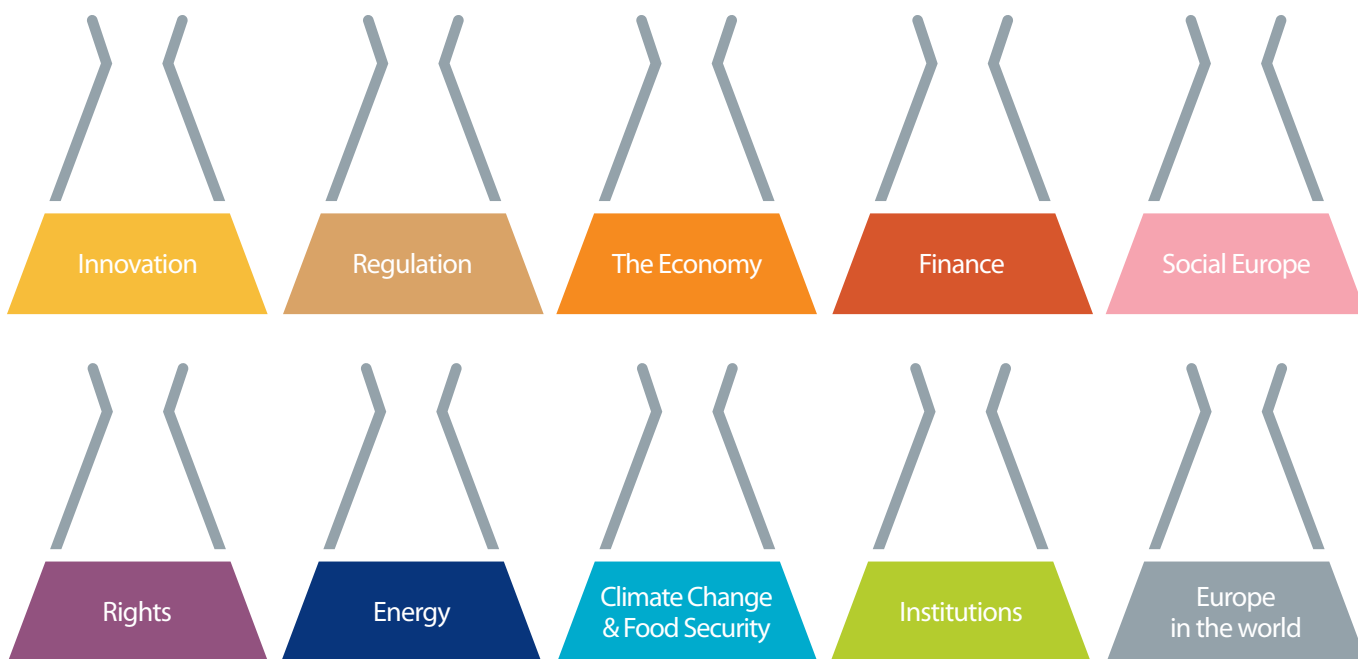


DOES EUROPE MATTER?
CEPS IDEAS LAB



Programme / 3rd & 4th April 2014



A stroll through the CEPS Ideas Lab

Two plenary sessions

The **CEPS Ideas Lab** 2014 will kick off with an opening plenary session featuring high-level speakers from the political and business worlds who will give their views on how Europe matters for the economy.

The event will be concluded on the second day by the closing plenary session in which two distinguished thinkers will share their vision of the future of Europe.

Ten parallel labs

In between these two plenary sessions, ten parallel labs will be organised along key dimensions of European integration: **The Economy, Regulation, Innovation, Finance, Social Europe, Rights, Energy, Climate Change & Food Security, Institutions and Europe's Position in the World.**

Each lab meets three times for 75-minute discussions over the two days - twice on the first day and once on the second. There will be 30 sessions in total.

An experienced moderator will chair the discussion rounds.

A rapporteur will be present during each lab to capture key ideas and perspectives emerging from the debate.

Each session will be attended by a maximum of 25 people, with a balanced mix of opinion leaders, policy-makers and experts from the private sector. All participants are encouraged to actively participate in the debates.

In each session

During each discussion round, a moderator will introduce the topic, which often entails a yes-or-no type of policy issue. After a short introduction, he/she will give the floor to two discussion leaders – two experts or policy-makers selected for their informed yet opposing views on the subject. Each of them will have 5 minutes to explain his/her position and provide supporting arguments for it. The debate will then be extended to other participants in the room and animated by the moderator. To make the discussion rounds as interactive as possible, no power point presentations will be allowed.



The face-off sessions

After the third round of discussion in the labs, the number of parallel sessions will be reduced from ten to five to make room for cross-cutting sessions. The objective of this (4th) round is to have a cross-cutting perspective on the challenges for Europe.


In each cross-cutting session rapporteurs from different previous rounds will challenge a senior figure by putting on the table the policy proposal that had emerged from their discussion.



Agenda / 3rd April 2014

12:30 - 13:15	Registration & Small Bites									
13:15 - 13:30	Welcome: Edmond Alphandéry / Chairman of the CEPS Board of Directors									
13:15 - 14:30	1st Plenary Session									
Labs	Innovation	Regulation	The Economy	Finance In cooperation with 	Social Europe	Rights	Energy	Climate Change & Food Security	Institutions	Europe in the world
CEPS Anchors	Andrea Renda	Jacques Pelkmans	Daniel Gros		Miroslav Beblavý	Sergio Carrera Elspeth Guild	Christian Egenhofer	Andrei Marcu	Stefano Micossi	Steven Blockmans
Discussion Leaders	Iain Begg Francesco Grillo Anders Sandberg Bruno Soria	Malcolm Harbour Fredrik Erixon Michael Fitzpatrick	John Llewellyn Lorenzo Bini Smaghi Philippe Weil	Phillipe Lamberts Alexander Italianer	Elsa Fornero Sebastian Dullien Miroslav Beblavý Xavier Prats Monné	Caspar Bowden Franziska Keller Didier Bigo	Claudia Kemfert Teresa Ribera Michael Hogan Graham Weale	Nathalie Moll Ariel Brunner Tassos Haniotis	Jim Cloos Philippe de Schoutheete Uwe Puetter Ben Crum Eva Lichtenberger Richard Corbett	Javier Solana Tao Xie Marc Leonard
1st Lab sessions 14:30 - 15:45	The hidden European innovation budget	The Services Directive: From Frankenstein to growth darling?	The global economy 2030: Will China be the all-time winner?	Banking Union I: The ECB on the move	Growthless and jobless?	Big (Brother) Data: Can the EU prevent another PRISM?	One energy transition - or 28?	A GMO-free Europe?	Is the European Council taking over?	What are uniquely EU foreign policy interests?
15:45 - 16:15	Mixing and Moving									
2nd Lab sessions 16:15 - 17:30	Let's take technology seriously	Transatlantic regulatory access: Exploiting the TTIP potential	The Japanisation of the euro area? What's wrong with it?	Banking Union II: Restructuring without the public purse?	A European unemployment insurance?	Europe's future frontiers: e-borders or EU borderguard?	The costs of the energy transition: Who benefits and who pays?	Does climate change pose a real threat to global food security?	A greater say for national parliaments?	Multilateralism without representation?
17:30 - 17:40	Closing Words									
17:40 - 18:30	Cocktails									

