

Core Europe – A new engine towards the European Federation?

International seminar discussing the idea of creating a federal Core Europe

Friday, 26th to Sunday, 28th of February | Frankfurt am Main, Germany

Immigration, global climate change, the regulation of the financial markets or the social implications of the globalization – Europe is facing many issues that can't be dealt with effectively on the national level anymore. At the same time, the current European Union in many policy areas is lacking the competences to address these problems.

Furthermore, with the emergence of new powers like China and India, even large EU member states are too small to play a significant role in international politics and to represent their interests effectively. This is both true for matters, where Europe's self-interest is concerned, like for example energy security, as well as for broader issues like international security or the ability to cope global challenges.

These circumstances, some argue, call for the creation of a European federal state. But how realistic is it, that the EU will take such a resolute step in the years to come? Among the 27 current member states, undeniably different opinions about the right path for the European project as well as actual differences regarding their economic power and their social and environmental standards exist. These differences have increased greatly since the eastward enlargement and can be expected to increase even further with upcoming enlargements. The process which in the end led to the Lisbon Treaty spanned eight years, how much time would the much bigger step to the foundation of a European Federation take?

Against this backdrop, the question arises, if the only way to realize a European federal state in the near future might be the creation of a core Europe which stays open for other EU member states to join the federation later on.

On the other hand, creating a core Europe might lead to a division between the new entity and the remaining EU member states and cause the whole European project to fail. Apart from that, is a federal core Europe with its own institutions existing side by side with those of the EU – although appealing in theory – a realistic concept which can be implemented in practice? And would a core consisting of just a few states be able to tackle Europe-wide, let alone global problems in the first place?

These are some of the questions we would like to explore with you during our international seminar in Frankfurt. Speakers include Prof. Giulia Rossolillo, Professor of European Union Law at the University of Pavia, Sarah Seeger, research associate at the Center for Applied Policy Research and Fidelius Schmid, EU Correspondent of the Financial Times Deutschland. Visit Frankfurt, the city of the Euro, hear experts on European topics from science, journalism as well as the UEF, meet young Europeans from all across Europe and discuss with them your vision of the future of Europe!



Accommodations

FIVE ELEMENTS HOSTEL	http://www.5elementshostel.de/
Venues	
Friday & Saturday	Das Spenerhaus http://www.spenerhaus.de/
Sunday	Saalbau Gutleut <u>http://www.saalbau.com/saalbau-</u>

Participation fee

The participation fee is 45 \in and covers accommodation and all meals during the seminar.

raumangebot/saalbau-gutleut.html

Travel reimbursements

70% of your actual travel costs (up to a maximum amount of 180 € for international and 90 € for German participants) will be reimbursed by bank transfer if we receive your original tickets no later than one month after the seminar.

Language

The seminar will be held in English.

Application procedure

If you would like to participate in the seminar, please send your application to JEF Hessen (<u>info@jef-hessen.de</u>) or to Luca Lionello (<u>lucalion99@hotmail.com</u>).

Your E-Mail should include:

- Name
- Gender
- Birthday
- Nationality
- City
- JEF section (if applicable)
- Occupation or studies
- What's your motivation to participate in the seminar?

Deadline for applications

Applications have to be submitted until Monday, the 15th of February 2010 at the very latest. We will contact you on Tuesday, the 16th of February 2010 by email to let you know, if you have been accepted to the seminar.



Speakers:

- **Prof. Giulia Rossolillo** Professor of European Union Law University of Pavia
- **Paolo Vacca** Member of the UEF Federal Committee
- Prof. Dr. R. Alexander Lorz
 Professor of German and Foreign Public Law, European Law and Public
 International Law
 Heinrich-Heine-University, Düsseldorf
 <u>http://www.jura.uni-duesseldorf.de/dozenten/lorz/</u>

• Philipp Agathonos

Vice-President of the UEF (Union of European Federalists); Member of staff of the Permanent Representation of Austria to the European Union, Relations with the European Parliament

• Sarah Seeger

Research associate at the Center for Applied Policy Research (C·A·P) Geschwister Scholl Institute for Political Science Ludwig Maximilians University Munich <u>http://www.cap-lmu.de/</u>

• N.N.

Member of staff at Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik (planned)

• Fidelius Schmid

Journalist, EU Correspondent Financial Times Deutschland

Bernd Riegert

Journalist, Deutsche Welle

• Christian Deubner (planned)



Programme:

- Friday -

18:00 Dinner

19:30 A brief outline of the history of European integration & basics on federalism

21:00 Evening programme

- Saturday -

08:30 Breakfast

09:30 State of play and future of the European project – A look beyond the Lisbon Treaty First Talk

- o Which challenges is Europe facing at the moment?
- Is the current EU able to rise to them?
- Which path should we choose for the future of the European project?

Sarah Seeger – Research associate at the Center for Applied Policy Research (C·A·P), Geschwister Scholl Institute for Political Science, Ludwig Maximilians University Munich

Philipp Agathonos – Vice-President of the UEF (Union of European Federalists); Member of staff of the Permanent Representation of Austria to the European Union, Relations with the European Parliament

Bernd Riegert – Journalist, Deutsche Welle

Discussion moderated by representatives of JEF Lombardia and JEF Hessen

11:00 Short break



11:15 **Creating a federal core Europe: Opportunities and risks** Second Talk

- o Is the creation of a federal core Europe necessary?
- What are the advantages?
- Which disadvantages and risks does the creation of a federal core Europe entail?
- How could they be minimized and what are the alternatives?

Paolo Vacca – Member of the UEF Federal Committee

N.N. – Member of staff at Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik (*planned*)

Prof. Dr. R. Alexander Lorz – Professor of German and Foreign Public Law, European Law and Public International Law, Heinrich-Heine-University, Düsseldorf

Fidelius Schmid – Journalist, EU Correspondent Financial Times Deutschland

Discussion moderated by representatives of JEF Lombardia and JEF Hessen

- 12:45 Short break
- 13:00 Lunch
- 14:30 First round of working groups

Every working group is jointly moderated by representatives of JEF Lombardia and JEF Hessen

Group	Group size	Subject	Speaker
А	14	First & Second talk	30 minutes with speaker I 30 minutes with speaker III
В	14	First & Second talk	30 minutes with speaker III 30 minutes with speaker I
С	14	First & Second talk	30 minutes with speaker II 30 minutes with speaker IV
D	14	First & Second talk	30 minutes with speaker IV 30 minutes with speaker II

15:45 Short break



16:00 Second round of working groups

Group	Group size	Subject	Speaker
А	14	First & Second talk	30 minutes with speaker II 30 minutes with speaker IV
В	14	First & Second talk	30 minutes with speaker IV 30 minutes with speaker II
С	14	First & Second talk	30 minutes with speaker I 30 minutes with speaker III
D	14	First & Second talk	30 minutes with speaker III 30 minutes with speaker I

17:15 Coffee break

17:45 **A federal core in a wider European Union** *Third talk*

- How should the way to the creation of a core Europe be organized?
- How could the institutions of a federal core Europe be structured?
- $\circ\;$ How could the relations of the federal core with the EU look like?

Prof. Giulia Rossolillo – Professor of European Union Law, University of Pavia

Christian Deubner (*planned*)

Discussion moderated by representatives of JEF Lombardia and JEF Hessen

- 19:15 Preparation of the debate on Sunday morning
- 20:00 Transfer to the venue of the dinner
- 20:30 Dinner
- 21:30 European Evening

– Sunday –

08:00 Breakfast

09:00 The pros and cons of the creation of a federal core Europe – Debate involving all participants according to the rules of British Parliamentary Style

In cooperation with one of the debating societies in Frankfurt (7 groups in parallel with 8 speakers each)



- 10:15 Transfer to the venue of the panel discussion
- 11:00 Public panel discussion about the results of the seminar with representatives of the German political parties and representatives of JEF Lombardia and JEF Hessen
- 13:00 End of the official programme

For everybody who is interested:

13:30 Visit to the Botticelli exhibition of the Städel Museum http://www.staedelmuseum.de/sm/index.php?StoryID=724

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In collaboration with:





