

#EUIA21 THE EUROPEAN UNION IN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS VII

Assessing the EU's
Capacity to Act

26 - 28 MAY 2021 | Virtual Edition
CONFERENCE BOOKLET



BRUSSELS
SCHOOL OF
GOVERNANCE



ORGANISATION:

Brussels School of Governance - Vrije Universiteit Brussel

Institut d'études européennes - Université libre de Bruxelles

Egmont - The Royal Institute for International Relations

United Nations University Institute on Comparative
Regional Integration Studies

Politics and International Studies (PAIS) - University of Warwick



THE CONFERENCE IS ORGANISED WITH THE FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF THE FOLLOWING PARTNERS:

Fonds Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek – Vlaanderen

Fonds de la Recherche Scientifique - FNRS



** Disclaimer: the responsibility for the conference content lies with the organisers and individual participants, not sponsors*



TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCING EUIA	4
WELCOME TO A VIRTUAL #EUIA21	5
SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE	6
DAY 1 – Wednesday 26 May	6
DAY 2 – Thursday 27 May	6
DAY 3 – Friday 28 May	7
KEYNOTE SPEAKER	8
PANELS ORGANISED BY EUIA INSTITUTIONAL PARTNERS	9
Charm or Chasm - How Europe Can Deal with China	9
The EU and the UN: Shared Challenges, Same Vision?	9
Research and Publishing in Times of a Pandemic	9
#EUIA21 BEST PAPER AWARD	10
#EUIA21 CONFERENCE PLATFORM	10
REGISTRATION	11
ASSISTANCE	11
NETWORKING AND SOCIAL EVENTS	12
SOCIAL MEDIA	12
CONFERENCE TEAM	13



INTRODUCING EUIA



#EUIA21

The 'European Union in International Affairs' (EUIA) Conference provides a major forum for academics and policy-makers to debate the role of the EU in the turbulent realm of international affairs. Organised biannually, the first edition of the EUIA conference dates back to 2008. #EUIA21 is the seventh edition. It has always sought to connect the academic and policy communities and to benefit from its location in Brussels close to the EU's institutions. The different conferences have featured keynote speeches of senior EU policy-makers including European Commissioners, the High Representative of the Union for Foreign and Security Policy and Ministers of EU member states.

The EUIA conference used to be jointly organised by the Institute of European Studies (IES) at the Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB), the Institut d'Études Européennes at the Université Libre de Bruxelles (IEE-ULB), the United Nations University Institute on Comparative Regional Integration Studies (UNU-CRIS), and Egmont – the Royal Institute for International Relations.

Two new developments have taken place for the organisation of #EUIA21. First, the Department of Politics and International Studies (PAIS) of the University of Warwick has become a new co-organising partner. It is the first time that a university based outside Belgium has joined our efforts to organise the EUIA conference cycle. The University of Warwick has become a close partner of the VUB and ULB. Together, they are part of the EUTOPIA alliance of like-minded universities aiming to realise a European Higher Education Area. Second, the Institute for European Studies, which has been co-organising the EUIA conference since its inception, has entered into a collaborative alliance with Vesalius College in Brussels. In February 2021, these two Brussels-based frontrunners in international research and education have formed the Brussels School of Governance (BSoG) at the Vrije Universiteit Brussel. By means of this alliance, one of the largest EU and global governance knowledge hubs in Europe is formed.



WELCOME TO A VIRTUAL #EUIA21

It is our pleasure to welcome you to the seventh 'EU in International Affairs' Conference.

#EUIA21 will include several novelties. It will be the first EUIA edition to be held virtually. Initially, the conference was scheduled for May 2020. The Covid-19 pandemic has made us postpone the EUIA conference to May 2021. While, in 2020, we still hoped that we would be able to meet again physically in late spring 2021, this eventually turned out to be unrealistic. To avoid the risk of spreading the infectious disease, #EUIA21 is organised virtually. We have embraced the challenge of moving online. Our objective is to provide the participants with an attractive and pleasant environment to present, discuss, network and, last but not least, to relax. A high-quality digital app will allow for easy interactions and networking.

The overarching theme of #EUIA21 is to assess the EU's capacity to act. This topic has not lost any of its relevance in the context of the pandemic. To the contrary, it has probably never been more relevant for the EU to exert international influence, be it to defend its interest or to project its values. It is therefore with great pleasure to welcome you all to debate the EU's capacity to act. #EUIA21 will feature a keynote address of Margrethe Vestager, the Executive Vice-President of the European Commission, several policy link panels and an editors' debate of leading academic journals in European studies. It will also host 55 academic panels in which scholars present their state-of-the-art research on EU foreign policy-making.

