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What's the News?

October 2013 – Launch of PADEMIA

Our Project has officially started. For the next 3 years, we hope to contribute to improving both, research as well as teaching, on Parliamentary Democracy in Europe.

November 2013 – First Steering Group Meeting

On November 8th, we had our first successful meeting with the Steering Group at the Fondation Universitaire in Brussels. Special thanks to our host and organizers Laura Ventura from TEPSA!

February 2014 – Launch of the Website

From this month on, our project can be found online, as well!

Check out our website www.pademia.eu for useful news and events, or simply to get an idea of what PADEMIA is.

Moreover, we also present the first PADEMIA newsletter. You can download this document from our project's website and it will be distributed via E-mail to all PADEMIA

members. Feel free, even feel encouraged, to distribute it to whoever is interested in the project our Parliamentary Democracy in general!

PADEMIA – An Introduction

The motivation of PADEMIA is to establish a Europe-wide and sustainable network of 56 academic institutions from 31 countries to promote research and teaching in reaction to growing European demands to study parliamentary democracy in Europe. PADEMIA seeks to enhance discussion among students, junior and senior researchers, also in exchange with stakeholders, on how to deal with the new challenges parliaments and citizens across Europe are facing today. The network not only responds to the “Future of Europe” report which identifies “(t)he on-going sovereign debt crisis and the ever accelerating process of globalization (as) an unprecedented dual challenge for Europe”; but also addresses the implications the Lisbon Treaty and further formal agreements (e.g., Fiscal Compact) have for parliamentary democracy in Europe whose complex, multi-level character furthermore requires thorough and comprehensive reflection.

Until September 2016, we will organize manifold different events, such as workshops, PhD Schools, and a Guest Lecture Series. Moreover, Online Lectures, the Website, our Online Paper Series, and Online Tutorials will allow for active digital interaction within the Network and beyond. Research, Teaching and Student awards will help to identify, reward



and spread best practices and innovative research in the field.

The Network's Structure

Our Network's activities are divided in 17 Work Packages.

WP 1: Management

WP2: Changing Parliamentary Institutions in Europe

WP 3: The Role of Parliamentary Actors in Europe

WP 4: Parliaments and Citizens in Europe

WP 5: Parliaments and the European Public Sphere

WP 6: European Parliamentary Democracy and Constitutional Development

WP 7: Multi-Level Democracy

WP 8: The Financial Crisis and Challenges to Representation

WP 9: Annual Conference

WP 10: PhD Schools

WP 11: Online Paper Series

WP 12: Student Paper Competition

WP 13: Guest Lecture Series

WP 14: Annual Research Awards

WP 15: Teaching 2.0

WP 16: Annual Report

WP 17: Quality Assurance

In each of the thematic work packages (written in dark blue), workshops will be organized in order to foster interaction and exchange within the Network. At three annual conferences, representatives of all participating institutions meet and over two days an interesting program of assemblies, panels, round tables and speeches will build and contain a network spirit that will hopefully persist far beyond the three years in which the project is running.

The Work Packages

1: Management

At the University of Cologne, Katjana Gattermann, Wolfgang Wessels and Alexander Hoppe are the project coordinators of PADEMIA. Within this work package, they will be responsible for the overall management structure and the coordination of work between the other work packages.

2: Changing Parliamentary Institutions of Europe

Within the first of seven thematic work packages, led by Tapio Raunio from the University of Tampere, the following workshops will be organized: 1) 'European Integration and the institutional change of parliaments', 2) 'International relations of the European Parliament', and 3) 'Variation in national parliamentary control and inter-parliamentary cooperation in EU affairs'.



3: The Role of Parliamentary Actors in Europe

Under the lead of Julie Smith, Cambridge University, the work package will offer these workshops: 1) *'Parliamentary Committees Post-Lisbon: Towards a redistribution of tasks?'*, and 2) *'Political parties and the European crisis'*.

4: Parliaments and Citizens in Europe

Co-led by Katrin Auel and Johannes Pollak, Institute for Advanced Studies Vienna, WP 4 offers the following workshops: 1) *'Rethinking representation? The changing environment for parliamentary Democracy'*, and 2) *'Parliaments and their citizens – A close link in EU Affairs'*.

5: Parliaments and the European Public Sphere

Leonard Novy from IfM Berlin is the leader of this work package, presenting the workshops 1) *'European election and the mass media'*, and 2) *'The European Parliament election in 2014'*. Moreover, the training workshop for PhD Students *'Analyzing parliamentary discourses: Theory and methodological approaches'* will be offered.

