What are the underlying narratives in the different member states?

In light of the elections for European Parliament, this lecture series focuses on views on European Integration within the EU member states. We want to look at the development of master narratives accompanying and supporting the individual countries’ way into and stance within the European Union.

The most powerful drivers of the European Integration process were common and individual political and economic interests of the single member states. The highly individual constellations of interests, combined with the respective national historical background, led to very different “master narratives”, which formed the backbone of public debate on the EU and European integration in the single member states. In this sense narratives provide a simplified image of reality. Their analysis is based on the assumption that narratives play a critical role in the construction of political behaviour insofar as they affect our perceptions of political reality.

They shape the cognitive and normative dimensions of problems in order to persuade and suggest what action should be taken, and they reflect the variety of emotional and affective dimensions of a European identity.

This lecture series attempts a survey of these different narratives across EU member states, focusing on both differences and common traits, inspired by the hope that an increased awareness of these narratives and expectations increases and improves mutual understanding within the EU.

Lectures will be held by eminent experts and scholars from prestigious Universities throughout Europe.
Subjects and Speakers

2.4.2019

Inauguration:
Prof. Dr. Ludovic Thilly, Université de Poitiers, Head of Executive Board of the Coimbra Group
Prof. Dr. Axel Freimuth, Rector of the University of Cologne

Introduction: European Narratives
Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Wessels, University of Cologne, Jean Monnet Professor, CETEUS

9.4.2019

France
Prof. Dr. Eric Kocher Marboeuf, Université de Poitiers Centre de recherche interdisciplinaire en histoire, histoire de l’art et musicologie (Criham)

Germany
Prof. Dr. Jürgen Elvert, University of Cologne Jean Monnet Chair, Historical Institute, Department for History of European Integration

16.4.2019

Italy
Prof. Dr. Elena Calandri, University of Padova, Department of Political and Juridical Sciences and International Studies - SPGI

Benelux
Prof. Dr. Jan Wouters, KU Leuven, Jean Monnet Chair, Leuven Centre for Global Governance Studies - Institute for International Law

23.4.2019

Great Britain
Prof. Dr. Charlie Jeffery, University of Edinburgh, Professor of Politics

Ireland
Prof. Dr. Gail Mc Elroy, Trinity College, Dublin Professor of Political Science

30.4.2019

Denmark
Prof. Dr. Christina Fiig, University of Aarhus, School of Culture and Society/European Studies (tbc)

Greece
Prof. Dr. Christos Frangonikolopoulos, Aristoteles University Thessaloniki, Jean Monnet Professor for European Integration Journalism

7.5.2019

Spain
Prof. Dr. Miguel Arjona Sánchez, Universidad de Granada, Departamento de Derecho Costitucional

Austria
Dr. Peter Pichler, Universität Graz

14.5.2019

Portugal
Prof. Dr. Maria Raquel Freire, University of Coimbra, Jean Monnet Chair, School of Economics

Sweden
Prof. Dr. Anna Michalski, University of Uppsala, Department of Government

21.5.2019

Finland
Prof. Dr. Henri Vogt, University of Turku, Department of Political Science

Czech Rep./Slovakia
Prof. Dr. Lenka Rovna, Charles University, Prague Jean Monnet Chair for European Politics

28.5.2019

Baltic States
Prof. Dr. Ramūnas Vilpišauskas, Vilnius University Centre of European Studies

Slovenia
Mag. Nejc Robida, University of Ljubljana/University of Cologne

4.6.2019

Poland
Prof. Dr. hab. Zdzislaw Mach, Jagiellonen University, Krakow. Head of Centre for European Studies

Hungary
Prof. Dr. Miklós Király, Eötvös Lorand University, Budapest; Head of Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence

18.6.2019

Cyprus/Malta
N.N.

Bulgaria
Prof. Dr. Mirela Veleva-Eftimova, Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski, Jean Monnet Chair

25.6.2019

Romania
Prof. Dr. Gabriela Carmen Pascariu, University Iasi “Alexandru Ioan Cuza”, Jean Monnet Chair (tbc)

Croatia
Dr. Senada Šelo Šabić, Senior Research Associate, Institute for Development and International Relations, Zagreb, Department for International Economic and Political Relations

2.7.2019 - Accession candidates

Serbia
Prof. Dr. Tanja Miščević, University of Belgrade, Faculty of Political Science, head of the negotiating team for Serbia’s accession to the EU

Turkey
Prof. Dr. Ebru Turhan, Turkish-German University, Istanbul, Institute of Social Science

9.7.2019

Conclusion: Europe between Rhetoric and Reality
Prof. Dr. Timothy Garton Ash, Oxford University (tbc)