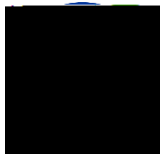


22ND UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH CONFERENCE ON THE EUROPEAN UNION

April 4-5, 2024
Claremont, California



The European Union Center of California
at Scripps College



SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

Thursday, April 4, 2024

: *Social Policy*
Climate & Environment

Friday, April 5, 2024

European Right Wing
European Colonialism Then & Now

Nationalism & Identity
Healthcare Policy

The EU and the Balkans
: Lessons from Scandinavia

Please be advised that the Humanities Museum (2nd floor of the Humanities Building) will serve as a break room throughout the day on Friday, April 5. Refreshments will be provided.

Friday Noon Keynote

EU Common Security Lecture

**THE EU AND NATO TAKE LEADERSHIP IN EUROPE:
RESPONSE TO U.S. INDECISION ON UKRAINE**

Rose Gottemoeller,

Conference Session A
THURSDAY, APRIL 4, 2024 • 7:30pm-9:00pm

Panel 1: SOCIAL POLICY

Discussant: Erica Dobbs, Pomona College

**Welfare and Inequality Unveiled: Comparative Analysis of Governmental
Accountability in Reducing Wealth Inequality in Germany and France**

Simon Le, University of Washington

Variation in Paternity Leave Policy in Slovenia and Hungary

Kendra Nguyen, Pomona College

**A Comparative Analysis of the Irish and British Governments' Responses
to Their Housing Crises from Austerity to the COVID-19 Pandemic**

Eduardo Figueroa Medina & Liam Bayer, Pomona College

Panel 2: CLIMATE & ENVIRONMENT

Discussant: Andre Wakefield, Pitzer College

**Memories of Black Gold:
Populist Narratives of Memory Politics Justifying the Polish Coal Industry**

Yvonne Pan, University of Washington

**European Union Policymaking vs. Economic Growth:
Analysis of Air Pollution in the EU in Relation to Economic Production
and the Evolution of Policy from 1990 - 2020**

Matthew Hester, Christopher Newport University

**Germany's 'Climate Foreign Policy Strategy' and
Making the High Politics of Climate Change**

Thomas Goldstein, American University

The Benefits of the Use of Nuclear Energy
Justin Nordberg, Christopher Newport University

Conference Session B
FRIDAY, APRIL 5, 2024 • 8:30am- 10:00am

Panel 3: EUROPEAN RIGHT WING

Discussant: Christina Schneider, University of California-San Diego

Cloaking the Front National: Marine Le Pen and French Nationalism

Taryn Blecher, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill

**Motion in the Ocean: Responses to Migration in the Italian Mediterranean,
with a Focus on Lampedusa**

Alex Schmitt, University of Washington

**The Rise of European Right-Wing Populism and its Implications for LGBTQ+
Rights: A Comparative Analysis of Poland Versus Sweden's Attitudes Toward
Queer Communities**

Jaya Field, University of Washington

Panel 4: EUROPEAN COLONIALISM THEN AND NOW

Discussant: Corey Tazzara, Scripps College

**The Growth and Development of Central American Communities
Within Western Europe**

Jonathan Valenzuela Mejia, University of California-Los Angeles

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Conference Session C
FRIDAY, APRIL 5, 2024 • 10:15am - 11:30am

Panel 5: NATIONALISM & IDENTITY

Discussant: Adam Zientek, University of California-Davis

**Bridging Philosophy and Practice:
How Philosophers Can Guide European Integration and Nationalism**
Meagan Meyer, University of Pittsburgh

**A Continent Reborn:
Redefining European Identity in the Aftermath of the World Wars**
Mallory Waligora, Oakland University

Brexit Power Dynamic and Scottish Independence
Sophia Zabell, University of Florida

Panel 6: HEALTHCARE POLICY

Discussant: Rivka Weinberg, Scripps College

The Price of Prevention: Spain and Italy's Approach to National PrEP
Jon Burkart, Pomona College

Christen Drost and Anthony Fauci's Impact on Public Trust During Covid-19
Kai Gundlach, Claremont McKenna College

**Empowering Ukrainian Children with Disabilities in School:
Law, Governance, and Inclusion Practices**
Nicole Brunette, University of Washington

Conference Session D
FRIDAY, APRIL 5, 2024 • 1:45pm - 3:00pm

Panel 7: THE EU AND THE BALKANS

Discussant: Mietek Boduszynski, Pomona College

**Democratization & Backsliding in the Context of EU Accession:
The Cases of Serbia and North Macedonia**

Vasileia Spyrou, University of Florida

Splitting Interests:

The Success Story of Croatia's EU Accession and Lessons for Aspiring Members

Ryan Scott, University of Florida

Enlargement Potential and Problematics:

The European Union's Approach to Bosnia and Herzegovina in the 21st Century

Vanesa Simic, DePaul University

Panel 8: LESSONS FROM SCANDINAVIA

Discussant: Alessandro Morosin, University of La Verne

Contrasting Penal Philosophies:

Analyzing Norway and the UK's Divergent Paths in Criminal Justice

Lawrence Pear, Lafayette College

A Humane Future for Penal Systems: Exploring Norway's Rehabilitative Prisons

Kristine Chen, University of Washington

Assessing Paths to Greenlandic Independence

Reconciling Inuit Cultural Autonomy with Danish Rule

Leo Freedman, University of Washington

Panel 9: COLD WAR, CONFLICT & SECURITY *Discussant: Joshua Goo*

Pragmatic Legitimacy: The American

Juden/led

**How Memory Politics Drives Conflict:
A Case Study of the Conflict between Ukraine and Russian**
Madeleine D. Wolfson
Colgate University