CONFERENCE OBJECTIVES

The conference aims to (a.) address the major challenges confronting the EU with regards to solidarity as one of its core values from an interdisciplinary perspective (covering political science, law, sociology, and philosophy), (b.) analyze the consequences of the EU’s solidarity crisis for the integration process itself, and (c.) develop fresh perspectives on the EU’s potential and future prospects for coping with this issue.

ORGANIZERS

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Conference fees: -none-
Please register online!

www.uni-hamburg.de/eusc2016

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Solidarity and its Crisis in the European Union

Interdisciplinary Conference | Universität Hamburg
2 – 3 June 2016
The European Union (EU) is widely considered to be the world’s most successful and influential regional integration project. However, never before in its history has the EU been confronted with such numerous conflict-laden challenges—such as financial turmoil, migration, nationalist and separatist movements as well as terrorist threats. The current state of affairs has reached a point where even leading Europeanists no longer consider it impossible for the EU to fall apart.

It is in this time of crisis that the EU reveals a “fault line” that goes deeper than the well-known shortcomings in the EU’s construction and its problem solving capacities: a crisis of solidarity. This crisis has become a crucial test for the integration project itself, since solidarity amongst member states is one of the EU’s core values. In other words, the EU is in a situation in which it is not just facing profound political, economical, legal, and societal challenges. Rather, it has to prove that it is more than the sum of its interests, i.e. not just an arena to ensure national advantages.

Against the backdrop of the current crises, the conference deals with the concept of solidarity as one of the EU’s fundamental values in its practical meaning: it addresses the role of solidarity in the integration process, it sheds light on the risks of a lack of solidarity, and it discusses different solutions for the most pressing problems in the field.

**PROGRAM**

**Thursday, 2 June 2016, 13:30 – 18:30**

Universität Hamburg
Edmund-Siemers-Allee 1
(Building: ESA West), Room 221

13:30 – 13:50
Welcome
(Solidarity and its Crisis in the European Union)
Andreas Grimmel
(Universität Hamburg / Europa-Kolleg Hamburg)

13:50 – 14:45
Applying the Idea of Solidarity to Europe
Ulrich Steinvorth
(Universität Hamburg)

15:10 – 16:05
Implications of the Refugee and Migration Crisis for the EU
Catherine Wihtol De Wenden
(Sciences Po, Paris)

16:05 – 17:00
Solidarity as a Legal Concept
Markus Kotzur
(Universität Hamburg / Europa-Kolleg Hamburg)

17:15 – 18:30
Disintegration from Within: The Role of Independence and Separatist Movements in the EU
Henri de Waele
(Radboud Universiteit, Nijmegen)

**Friday, 3 June 2016, 09:30 – 15:00**

Universität Hamburg
Edmund-Siemers-Allee 1
(Building: ESA West), Room 221

09:30 – 10:25
Solidarity as a Moral Duty?
The Case of the Eurozone Crisis
Erik Oddvar Eriksen
(ARENA - Centre for European Studies, Oslo)

10:35 – 11:30
European Solidarity and its Limits:
Insights from Current Political Challenges
Michèle Knodt and Anne Tews
(Technische Universität Darmstadt)

12:15 – 13:10
United in Scepticism: The Rise of Populist and Right-Wing Parties in the EU
Manuela Caiani
(Scuola Normale Superiore, Florence)

13:30 – 15:00
The EU falling Apart? The Risks of Brexit, Grexit and Other Exit Scenarios
Tim Oliver
(London School of Economics and Political Science)

Chairs:
Andreas Grimmel (Universität Hamburg / Europa Kolleg)
Thomas Bruha (Europa-Kolleg Hamburg)
Rainer Schmalz-Bruns (Leibniz Universität Hannover)
Susanne My Giang (Universität Hamburg)