

**THE CHALLENGES
OF EUROPE'S NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICY**

Iordan Gh. BĂRBULESCU, Ana Maria COSTEA,
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The Challenges of Europe's Neighbourhood Policy

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PROCEEDINGS

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Table of Contents

This collective volume is published with the support of the Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence "Structures of Interconnectivity in the EU's Neighbourhood", no. 566765 -EPP-1-2015-1-RO- EPPJMO-CoE

The project was implemented by the National University of Political Studies and Public Administration, the Department of International Relations and European Integration with the financial support of the **European Commission**.

The articles from this volume have been presented by participants at the International Conference "The Challenges of Europe's Neighbourhood Policy" organized within the Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence "Structures of Interconnectivity in the EU's Neighbourhood", which took place on 5-6 April 2016, Bucharest, Romania.

The conference aimed to raise awareness among students, researchers and practitioners on the challenges that EU is facing in the current global context and upon the need to develop a more efficient strategy in order to create the real premises of political and economic integration for partner countries. Also, this event created the opportunity for young researchers to promote their academic work and develop networks in order to connect with the academia and experts.

Moreover, as the ENP faces a major turning point there is a real need of analysis and productive discussions towards the current events among academia, policy makers and representatives of civil society.

By approaching this subject the participants were able to obtain a fruitful exchange of knowledge and experience among different stakeholders.

Covered topics:

- *Governance challenges*
- *Convergence within the ENP*
- *The political and economic impact of ENP*
- *Eastern Partnership – lessons learned*
- *Evaluation of CFSP and its instruments*
- *Eastern Europe dynamics*
- *The EU within the global context*

1. Description of the project Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence "Structures of Interconnectivity in the EU's Neighbourhood"	7
2. EUROPEAN NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICY BETWEEN BENEFIT AND MENACE TO EU ECONOMY – <i>Comiș Eugen Marius</i>	9
3. RUSSIAN REACTIONS TO THE EASTERN PARTNERSHIP – <i>Adrian Corobană</i>	29
4. THE BOOK OF UNWRITTEN TALES – THE EU-JAPAN RELATIONS – <i>Carola Frey</i>	43
5. EUROPEANIZATION IN THE GLOBAL CONTEXT – <i>Lipănescu Irina Letiția</i>	61
6. THE PROBLEM OF DUAL CITIZENSHIP IN NORTHERN BUKOVINA – <i>Liubov Melnychuk</i>	79
7. PLAYING BY THE RULE. THE RULE OF INTERNATIONAL LAW IN THE EU'S NEIGHBOURHOOD – <i>Garofița Porav</i>	89

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Between September 2015 and August 2018, the Department of International Relations and European Integration coordinates the Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence “Structures of the EU’s Neighbourhood Interconnectivity” (Project no. 566 765 EPP-1-2015-1-RO-EPPJMO-CoE), co-funded by the European Commission through the Erasmus Plus Program, Jean Monnet Action. The project is coordinated by Professor Iordan Gheorghe Bărbulescu, PhD, Dean of the Department of International Relations and European Integration and President of the National University of Political Studies and Public Administration Senate.

Throughout this project, the Department will set up a Centre of Excellence that aims to develop teaching and research activities that address the issue of the EU’s new approaches towards the neighbourhood policy, focusing on the impact of the institutional reform on the economic, social and political development and integration of partner countries. These activities are designed in order to increase and deepen the awareness level regarding the importance of the ENP in the EU’s foreign policy and also about the EU’s role as a global economic and political actor.

EUROPEAN NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICY BETWEEN BENEFIT AND MENACE TO EU ECONOMY

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ABSTRACT

Theme of the paper is the evaluation of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats of European Neighbourhood Policy towards European economy and security. The main objective is to study how do the surrounding economies can help European economy and how the surrounding economies can create macroeconomic imbalances. The paper will underline that the most important concentrations in terms of population number and characteristics, national resources and GDP can unbalance the fragile equilibrium which is maintained in Europe, not by free market economy all over European territory, but through a very complex governance set of rules. The new enlarged market will introduce new religions, new languages and a new type of economic organization and consumption habits. The paper will show that the European Neighbourhood Policy can be useful in terms of access to some resources and cheap labour force and large consumption markets, but can generate high unbalances if it is not carefully managed under a strong and prudent governance.

Keywords: concentrations, European Neighbourhood Policy, macroeconomic imbalances, opportunities, threats.

RUSSIAN REACTIONS TO THE EASTERN PARTNERSHIP

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ABSTRACT

In September 2014, John J. Mearsheimer wrote in *Foreign Affairs* (vol. 93, issue 5) a very interesting and intriguing article for the Western academic world, especially because it came from an American scholar, arguing that it is the West's fault what happened in Ukraine. The present article recalls the theory of John J. Mearsheimer, focusing in particular on the Eastern Partnership and on the reactions of Russia on European policies in Ukraine, Moldova and Georgia, trying to depict the lessons that the European Union must learn from the recent history of the Eastern Partnership. To achieve this goal, the employed methodology is partly based on discourse analysis and partly on case studies.

Keywords: Eastern Partnership, EU, liberalism, realism, Russia

THE BOOK OF UNWRITTEN TALES – THE EU-JAPAN RELATIONS

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ABSTRACT

Japan – EU relations have expanded in recent years, within the outline set by the Action Plan (2001), and currently they exceed the attributes established in trade since 1991. Moreover, relations are characterized as being conducted between global partners with common fundamental values. In this regard, Japan considers the European Union an important global partner in the pursuit and fulfilment of its national interests. The EU and Japan are currently engaged in drawing up new agreements: a Framework Agreement (Strategic Partnership Agreement) covering not only political dialogue and political cooperation, but also cooperation on regional and global challenges, and a Free Trade Agreement (Economic Partnership Agreement) to stimulate economic development and cooperation at all levels. The article follows the most recent developments in this regard and the ongoing dynamic of the partnership between the two.

Keywords: Economic Diplomacy, European Union, EU-Japan relations, Framework Agreement, Japan.

EUROPENIZATION IN THE GLOBAL CONTEXT

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ABSTRACT

Starting from the fact that the European Union is a global actor, I think that Europeanization is a key factor in maintaining the internal and external stability of the EU. Even if the process of Europeanization is usually analysed within the EU borders, the article argues that it is essential to also observe the effects of the spread of the European model abroad. The neighbourhood countries, but also regions that are geographically more distant are experiencing a certain degree of Europeanization, mainly through financial support for the partnerships developed with the EU (ex: ENP), who grant economic exchanges, easier travel, access to EU markets, etc. Even if the European model has its attractiveness, it is important that it transmits a sense of unity and coherence in its discourse and policy making process. In times of change and deep challenges for the EU (immigration crisis, Brexit, etc.), it is important to constantly adapt not only to internal need, but also to the ones of the external partners, as I find it the only way to guarantee the efficiency and success of the European construction.

Keywords: Europe, Europeanization, European model, foreign policy, global player, neighbourhood, strategy

THE PROBLEM OF DUAL CITIZENSHIP IN NORTHERN BUKOVINA

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ABSTRACT

In recent years, relations between Ukraine and Romania began to acquire a new quality. There are attempts to overcome the negatives of the past, refuse from considering the prospects of relations in the light of past misunderstandings and unmet national and state ambitions. The issue of dual citizenship in Northern Bukovina is one of the most vital and topical in relations between Ukraine and Romania nowadays. Romanian policy of granting citizenship to those whose ancestors had once detained it and were deprived of it without consent has been a reality since at least the 2000s. The article discloses the wide range of topics: historical background, key trends concerning the rights of national communities in the Northern Bukovina and the issue of dual citizenship in Northern Bykovina. The new balance of interests, aspirations and mutual responsibility of the political elites of the two neighbouring countries should be found where ideas are the common European Security and Cooperation, European solidarity and a desire to build an economic and political space in United Europe. These efforts will open up new opportunities for regional and European initiatives between official Kyiv and Bucharest in case of mutual rejection from grievances and claims.

Keywords: Chernivtsi region, dual citizenship, Northern Bukovina, Ukraine

PLAYING BY THE RULE. THE RULE OF INTERNATIONAL LAW IN THE EU'S NEIGHBOURHOOD

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ABSTRACT

Building upon the legal framework given by the international law, the paper examines the context in which Crimea (and Sevastopol) became part of the Russian Federation exactly two years ago (March 2014). The main idea of the approach is that even if one considers only few aspects in the analysis, for instance applying basic principles of law – referring especially to the international law and, where necessary, its connections to relevant norms of domestic (constitutional) law – and the military activity of the Russian troops on the Ukrainian territory, it is enough to get to a self-evident conclusion: in the case of Crimea, the Russian Federation did not play by the rule of international law and its conduct in this context is nothing but a threat to the international legal order. The European Union cannot change geography and cannot choose its neighbourhood. But when political actors are challenging the European stability by breaching the rules of the international system, the EU can use the proper foreign policy tools in order to protect the values on which the international rule of law is based.

Keywords: Crimea, EU, independence, principles of international law, Russian Federation, secession