Workshop programme

Comparative perspectives on the substance of EU democracy promotion

Hosted by the Centre for EU Studies (CEUS), Ghent University, Belgium, 24 June 2011

Lead projects/groups:
- EU-iPodS project: ‘The Substance of EU International Democracy Promotion’ (cross-university project organised by the CEUS of Ghent University and Anne Wetzel from the NCCR Democracy, University of Zürich), project website: http://www.eu-ipods.ugent.be/
- ESRC Project: ‘Paradoxes and Contradictions in EU Democracy Promotion Efforts in the Middle East’ (led by Michelle Pace), project website: http://www.eumena.bham.ac.uk/

08:30-08:45 – Arrival

08:45-09:15 - Welcome and introduction of participants

09:15-11:00 - Panel I: Conceptual & theoretical perspectives

Chair: Fabienne Bossuyt

- Conceptualising Politico-economic Models of EU and US Democracy Promotion: A Comparative Approach (Jeff Bridoux & Milja Kurki)

Discussant: Anne Wetzel

-Democracy: Disaggregated and Reshuffled? Rereading the ‘Inside-Outside’ Analogy of European Union Democracy Promotion (Jessica Schmidt)

Discussant: Michelle Pace

-Explaining the shape of the EU’s democracy promotion (Sigita Urdze & Michèle Knodt)

Discussant: Jan Orbie

11:00-11:15 - Coffee break

11:15-13:00 - Panel II: Comparing the substance of EU and international democracy promotion (in the post-Soviet space)

Chair: Michelle Pace

-The clash of good intentions? Comparing the substance of European and international democracy promotion activities in Belarus (Giselle Bosse)

Discussant: Tsveta Petrova
-The ‘what’ of democracy promotion in the post-Soviet space: a comparative analysis of the EU, the CoE and the OSCE (Ecaterina McDonagh)

*Discussant*: Oscar Pardo Sierra

-Drivers and Brakemen - Multipolar External Influences in Building Up Democratic Institutions in Post-Orange Ukraine (Inna Melnykovska & Rainer Schweickert)

*Discussant*: Barbara Lehmburch

**13:00-14:00 - Lunch break**

**14:00-15:45 - Panel III: Comparing the substance of EU and US democracy promotion**

Chair: Jan Orbie

-Aiding democracy in an authoritarian ‘aid darling’: Comparing the substance of EU and US democracy promotion in Ethiopia (Karen Del Biondo)

*Discussant*: Rinda Bosker

-Western & Central Asian Perspectives on Democracy & Democratization: Comparing the Models of Democracy Promoted by the EU, US & Kazakhstan (Maria Omelicheva)

*Discussant*: Sigita Urdze

-EU and US democracy promotion in Georgia and Azerbaijan: Euro-Atlantic Dilemma in the Caucasian Triangle (Ramin Shafagatov & Oscar Pardo Sierra)

*Discussant*: Maria Omelicheva

**15:45-16:00 - Coffee break**

**16:00 - 18.00 - Panel IV: Other perspectives on the substance of EU democracy promotion**

Chair: Vicky Reynaert

-Promoting Rule of Law in Central Asia: The EU Regional Rule of Law Initiative as Part of a Comprehensive Democratization Strategy? (Vera Axynova)

*Discussant*: Fabienne Bossuyt

-EU assistance for civil society in Kosovo: a step too far for democracy promotion? (Adam Fagan)

*Discussant*: Giselle Bosse

-Herding Cats? EU Democracy Promotion and Coordination with Non-State Donors in Sudan and Georgia (Barbara Lehmburch & Rinda Bosker)

*Discussant*: Karen Del Biondo
- A New Generation of Democracy Promoters?: Eastern Europe Supports the Democratization in the Neighborhood (Tsveta Petrova)

Discussant: Ecaterina McDonagh

18:00-18:15 - Coffee break

18:15 - 18:45 - Conclusions, Next steps, Questions etc.

- Comparative perspectives on the substance of EU democracy promotion (Fabienne Bossuyt, Jan Orbie, Michelle Pace & Anne Wetzel)

Workshop venue:
Conference Centre Het Pand (room: the Persconferentiezaal), Onderbergen 1, Gent, Belgium


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The workshop is sponsored by: