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## PADEMIA Community News

### **PADEMIA is coming to an end**

After 3 years the PADEMIA project is coming to an end on 30 September 2016. During its lifetime, PADEMIA members organized 17 workshops, three annual conferences, three PhD schools and other events benefiting scholars from all over Europe. While the official project will be over, we hope that PADEMIA established new and close contacts between scholars from different institutions and countries and that these contacts will lead to fruitful research cooperations in the future.

## PADEMIA Annual Conference 2016

On 19 and 20 May 2016, PADEMIA held its third and final annual conference at the Fondation Universitaire in Brussels. This year’s conference featured four interesting panels, a keynote speech by Prof Kaare Strom from the University of California, a half-day insight session presenting results from PADEMIA and the most important developments in research on parliamentary democracy in the last three years and, of course, the PADEMIA award ceremony.

The four panels invited scholars to discuss their newest findings on “the influence of parliaments over public policies”, “Explaining issue variation: which EU matters are scrutinized by national parliaments”, “referendums and parliamentary democracy”, and “European parliaments and crisis management”. After interesting discussion in the panel groups, Prof. Kaare Strom from the University of California held the 2016 keynote speech on “The perils of parliamentary democracy and the Madisonian turn”. The keynote is available in full length on <http://www.pademia.eu/weblectures/>.



After the keynote, all conference participants moved to the Stanhope Hotel to enjoy dinner and witness the 2016 PADEMIA Award ceremony. As already in 2015, PADEMIA rewarded the best research, teaching and student papers. This year’s winners are:

**Research Award, Category Journal Article:** Sandra Kröger (University of Exeter) and Richard Bellamy (European University Institute, Florence) for their article “Beyond a Constraining Dissensus: The Role of National Parliaments in Domesticating and Normalising the Politicization of European Integration”





**Research Award category Book:**

Anna-Lena Högenauer (University of Luxembourg), Christine Neuhold and Thomas Christiansen (Maastricht University) for their book *Parliamentary Administrations in the European Union*

**Research Award category PhD Thesis:**

Lisa Kastner (Sciences Po Paris) for her thesis “Restraining Regulatory Capture - An Empirical Examination of the Power of Weak Interests in Financial Reforms”

**Teaching Award:**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Michael Kaeding (Universität Duisburg-Essen) with his seminar “NRW debattiert Europa”

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Costanza Hermanin and Pierpaolo Settembri (College of Europe, Bruges) with their seminar “Negotiation and decision making in the European Union”

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Wim van Meurs (Radboud Universiteit Nijmegen) with his book “Europa in alle Staten”

**Student Paper Prize:** Fernanda Flacco and Camille Kelbel (Universite Libre de Bruxelles) with their paper “Eastern Promises: Candidate Selection Processes and MEPs’ Profiles in the CEECs”



On the second day of the conference, the half-day session “insights from three years PADEMIA” gave an overview of both, the activities of the project as well as the developments in three year’s research on parliamentary democracy in Europe. We staged a series of debates on some of the key topics that have been of importance to the functioning of parliaments in Europe over the three years of the project. The six topics selected were:

- 1) What role do we actually want for national parliaments in the EU?
- 2) Parliaments’ responses to the Euro crisis
- 3) Communication & networking of national parliaments
- 4) The 2014 European Parliament Elections: a decisive change?
- 5) Parliaments in Foreign Policy
- 6) EU contestation in national referendums and elections

Each of these topics was discussed by prominent members from the PADEMIA-community that were selected to represent contrasting, and at times even opposing, positions. The panellists were asked to reflect on the main findings on their topic in recent years, to point towards important developments and also to identify key questions that remain open and that ask for further research. A detailed report on this session can be found on [www.pademia.eu](http://www.pademia.eu).

The third annual conference has again been a perfect opportunity to meet colleagues from all over Europe and establish new contacts. Special thanks to our colleagues from TEPSA, especially Giulia Bonacquisti, for their invaluable help in organizing this event.



## PADEMIA Report on EU-Turkey relations

EU-Turkey relations have always been as close as they have been contested. With the recent political developments, including the EU-Turkey deal on refugees, the topic has experienced a renewed peak of attention. In order to create a basis for further research on European parliamentary debates on Turkey/EU-Turkey relations, PADEMIA has developed a report on national and European debates on EU-Turkey relations. It provides an overview of the parliamentary debates in the European Parliament as well as two of the most influential Member States, France and Germany. For each debate in the European Parliament, German Bundestag and French Assemblée Nationale, the report includes the date, subject and web-links to the minutes and/or texts sources on the debates. Following the web-links it is possible to access the full text of the minutes of the respective plenary sessions. We hope this to be a fruitful basis for research on the topic. The report is publicly available on [www.pademia.eu](http://www.pademia.eu).

## PADEMIA “Vital Statistics”

Based on the fact that there are very few comparative available databases on legislatures, the PADEMIA project “**Vital statistics on European legislatures and legislators**” aimed at gathering already produced basic statistics on the work of the Lower Chambers of European Parliaments and of MPs. The aim is twofold: first to identify whether such data exist and second to collect the data for the creation of a comparative dataset. The dataset created will be shared with academics and practitioners all over the world, offering an

important point of reference for comparative legislative studies. The survey was conducted in Paris by Associate Professor Olivier Rozenberg (Sciences Po) and Research Assistant Eleni Tsireli (Sciences Po). The project is being funded as part of the PADEMIA network.

The survey took place from early June to early August 2016, and consisted of a questionnaire with seventeen (17) open-ended questions. The survey focuses on the EU member-states, along with some countries in the European periphery. The questionnaire was communicated via email to Parliaments’ specialised services and specialised academics from each country, notably PADEMIA members. All were asked to fill in the questionnaire with pre-existing data and not conduct any new research on the questions raised.

Inspired by the yearly publication *Vital Statistics on US Congress*, the survey is divided in two parts: the first deals with the work of national parliaments in the course of one year of business, while the second is focused on the sociology of MPs (age, sex, seniority). The goal is to gather already existing statistics on the questions raised and not create new ones. For this purpose, the questionnaire that was created has been communicated to National Parliaments and academics in Europe and elsewhere. All in all, the study includes data for 34 Parliaments: 27 EU member-states, Turkey, Israel, the US Congress and the European Parliament. The data will be available publicly at [www.pademia.eu](http://www.pademia.eu).



## Erasmus+ Joint Master degree

PADEMIA member LUISS Guido Carli is coordinating the Erasmus+ Joint Master Degree in Parliamentary Procedures and Legislative Drafting (EUPADRA), funded by the EACEA ([www.eupadra.eu](http://www.eupadra.eu)).

EUPADRA is organized jointly with two partner institutions, PADEMIA member Complutense Universidad (Madrid, Spain) and the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, University of London (London, UK). Some other 30 universities, parliaments, institutions and NGOs are supporting the project either as associated partners or by offering internships to students.

EUPADRA represents the first learning mobility project which allows the study of parliamentary procedures and legislative drafting in three different European capitals, seats of National Parliaments and meeting points of private actors and NGOs working in the sector of parliamentary affairs.

While other Masters in legislative studies adopt either a national or a European focus, EUPADRA is based on an understanding of the parliamentary decision-making process as a “compound” and “euro-national” process, made of national and European elements interacting among each other. In other words, exploring the interconnections between the national and supranational context, EUPADRA offers an overview of the combination between the trend to “Europeanise” National Parliaments and the parliamentary dynamics of the European Union (as well as other regional supranational organisations). Call for application to scholarships to be awarded in

2017/2018 and to visiting professors in the same academic year will be launched on 19 September 2016.

More information and all the updates on deadlines on [www.eupadra.eu](http://www.eupadra.eu).

## Funding opportunity

UACES Collaborative Research Networks (CRNs) offers initial funding to enable researchers to establish and develop networks across a range of institutions in Europe and the wider world.

Successful networks will receive up to 5,000 GBP for eligible expenses spread over a three year period.

CRN activities include dedicated research meetings and workshops; participation in larger conferences such as the UACES Annual Conference; contributing to the UACES Newsletter and to pursuing other publishing and dissemination opportunities (journals, books, podcasting, blogging).

Deadline to apply: Friday 28 October 2016

Further information can be found on: [www.uaces.org/networks](http://www.uaces.org/networks).





## Past Events

### **PADEMIA Workshop organized by Maastricht University**

The PADEMIA partners at the University of Maastricht organized a half-day workshop at the UM Campus in Brussels on “Opening the Parliamentary “Black Box” – The Internal Politics of National Parliaments”, which took place on 13 May 2016. All participants agreed that the new research presented here was valuable and did indeed help to further “open the black box” of parliamentary activity with regard to EU affairs, moving the field further away from the misleading image of parliaments as unitary actors. All papers, while being work in progress, clearly have great potential in terms of publication in peer-reviewed journals, and the authors were encouraged, as a next step, to submit their papers to the PADEMIA working paper series. The organisers closed the workshop with thanks to the presenters and to the discussants, who had managed to prepare extensive comments at short notice.