In case you long for a diversification, you may have a look at our new EUIA Podcast Series available at <https://www.euia.eu/podcasts/>. It explores different aspects of the EU's international role and standing. The episodes deal with aspects such as our academic knowledge on the European External Action Service, the EU-West African cooperation on migration or how 'conflicts of sovereignty' have played out in the EU's external relations. In case you want to relax during the conference days, you may join our online yoga session offered by a professional trainer, the fun facts quiz or other networking opportunities.

Many thanks are due to the numerous individuals and institutions helping in the organisation of the Conference. This concerns first and foremost the members of the [national and international steering committees](#) as well as the five organising partners. These are the Brussels School of Governance at the Vrije Universiteit Brussel (BSoG-VUB), the Institut d'Études Européennes at the Université Libre de Bruxelles (IEE-ULB), the United Nations University Institute on Comparative Regional Integration Studies (UNU-CRIS), Egmont – the Royal Institute for International Relations, and the Department of Politics and International Studies (PAIS) of the University of Warwick. We also acknowledge the financial assistance of the Flemish Research Council (FWO) and the Fonds de la Recherche Scientifique (FNRS).

Overall, we wish you stimulating and constructive discussions on the role of the European Union in International Affairs in the coming three days of the #EUIA21 Conference.

Prof. Dr. Florian Trauner
Conference Chair

Philipp Stutz
Academic Coordinator

Jessica Callebaut
Event Organiser



SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

DAY 1 – Wednesday 26 May

11:00 - 11:30	Opening of digital platform, welcome to all participants
11:30 - 13:00	Academic Panel Sessions
13:30 - 14:00	Lunch Break & Online Networking
14:00 - 15:30	Conference Opening and Keynote Speech Margrethe Vestager, the Executive Vice-President of the European Commission
15:30 - 16:00	Break & Online Networking
16:00 - 17:30	2 Policy-link Panels (UNU-CRIS and Egmont)
17:30 - 18:00	Closing Day 1 & Online Networking

DAY 2 – Thursday 27 May

09:30 - 11:00	Academic Panel Sessions
11:00 - 11:15	Break & Online Networking
11:15 - 12:45	Academic Panel Sessions
12:45 - 14:00	Lunch Break & Quiz
14:00 - 15:30	Academic Panel Sessions
15:30 - 15:45	Break & Online Networking
15:45 - 17:15	Academic Panel Sessions
17:15 - 17:30	Closing Day 2 & Online Networking



DAY 3 – Friday 28 May

09:00 - 10:30	Academic Panel Sessions
10:30 - 10:45	Online networking
10:45 - 12:15	Journal Editors Panel
12:15 - 13:30	Lunch / online networking
13:30 - 15:00	Academic Panel Sessions
15:00 - 15:15	Online networking
15:15 - 16:45	Academic Panel Sessions
16:45 - 17:00	End of conference

All times are local Brussels time (CEST).

Conference programmes are often subject to last-minute changes. We are doing our utmost to update those changes in real-time in the detailed online version, which can be found on the [EUIA website](#).



Photo: Speakers at previous EUIA editions

Join the conversation on Twitter #EUIA21



KEYNOTE SPEAKER



We are pleased to be welcoming Margrethe Vestager, European Commission Executive Vice-President for a Europe fit for the digital age and commissioner for competition.

Margrethe Vestager previously held the position of European Commissioner for competition from November 2014, where she was in charge of regulating commercial activity across the 28 member states and enforcing the EU's rules designed to keep the markets fair. A Danish national, Vestager was minister for economic affairs and the interior as well as political leader of the Social Liberal Party from 2011 to 2014. She was minister for education from 1998 to 2001 and head of

secretariat with the Danish Agency for Financial Management and Administrative Affairs from 1997 to 1998. She holds a master of science in economics from the University of Copenhagen. Her politics are liberal in the classic meaning of the term: free speech, free assembly and free trade – but she argues that it can only happen if markets are free of undue influence and anti-competitive behaviors



PANELS ORGANISED BY EUIA INSTITUTIONAL PARTNERS

Charm or Chasm - How Europe Can Deal with China

Organised by Egmont Institute.

Date: 26-05-2021

Time: 16:00 – 17:30

Can one conclude an investment agreement with China and adopt human rights sanctions against it at the same time? For the EU, is China still a partner, competitor and rival all at once? And is there a role for NATO? This panel will feature senior officials from the EU and NATO and prominent academics to discuss the political, economic and security implications of China's rise.

