (University of Birmingham)

*From London to Leipzig and Back: Goth Scenes in the GDR Between Endzeit, Weltschmerz and Revolution*

Dr Rossella Bonfatti (University of Bologna)

*Dante and Mazzini: Mirroring Utopia*

Dr Carlos Espaliú Berdud (Universitat Internacional de Catalunya)

*United States of Europe: Between Dystopia and Utopia*

WATSON BUILDING, RED ZONE, R15, LECTURE THEATRE C

14.00 - 14.30 **Coffee Break**

14.30 - 16.00 **Roundtable *Integrating Europe: An Utopia in Times of Crisis?***

Speakers: Dr Isabelle Hertner, Dr Tim Haughton, Dr Lorenzo Cladi

WATSON BUILDING, RED ZONE, R15, SEMINAR ROOM 310

16.00 - 17.00 **Drinks Reception**