### **PADEMIA PhD School in Dublin**

At the start of June 2016, Dr. James P. Cross and Prof. Gavin Barret hosted a PADEMIA summer school on the topic of “Parliamentary accountability: Assessing the link between citizens and elites in national and supranational politics”. The summer school was hosted by the Dublin European Institute, based at University College Dublin. The summer school was attended by 14 junior scholars from around Europe and focused on innovative new ways to analyse the roles and workings of Parliaments across different national settings and at the EU level. Research was presented on topics including:

- The impact of national and European parliamentary elections on parliamentary activities
  - The link between citizens and parliamentarians at the national and supranational levels
  - Parliamentary speeches and their content, including the application of quantitative and qualitative text-analysis techniques
  - The communication strategies of parliamentary representatives through the media, and online through social media platforms
  - The role of parliamentary committees in policy-making processes
  - The evolving role of national parliaments in European and EU politics
  - The impact of formal and informal institutions on parliamentary decision-making processes
- Summer school attendees also visited the Irish Parliament and were introduced to the new Parliamentary reforms currently being implemented. This experience provided interesting context for the discussions engaged in by participants about their current research.

### **PADEMIA PhD School in Rome**

The PADEMIA colleagues at the LUISS Guido Carli University in Rome organized the fifth edition of the Summer School on “Parliamentary Democracy in Europe” which took place from 11-15 July 2016. This Summer School was awarded as a Jean Monnet module co-financed by the European Commission in 2013, 2014, 2015 and in 2015 winner of the PADEMIA teaching award. The 2016 Summer School has been dedicated to the “Legislative initiative and agenda-setting in the European Union”. The summer school applies research-based knowledge to the



practical contexts that European Parliament and national parliaments as well as executives face nowadays in the framework of the legislative procedures (including the definition of the legislative agenda and the pre-legislative stage). The teaching method of the summer school included lectures given by top-level and senior academics both from PADEMIA and from beyond the network; thematic workshops; paper discussions; simulation exercises. In this way, PhD students were offered a constructive atmosphere to present their work to peers and senior academics and receive valuable feedback

#### **PADEMIA Workshop at the Fondation Universitaire in Brussels**

On September 19th and 20th 2016, under the lead of Julie Smith (University of Cambridge) TEPSA hosted and organised the final PADEMIA workshop on the role of referenda in parliamentary democracy.

The first day was devoted to a general discussion about the principles of direct and representative democracy and about the political and legal aspects of sovereignty in the EU. An introduction by Dr Julie Smith (Cambridge University and House of Lords) and Prof Michael Kaeding (TEPSA Chairman) was followed by presentations by Prof Ben Crum (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam), Dr Julie Smith (Cambridge University and House of Lords) and Prof Catherine Barnard (Cambridge University), Bernard Jenkin (British MP), Andrew Duff (European Policy Centre, former MEP), and Prof Jaap de Zwaan (Erasmus University Rotterdam,

TEPSA Secretary-General). The first day of the workshop was concluded by a keynote speech by Dara Murphy (TD), Irish Minister of State for European Affairs, Data Protection and the EU Single Digital Market.

The second day of the workshop was specifically aimed at addressing constitutional questions in the UK in light of the recent Brexit vote. The session looked at the constitutional rules around referenda the legal challenges to triggering article 50 and the impact of the vote on the nations of the UK and on its relations with Ireland. Addresses were given by Prof Philip Norton (University of Hull) and Graham Avery (Oxford University, European Policy Centre and TEPSA).

We would like to thank all partners involved in organizing PADEMIA events in the last three years!



## Recent Publications

### **Special Issue:**

West European Politics has accepted a special issue on “**Challenging Executive Dominance: Legislatures and Foreign Affairs**“, edited by PADEMIA members Tapio Raunio (University of Tampere) and Wolfgang Wagner (Free University Amsterdam).

Publication is expected for later this year (online) and early next year (print).

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*Alexandra Sakaki*, research fellow in the Asia division at Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik in Berlin.

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De Vrieze, F. (2016). ‘The South-East European Cooperation Process and Its New Parliamentary Assembly: Regional Dialogue in Action’, in The Hague Journal of Diplomacy 11(2016) (pp. 215-234)..

Wendler, F. (2016). **Debating Europe in National Parliaments: Public Justification and Political Polarization.** Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan

More information:

<http://www.palgrave.com/gb/book/9781137517265#aboutBook>



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Newsletter

ERASMUS Academic Network  
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[www.pademia.eu](http://www.pademia.eu)

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**The PADEMIA project is coming to an end, this is our last Newsletter. PADEMIA would like to thank everybody who was involved in PADEMIA events and who contributed to this newsletter. We hope to have established sustainable contacts between researchers all over Europe.**

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