

LISBOAN – ERASMUS ACADEMIC NETWORK

EXPERT WORKSHOP – CALL FOR PAPERS

EU external representation in international contexts: reform practices after Lisbon

Conveners: Dr. Louise van Schaik (Clingendael) and Prof. dr. Edith Drieskens (Leuven University)

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The Lisbon Treaty aims to increase the EU's international profile by strengthening the coherence and visibility of the EU's external representation. Yet its entry into force did not end the debate on the EU's representation in various international organisations, quite the contrary. Most visibly, in the UN General Assembly, the EU had to overcome considerable resistance from international partners before it obtained additional representative rights. Moreover, the EU Member States agreed to increase the EU's profile in international settings, but have difficulties with entrusting their international representation to the EU. Very often, they are not willing to give up their seats, votes or speaking rights in external contexts, complicating also reform within those contexts.

Adding to the flourishing literature on the EU's actorness, effectiveness, power and performance (e.g. Smith and Laatikainen, 2006; Gstöhl, 2009; Jørgensen, 2009; Drieskens and Van Schaik, 2010; Missiroli, 2011; Emerson et. al., 2011; Blavoukos and Bourantonis, 2011, Jørgensen and Oberthür, forthcoming) and focusing on the question of reform of international institutions, this expert seminar aims to gain a better insight into what the EU *is* and *does* in international organisations and regimes. Should we see the EU as a close coalition of states or is it more than that? Does its presence justify upgraded observer status, a seat additional to that of the EU member states, or should the EU replace them? Does it matter who speaks for the EU, and in what way? How can we best understand the relationship between the way the EU decides upon international positions and organises its external representation on the one hand, and its influence, performance and/ or effectiveness on the other hand? To what extent is it in the EU's interest to strengthen multilateral institutions, and what are alternatives when these appear not effective in addressing the issues the EU likes to see addressed internationally? And what can be expected from the High Representative, the European External Action Service and the EU delegations?

We invite empirical case studies on specific organisations and regimes and welcome scholars from political science, law, public administration, as well as a small number of well-informed practitioners.

We aim to publish the conclusions of the workshop as a Clingendael Report and to produce a special journal issue including a selection of papers.

Please send your proposal (max 2 pages) by 1 November 2011 to: lschaik@clingendael.nl; paper-givers will be informed by 1 December 2011. Limited resources are available for travel and subsistence of participants, particularly for those coming from LISBOAN partner institutes (cf. <http://www.lisboan.net/>)

References:

Blavoukos, S. and D. Bourantonis (eds) (2011), *The EU Presence in International Organizations*, London: Routledge.

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Emerson, M., Balfour, R. Corthaut, T., Wouters, J., Maciej Kaczyński, P. and T. Renard (2011), *Upgrading the EU's Role as Global Actor – Institutions, Law and the Restructuring of European Diplomacy*, Brussels: Centre for European Policy Studies.

Gstöhl, S. (2009), "Patchwork Power' Europe? The EU's Representation in International Institutions", in: *European Foreign Affairs Review*, 14: 385-403.

Jørgensen, K. E. (2009) (ed.), *The European Union and International Organizations*, London and New York: Routledge/ GARNET series: Europe in the World.

Jørgensen, K.E. and S. Oberthür (eds) (forthcoming), Special issue on the EU's performance in international institutions of *Journal of European Integration*.

Laatikainen, K.V. and K. E. Smith (eds.) (2006), *The European Union at the United Nations – Intersecting Multilateralisms*, London and New York: Palgrave Macmillan.

Missiroli, A. (2011), The new EU 'foreign policy' system after Lisbon: A work in progress, *European Foreign Affairs Review*, 15(4), pp. 427-452.