6: European Parliamentary Democracy and Constitutional Development

Led by Olivier Rozenberg from Sciences Po Paris, work package 6 offers these workshops: 1) *'The efficiency of institution engineering in times of crisis. A comparison'*, and 2) *'Parliaments and treaty revisions'*

7: Multi-Level Democracy

PADEMIA's co-coordinator Ben Crum from VU Amsterdam leads this WP and will

organize the workshop *'Cross-cutting framing workshop on multi-level Democracy'*

8: The Financial Crisis and Challenges to Representation:

The last thematic work package is led by Iannis Konstantinidis, University of Macedonia. He will organize the workshops 1) *'The rise of political extremism in and out of parliaments'*, and 2) *'What is Parliamentary Democracy for? Revisiting achievements, exploring ways ahead in times of crisis'*

9: Annual Conference

Laura Ventura and Mirte van den Berge from TEPSA will organize the three annual conferences of PADEMIA in Brussels in June 2014, 2015, and 2016.

10: PhD Schools

Under the lead of Brigid Laffan, EUI Florence, three PhD schools will be organized in Bratislava, Copenhagen, and Florence

11: Online Paper Series

Anna-Lena Högenauer from Maastricht University will organize the online paper series of PADEMIA, which will build up on the excellent work of the *'Observatory of Parliaments after Lisbon – OPAL'*.

12: Student Paper Competition

With this work package, we want to give excellent students a chance to make their voices heard and papers read by awarding prizes to three outstanding papers each year and giving the possibility of publishing them. Sabine Saurugger from Sciences Po Grenoble leads WP 12.



13: Guest Lecture Series

Under the supervision of Gabriella Illonszki, Corvinus University Budapest, a guest lecture series including twelve lectures will be organized in order to enhance interaction within the Network.

14: Annual Research and Teaching Awards

Led by the University of Cologne, outstanding contribution both in research and teaching on Parliamentary Democracy in Europe will be chosen and awarded on a yearly basis.

15: Teaching 2.0

Under the guide of the VU Amsterdam, all digital activities of the Network, such as the website, online tutorial, and online lectures will be coordinated in this work package.

16: Annual Report

Again, the team at the University of Cologne will organize the annual report, which will give an overview of PADEMIA's and its members' activities in the field of Parliamentary Democracy in Europe.

17: Quality Assurance

Last but surely not least, Piret Ehin from the University of Tartu will be responsible for evaluating the project throughout the three years and assure a decent quality of its output.

PADEMIA Members introduce themselves

In each Newsletter, one of our partner institutions and the colleagues occupied with PADEMIA will be introduced. As co-coordinator, the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam will be the first:

At Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, the members of the PADEMIA team are associated with the Department of Political Science and Public Administration. Research in this department is organized around the central theme of multi-layered governance in Europe. Within this program, Dr. Ben Crum and Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Wagner work on the role and performance of parliaments in the multilevel system of the European Union. Recently they both contributed to the volume on Practices of Inter-Parliamentary Coordination in International Politics (ECPR Press 2013) that Crum co-edited with John Erik Fossum of the University of Oslo. Crum and Wagner are also associated with ACCESS EUROPE, the Amsterdam Centre for Contemporary European Studies that has been established between Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam and University of Amsterdam.

Within PADEMIA, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam is responsible for the work package 'Teaching 2.0'. This work package involves the management of the PADEMIA website (www.pademia.eu); the coordination of the PhD tutorial scheme that allows PhD-students associated with PADEMIA to get personal feedback from senior scholars in the network; and, the web lectures. The latter will



draw upon presentations to be made at the PADEMIA workshop on multilevel democracy that Vrije Universiteit.

Dr. Ben Crum leads the cross-cutting PADEMIA work package on 'Multi-level democracy'. Ben Crum examines EU parliamentary democracy mainly from the perspective of democratic theory. In particular, he has been working on the democratization of the EU Treaty-revision process, the EU democratic deficit, the accountability of EU executive actors, and on inter-parliamentary relations in the EU.



Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Wagner will be primarily associated with work package 2 on 'Changing parliamentary institutions'. His interest in EU parliamentary democracy concerns in particular the involvement of national parliaments and the European Parliament in the formation of, and oversight over, foreign and security policies.



Mr. Biejan Poor Toulabi LL.M. acts as project assistant to PADEMIA. In that capacity, he is responsible for the day-to-day running and updating of the website, and for the practical organization of the PhD tutorials. He is also involved in the organization of the workshop on multilevel democracy.



Upcoming Events

Save the date! In the newsletter, we will of course regularly inform you about the next upcoming events:

Annual Conference, 12/13 June, Brussels

PhD School 1: Democratic governance in the EU, 16-19 June, Bratislava

Workshop 'The rise of political extremism in and out of parliaments', 2/3 October, Thessaloniki

Workshop Cross-cutting framing workshop on multi-level democracy, 30/31 October, Amsterdam

Imprint

PADEMIA, a project funded under the European Union's Lifelong Learning Programme (LLP), Project 540381-LLP-1-2013-1-DE-ERASMUS-ENW.

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