International Conference

The EU as an External Democracy Promoter: East and Central Europe (incl. former Soviet Union), the Mediterranean, Asia, Latin America, the Caribbean, Africa and Pacific (ACP) in Comparison

November 18/19, 2005

Chaired by Prof. Dr. Michèle Knodt and Prof. Dr. Annette Jünemann

Technical University of Darmstadt and Arbeitskreis Europäische Integration (ECSA-Germany)

The conference will be held in the rooms of the Fraunhofer Institut (IGD)
Fraunhoferstr. 5
64283 Darmstadt
Abstract

As one aspect of its external relations the EU exports its values and its own view of legitimate democratic governance to third countries and acts there as an external promoter of democracy. In doing so, the EU utilizes various instruments.

The central hypothesis of the conference focuses on the process of choosing these instruments: Why the EU chooses different instruments in different countries? What are the explanatory variables for this choice?

Three factors are assumed to be relevant: the EU's potential to act, the structure of resonance in third countries (Drittstaaten) and the resource relation between the EU and the third country. As a contextual variable the international environment is conceptionalized as changes in the international system and/or competition with other states or international organizations. As there is no comparative research on this research question the conference is planed to generate hypothesis and a first comparative overview. Nevertheless, some general hypothesis will be formulated in advance to provoke a common discussion about explanations on the choice of instruments by the EU.

The conference is innovative because it will bring together researchers specializing in particular countries or regions as well as in the realm of transformation and democratization studies as well as EU integration specialists under one research questions.

Programme

November 18th, 2005

13.00 – 13.30 Welcome and introduction
Prof. Dr. Michèle Knodt (TU Darmstadt) and Prof. Dr. Annette Jünemann (Helmut-Schmidt-University Hamburg)
Conceptionalizing the EU’s Promotion of Democracy

13.30 – 14.30 I. Asia
Florian P. Kühn, MA MPS (Helmut-Schmidt-University Hamburg)
EU democratisation policy in Afghanistan
Dr. Franco Algieri (Center for Applied Policy research, Munich)
Democracy Promotion of the EU in Myanmar/Burma and China

14.30 – 15.00 Coffee Break

15.00 – 16.30 II. Africa
Prof. Dr. Siegmar Schmidt (University of Landau)
Challenging cases: EU democracy promotion in South Africa and the DR Congo

Prof. Dr. Stefan Brüne (German Overseas Institute, Hamburg)
Democracy Promotion of the EU and France in Westafrica: Ivory Coast and Burkina Faso

Dr. Gordon Crawford (University of Leeds)
Evaluating EU Promotion of Democracy in Ghana

16.30 – 17.00 Coffee Break
17.00 – 18.30 **III. Latin America and the Caribbean**  
Rainer Rothfuß (University of Regensburg)  
*Europe - Latin American City Networks*

Dr. Susanne Gratius (SWP-Berlin/Fundación para las Relaciones Internacionales y el Diálogo Exterior (FRIDE), Madrid)  
*EU-Latin America relationship: The Examples of Columbia, Cuba, Venezuela*

**November 19th, 2005**

9.00 – 10.30 **IV. East and Central Europe (incl. former Soviet Union)**  
Dr. Manfred Sapper (editor-in-chief of the journal *Osteuropa*, Berlin)  
*EU-Russia: A special relationship?*

Dr. Susan Stewart (Mannheimer Zentrum für Europäische Sozialforschung)  
*The Role of Civil Society in Promoting Democracy: West-Balkan and Baltics in Comparison*

Prof. Dr. Klaudijus Maniokas (Vilnius University)  
*The Role of the Promotion of Democracy in the New Neighbourhood Policy*

10.30 – 11.00 **Coffee Break**

11.00 – 12.30 **V. The Mediterranean and Arab world**  
Prof. Dr. Annette Jünemann (Helmut-Schmidt-University Hamburg)  
*Explaining the Incoherence of EU-Democracy Promotion in the Mediterranean. A constructivist approach that draws on role theory*

Dr. Richard Youngs (Fundación para las Relaciones Internacionales y el Diálogo Exterior" (FRIDE), Madrid)  
*The European Union as a Promoter of Democracy in a Conflict Ridding Sub-Region: The Case of the Middle East.*

Dr. Marc Schade-Poulsen (Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Network, Copenhagen)  
*EU Promotion of Human Rights in the Mediterranean – a Practisioner’s View*

Elena Baracani (Università degli studi di Firenze)  
*Preaccession and Neighbourhood: European Union democratic conditionality*

15.30 – 15.45 **Last coffee and Summing up of the Conference**

Prof. Dr. Annette Jünemann (Helmut-Schmidt-University Hamburg) and Prof. Dr. Michèle Knodt (TU Darmstadt)  
*First comparative results and revised hypotheses*