

Parliamentary Cooperation and Diplomacy in Europe and beyond – Theories, Practices and Comparisons

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

CALL FOR PAPERS

Brussels, 18-19 February 2016

The Lisbon Treaty has given a boost to parliamentary cooperation within the European Union. The greater role the European Parliament now plays in EU external action is emphasized not only in terms of legislating, budgetary control and executive accountability, but also in view of its external relations through a tight network of parliamentary delegations.

This conference will contextualize such developments by analyzing parliamentary cooperation and diplomacy both at the EU level and within other European and international organizations. The ambition is to cover the numerous dimensions of parliamentary cooperation and diplomacy in Europe and beyond:

- First, **inter-parliamentary cooperation** in European organizations and the European Union, as well as parliamentary cooperation in other regional and international organizations;
- Secondly, **parliamentary diplomacy** between the European Union and third countries as well as the parliamentary diplomacy of other parliaments in other regions of the world.

By focusing on these two dimensions, the conference hopes to shed light and help explain the workings of parliamentary cooperation in other regional organizations around the world, as well as the practice of parliamentary diplomacy of the other actors outside the EU.

While the two dimensions – parliamentary cooperation and parliamentary diplomacy – have been conceptualized in different ways, the conference wants to provide a comprehensive overview of the different theoretical accounts and the realities in the field, channels, fora and policy fields of inter-parliamentary cooperation and parliamentary diplomacy.

In this respect, the call for papers invites especially papers contributing to:

- **A conceptual and theoretical section.** Conceptualizations and theoretical accounts should provide a comprehensive overview of how parliamentary cooperation and parliamentary diplomacy relate to current theoretical and multi-disciplinary accounts of European integration, European foreign policy and international relations, such as: new institutionalism and inter-institutional cooperation; multi-level governance and democratic accountability, scrutiny and control; European foreign policy and normative power Europe; transnational relations and actors; international relations and diplomacy ('public diplomacy and soft power'); etc.

Organized in the framework of the Jean Monnet Network PACO:
Interparliamentary Cooperation in the EU's External Action - Parliamentary
Scrutiny and Diplomacy in the EU and Beyond



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

- **An empirical section.** An overview of empirical analysis of inter-parliamentary cooperation and parliamentary diplomacy in the light of the parliamentary cooperation within European organizations in general and the EU more specifically. An empirical analysis of parliamentary diplomacy in EU external action with a view on parliamentary delegations towards bilateral partners as well as multilateral regional assemblies and organizations (bilateral EP relations with third partners; multilateral relations in the context of EU-ACP Joint Assembly, Euronest, etc.)
- **A comparative section.** A comparative analysis of inter-parliamentary cooperation in other regions (for example, Mercosur, COPA, Regional Parliamentary Assemblies in Southeast Asia (AIPA), Pan-African Parliament, ECOWAS, Commonwealth of Independent States, Organization of the Collective Security Treaty etc.) as well as the parliamentary diplomacy of other international actors (e.g. Unites States, Russia, China, Turkey, Brazil, South Africa, India, etc.)

Conference:

The conference is co-funded by the European Union in the context of the Jean Monnet network 'PACO - Interparliamentary Cooperation in the EU's External Action - Parliamentary Scrutiny and Diplomacy in the EU and Beyond'. Young researchers (PhD's, Post-doctoral researchers) can receive travel grants in order to participate at this conference. Additional grants may be provided to other researchers later on.

Procedure:

Deadline: **21 October 2015**

Notifications of accepted papers: **16 November 2015**

Accepted papers are to be finalized by **10 February 2016**

Questions and paper submission:

If you have further questions, please contact kolja.raube@ghum.kuleuven.be. Send your paper proposal with preliminary title and abstract of 300-400 Words to kolja.raube@ghum.kuleuven.be by the 21 October 2015. Please, indicate in your email-submission whether you are applying for travel grants.

Organizing Committee:

Professor Jan Wouters (Leuven); Professor Meltem Muftuler-Bac (Sabanci); Professor Thomas Christiansen (Maastricht); Dr. Anna Herranz-Surrallés (Maastricht); Dr. Kolja Raube (Leuven)