Chair: **Sven Biscop** (Egmont Institute & Ghent University)

Panelists:

- **Dr Eva Gross**, Policy Officer, China Division, European External Action Service (EEAS)
- **Roberto Zadra**, Head Global Partnerships, Political Affairs & Security Policy Division (PASP) of NATO
- **Luis Simón**, Professor at the Vrije Universiteit Brussel
- **Tobias Gehrke**, Research Fellow at the Egmont Institute

The EU and the UN: Shared Challenges, Same Vision?

Organised by United Nations University (UNU-CRIS)

Date: 26-05-2021

Time: 16:00 – 17:30

The policy-link panel on "The EU and the UN: Shared Challenges, Same Vision?" brings together representatives of the UN, European Commission, EU member states, and academia. They will exchange views on EU-UN interaction and collaboration in strategizing, policy programming and implementation for sustainable development, and reflect on future perspectives for EU-UN relations.

Chair: **Philippe de Lombaerde** (United Nations University (UNU-CRIS))

Panelists:

- **Veronika Boškovič Pohar**, Ambassador, Representative to the Political and Security Committee
- **Barbara Pesce-Monteiro**, UN Secretary-General's Representative towards the EU
- **Felix Fernandez-Shaw**, Director D for Sustainable Development Policy and Coordination at DG INTPA
- **Mario Telò**, Professor of Political Science and International Relations at Université Libre de Bruxelles and LUISS Guido Carli University Rome

Research and Publishing in Times of a Pandemic

Organized by Journal of European Integration

Date: 28-05-2021

Time: 10:45 – 12:15

This panel brings together four editors of leading journals in the field of EU studies. They will share their insights as to how the Covid-19 pandemic has affected their work and how they field of EU studies and International Relations may evolve. The editors' panel will also actively engage with the audience keen to get to know more about the challenges of getting published.

Chairs: **Ramona Coman** (Université Libre de Bruxelles), Florian TRAUNER (Brussels School of Governance, VUB)

Panelists:

- **Knud Erik Jørgensen**, editor of Global Affairs
- **Olivier Costa**, editor of the Journal of European Integration
- **Jocelyn Mawdsley**, editor of European Security
- **Richard G. Whitman**, editor of the Journal of Common Market Studies



#EUIA21 BEST PAPER AWARD

The organising partners of #EUIA21 and the Journal of European Integration will jointly organise the #EUIA21 Best Paper Award.

A joint review panel composed of members of the EUIA organising partners and the editorial advisory board of the Journal of European Integration will select the best paper from the #EUIA21 conference. The #EUIA21 Best Paper will get a fast-track publication. Established in 1978, the Journal of European Integration is a leading journal that publishes scholarly work from a variety of disciplinary or multidisciplinary perspectives, ranging from political science and political economy to public administration, law, history, sociology and cultural studies, on all aspects of the European integration process. If you would like to participate with your contribution at the #EUIA21 Best Paper Award, please submit your final conference paper [here](#). The deadline for submission is 26th May (noon, Brussels time).

The following three papers were selected for the EUIA2018 Best Paper Award:

- Katja Biedenkopf: EU Delegations in European Union Climate Diplomacy
- Alasdair Young: Supplying Compliance? Explaining the EU's Response to Adverse WTO Rulings
- Anna Herranz-Surrallés: Paradoxes of parliamentarization in European security and defence: When politicization and integration undercut parliamentary capital

The above papers were published in a themed EUIA section in the first issue of 2019 of the Journal of European Integration (41/1)

#EUIA21 CONFERENCE PLATFORM

Our EUIA21 platform motivates to interact.

Make your home office the event location, our EUIA platform will make you feel like you are there in real life! We will welcome you with a badge at the entrance, talk to you in the lobby and even the door to a room is being held open for you. Our platform gives the stage to speakers and audience to interact and share knowledge of their expertise. There are plenty of options to connect you to other people attending the event through a networking carousel, conversation tables or even private appointments. Our EUIA21 platform enables you to be introduced to someone you have never met before based on your interests and have valuable conversations.

Join us at EUIA21 and you will have a great experience, feeling like a real event from the comfort of your own space!

REGISTRATION

It is only possible to register as a non-presenting participant, register here: www.euia.eu. For the price of EUR 25 per person, you will get access to 3 days of academic excellence and debate, as well as be able to network with the many speakers in our interactive high-level conference platform.

ASSISTANCE

Before you enter the event it is a good idea to make sure you can fully enjoy the experience! We would love to give you a few tips to help you get there:

- **Browser:** For the best experience we advise you to use Google Chrome as a browser.
- **Screen:** Use your laptop and sit back comfortably with a nice cup of tea. Or sit behind your desktop if you prefer! Do not use your smartphone or tablet.
- **Connection:** A steady wired connection always gives the best quality, however, you can also use a fast and steady wifi connection.
- **Camera and Microphone:** For the best interaction during the event we recommend you to use a headset with microphone. Make sure to test if it works before you join!

If you experience any issues registering or accessing the digital platform, you may find the answer in our “frequently asked questions” section:

Is it possible to access the EUIA21 platform via a smartphone/tablet?

No, the platform is desktop-optimized and not accessible via a smartphone/tablet.

Is it possible to use the EUIA21 platform without the mobile app?

It is possible to use the platform without the app. However, the platform in combination with the app creates a complete event experience. The app serves as a tool for arranging the personal programme, your contacts, planning meetings etc.

How do I sign-up for certain programme items?

You can sign-up for sessions in the app by favouring the specific programme item. This is by adding a “star” to the specific programme item.

How do I find an attendee?

Navigate to the Main Menu and click on “Attendees”.

Use the search bar to search by Name, Position or Company Name. You can also filter on Company Type. Same applies for speakers, but then in the “Speaker” tab instead of “Attendees”.

How do I set up a meeting with someone?

When viewing another attendee profile click on the small menu button and select “schedule a meeting”. You can then proceed to select an available time slot.

How do I make a connection with someone?

When viewing another attendee profile click on the small menu button and select “add to contacts”. This will add the person to your ‘My Contacts’ section AND send a notification to the other person. If the recipient accepts the connection and also adds you to their own “My Contacts” you will create a ‘mutual connection’ and private contact details become visible.

Where can I see my meetings?

In the app, navigate to the Main Menu and select “My Meetings”. Here you will find an overview of all your pending and scheduled meetings.

How do I start a video chat?

Go to the profile of the person you want to meet in the application, click on options and schedule an appointment, where you can video chat.

Your're having issues with the connection? Please check the below common errors that occur:

- Please test your connection/camera/microphone here: <https://live.eventinsight.io/check.html#-faq>
- You have a VPN which is blocking the platform: please disable your VPN
- You shared your personal link with other users: please contact the helpdesk
- You have a very strong firewall: please adjust your firewall settings
- You are using an outdated browser: please make sure to use Google Chrome's latest version
- You have a very strong antivirus software which blocks the platform: please adjust your antivirus settings
- You have automatic Chrome translation on: please disable automatic translation

If the above isn't helping in resolving the problem, please feel free to contact events_bsog@vub.be.

During the conference itself, there will be a helpdesk available in the digital platform. Go to the navigation menu in the app or platform and select 'Helpdesk' or click on 'HELP' in the top right corner of the event. Someone is there to help you!

The conference organiser can help if you would like to collect a certificate of attendance. To get a certificate, please contact: events_bsog@vub.be during or after the event.

NETWORKING AND SOCIAL EVENTS

Several networking opportunities are scheduled in the event platform. Connect with fellow participants or speakers by using our networking carousel, make connections in our mobile app or platform. You can even hang out in the virtual lounge and lobby, join our quiz if you'd like to test your knowledge or just relax during our office-style yoga session.

SOCIAL MEDIA

We have created the Twitter hashtag #EUIA21 for this event and we encourage participants to use it along with the Twitter handles of our institutes [@Brussels_School](https://twitter.com/Brussels_School), [@EgmontInstitute](https://twitter.com/EgmontInstitute), [@IEE_Bruxelles](https://twitter.com/IEE_Bruxelles), [@UNUCri](https://twitter.com/UNUCri) and [@PAISWarwick](https://twitter.com/PAISWarwick).

Don't hesitate to share your experience on LinkedIn, Facebook and other social media channels as well.

Conference website: www.euia.be

CONFERENCE TEAM

CORE ORGANISING TEAM

Florian Trauner, Chair

Philipp Stutz, Coordinator

Jess Callebaut, Events Officer

Jelle De Smet & Chris Janssens, Digital conference support

All are part of the Brussels School of Governance, Vrije Universiteit Brussel

LEAD CONTACTS OF THE #EUIA21 ORGANISING INSTITUTES

Sven Biscop, Egmont - Royal Institute for International Relations

George Christou, Department of Politics and International Studies of the University of Warwick

Ramona Coman, Institut d'études européennes, Université libre de Bruxelles

Philippe de Lombaerde, United Nations University Institute on Comparative Regional Integration Studies

Florian Trauner, Brussels School of Governance, Vrije Universiteit Brussel



#EUIA21

THE EUROPEAN UNION IN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS VII

Assessing the EU's
Capacity to Act

Conference website: www.euia.eu



Join the conversation on Twitter #EUIA21



BRUSSELS
SCHOOL OF
GOVERNANCE



UNITED NATIONS
UNIVERSITY
UNU-CRIS
Institute on Comparative
Regional Integration Studies