Agenda / 4th April 2014

08:30 - 09:00	Registration									
09:00 - 09:15	Intro and video of day one									
Labs	Innovation	Regulation	The Economy	Finance In cooperation with 	Social Europe	Rights	Energy	Climate Change & Food Security	Institutions	Europe in the world
CEPS Anchors	Andrea Renda	Jacques Pelkmans	Daniel Gros		Miroslav Beblavý	Sergio Carrera Elspeth Guild	Christian Egenhofer	Andrei Marcu	Stefano Micossi	Steven Blockmans
Discussion Leaders	Anthony Whelan Karim Lesina	Gerd Götz René Van Sloten	Paul De Grauwe Charles Wyplosz	John Llewellyn	Frank Vandembroucke Enrico Giovannini James Sherk	Herbert Bruecker Panu Poutvaara Alp Mehmet	Christian de Perthuis Brian Flannery	Richard Tol Daniel Gagnier	Danuta Hübner Jean-Claude Piris (tbc)	Josef Janning
3rd Lab sessions 09:15 - 10:30	The quest for a digital single market	Is overregulation threatening competitiveness?	From austerity to growth?	Less banking? What financial system for an ageing Europe?	A European minimum wage for all?	Mobility in Europe: A threat to our welfare systems?	Carbon pricing: 'Idée fixe' or a realistic way forward?	A global climate change agreement: Worth pursuing?	What role for the EP in a post-euro crisis environment?	The EEAS: Living up to the comprehensive approach?
10:30 - 11:00	Mixing and Moving									
Face-off sessions 11:00 - 12:30	Towards the mid-term review of Europe 2020: What role for infrastructure, innovation and the services economy?		Economy: Where does Europe matter?		Rights: Right?		The challenge of sustainability		Can Europe get its act together and does the world care?	
Discussion Leaders	Carlos López Blanco		George Papandreou Valdis Dombrovskis		Enrico Giovannini		tbc		Danuta Hübner / Kemal Derviş Ukraine: Do Europe's actions matter? Vitali Klitschko (tbc)	
12:30 - 13:30	2nd Plenary and Closing Panel: Will Europe Matter? Pascal Lamy / George Soros (tbc)									
13:30 - 15:00	The Food Lab									

Contents

Innovation	7	Rights	13
The hidden European innovation budget	7	Big (Brother) Data: Can the EU prevent another PRISM?	13
Let's take technology seriously	7	Europe's future frontiers: e-borders or EU borderguard?	13
The quest for a digital single market	7/8	Mobility in Europe: A threat to our welfare systems?	14
Regulation	9	Energy	15
The Services Directive: From Frankenstein to growth darling?	9	One energy transition - or 28?	15
Transatlantic regulatory access: Exploiting the TTIP potential	9	The costs of the energy transition: Who benefits and who pays?	15
Is overregulation threatening competitiveness?	9	Carbon pricing: 'Idee fixe' or a realistic way forward?	15
The Economy	10	Climate Change & Food Security	16
The global economy 2030: Will China be the all-time winner?	10	A GMO-free Europe?	16
The Japanisation of the euro area? What's wrong with it?	10	Does climate change pose a real threat to global food security?	16
From austerity to growth?	10	A global climate change agreement: Worth pursuing?	17
Finance	11	Institutions	18
Banking Union I: The ECB on the move	11	Is the European Council taking over?	18
Banking Union II: Restructuring without the public purse?	11	A greater say for national parliaments?	18
Less banking? What financial system for an ageing Europe?	11	What role for the EP in a post-euro crisis environment?	18
Social Europe	12	Europe in the World	19
Growthless and jobless?	12	What are uniquely EU foreign policy interests?	19
A European unemployment insurance?	12	Multilateralism without representation?	19
A European minimum wage for all?	12	The EEAS: Living up to the comprehensive approach?	20

Contents continued on Page 6 ►

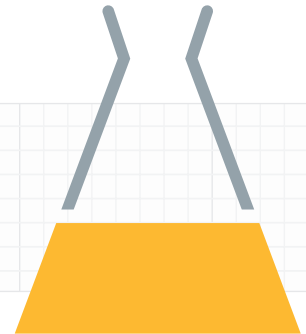
Contents continued

Face-Off Sessions	21
● ● Towards the mid-term review of Europe 2020: What role for infrastructure, innovation and the services economy?	21
● ● Economy: Where does Europe matter?	21
● ● Rights: Right?	22
● ● The challenge of sustainability	22
● ● Can Europe get its act together and does the world care?	23
Logistics of the Lab	24
When and Where	24
Programme Schedule	24
Travel & Accommodation	24
Entrance	25
Contact	25
Sponsors of the Lab	26



Innovation

CEPS Anchor: Andrea Renda



The hidden European innovation budget

Discussion Leaders:

Iain Begg, *London School of Economics* / **Francesco Grillo**, *Oxford University and Vision*

Is it worthwhile to spend taxpayers' money on R&D and on publicly funded regional (or national) innovation policies? Is it effective to relocate the amount of public money spent on research towards less advanced regions as an option for regional development policies? The European Commission decided that the amount of EU money to be spent on Innovation must double from 130 billion euro allocated in the 2007-2013 programming period to about 250 billion euro in the next seven years. Is this a smart decision? Is it enough to say that money should go from the protection of the past (normally associated with the budget allocated to the Common Agriculture Policy) to investments in the future (and, for instance, in Research) to have the guarantee of higher efficiency?

Let's take technology seriously

Discussion Leaders:

Anders Sandberg, *Oxford Martin School* / **Bruno Soria**, *Telefonica*

The pace of technological innovation is increasing while the timing for crafting new policy measures remains constant. How do we ensure that policymakers incorporate technological developments when designing new policies? How can policy areas such as education, infrastructure regulation, innovation, competition and many others be made more future-proof? This session discusses how technology will change the life of businesses and citizens in the coming years, and whether this would lead to a paradigm shift in policymaking – in particular, whether some of the current EU policy goals (e.g. cutting emissions, tackling poverty, reducing unemployment, designing new education paths for new skills) could be more meaningfully and effectively approached if policymakers were more technology-aware.

Innovation continued on Page 8 ►

Innovation continued

The quest for a digital single market

Discussion Leaders:

Anthony Whelan, *European Commission* / **Karim Lesina**, *AT&T*

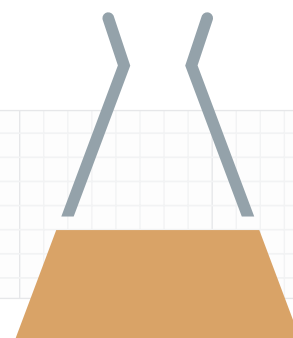
Over the past months, a widespread consensus has emerged that Europe is far from completing the single market for electronic communications and the digital economy. Completing the digital single market is estimated to bring as much as an additional 4.1% to the EU GDP, and is essential for the development of a number of new products and services, not to mention advances in productivity, environmental benefits and possibly greater social inclusion.

The European Commission has presented the “Connected Continent” proposal in September 2013 to boost the completion of the Digital Single Market: Are the Commission proposals likely to be endorsed by the Parliament and the Council? Are these proposals sufficient to bring the EU back to the growth path? What other measures could be taken on issues such as spectrum policy, net neutrality and users’ rights, digital skills, infrastructure policy, copyright, data protection and others to ensure the achievement of the digital single market?



Regulation

CEPS Anchor: Jacques Pelkmans



The Services Directive: From Frankenstein to growth darling?

Discussion Leaders:

Malcolm Harbour, MEP, European Conservatives and Reformists Group

The horizontal Services Directive (2006/123) was enacted after three hectic years of demonstrations, a paralysed Council and a quarrelling European Parliament, not to mention its influence in the French referendum in 2005. However, in 2013/14 it has come to be regarded as one of the scarce EU sources of economic growth. How is this possible? What is the growth potential and what does it take for the Services Directive to become Europe's growth darling?

Transatlantic regulatory access: Exploiting the TTIP potential

Discussion Leaders:

Fredrik Erixon, European Centre for International Political Economy

Michael Fitzpatrick, General Electric

North Atlantic trade and investment is by far, economically, the largest bilateral relationship in the world (goods, services, FDI). The TTIP has ambitions for it to be more open, deeper and a greater contributor to growth. Will the US and the EU deliver? Will the rest of the world economy also benefit via TTIP leadership in standards, 'better' risk regulation and mutual recognition solutions?

Is overregulation threatening competitiveness?

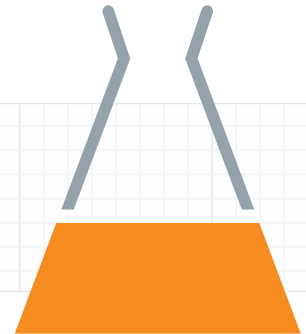
Discussion Leaders:

Gerd Götz, European Aluminium Association / **René Van Sloten**, European Chemical Industry Council

Some experts in European business and selected political circles maintain that the EU 'overregulates'. Overregulation may refer to a single piece of regulation with disproportionate costs and low or spurious benefits, or too costly cumulation of many different regulations impacting a given sector. Is this assertion correct for some sectors? Are we losing out on competitiveness? Can we distinguish facts from fears? Can 'better regulation' be extended to 'cumulation' of EU rules?

The Economy

CEPS Anchor: Daniel Gros



The global economy 2030: Will China be the all-time winner?

Discussion Leaders:

(TBC)

China is changing from a small, relatively open economy providing offshore manufacturing services to the technological leaders in advanced economies, to a more mature, large economy. As a future mature economy, it will be relatively closed as the need to import foreign technology and components diminishes rapidly and domestic consumption rises with higher disposable income. Will China “take it all” at that point? Is this a threat or an opportunity for Western economies?

The Japanisation of the euro area? What’s wrong with it?

Discussion Leaders:

John Llewellyn, *Llewellyn Consulting*

Lorenzo Bini-Smaghi, *former Member of the Executive Board of the European Central Bank*

The European economy seems to be shrinking from the status of a big, but closed, economy to a smaller and relatively more open one. The Euro Area in 2030 resembles today’s Japan as it has high current account surpluses, a rapidly ageing population and slowing internal demand, thereby channelling excess production to foreign markets. Yet, Japan should be considered a successful story: it managed to keep very high levels of quality of life despite the deterioration of its economic inputs. Should Japan be a model for Europe?

From austerity to growth?

Discussion Leaders:

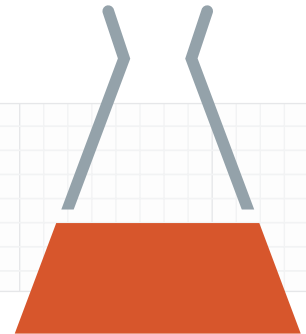
Paul De Grauwe, *London School of Economics and CEPS* / **Charles Wyplosz**, *Graduate Institute Geneva*

Have austerity measures been imposed by a mindless Commission following antiquated German economic thinking? Or was austerity really necessary to get out of the crisis and return to sustainable growth? Has financial market hysteria been used to impose too quick an adjustment or was a quick adjustment, like in the Baltic countries, less painful in the end?

Finance

Organised in Cooperation with:
Center of Excellence 'Sustainable Architecture for Finance in Europe'

CEPS Anchor: Karel Lannoo



Banking Union I: The ECB on the move

Discussion Leaders:

Philippe Lamberts, MEP, Group of the Greens - European Free Alliance

The ECB has had almost half a year to build up its supervisory capacity and to look into the balance sheets of the 120+ banks it will soon directly oversee. What has changed since then? Are national supervisors losing control over 'their' banks? Is the Asset Quality Review likely to be credible?

Banking Union II: Restructuring without the public purse?

Discussion Leaders:

Alexander Italianer, European Commission

Restructuring banks without public money remains the holy grail of the quest for a Banking Union. Can this ever be achieved? What are the roles of national and EU authorities? What steps should be taken when there is a conflict between the stability of the financial system and the prohibition of state aids? How does the EU preserve a level playing field for all, big and small, inside and outside the euro area?

Less banking? What financial system for an ageing Europe?

Discussion Leaders:

John Llewellyn, Llewellyn Consulting

Europe is well advanced in its demographic transition towards a regime of low mortality and even lower fertility. The first leg of this transition proved to be relatively easy as initially the share of the working ages in total population increased. However, now we seem to be on the cusp of the second leg when the share of elderly in the population will increase rapidly. One way to prepare for population ageing is to accumulate savings. But who should take care of this and in what form should our savings be invested? What financial system fits Europe's ageing fate?

Social Europe

CEPS Anchor: Miroslav Beblavy

Growthless and jobless?

Discussion Leaders:

Elsa Fornero, former Italian Minister of Labour

Xavier Prats Monné, Deputy Director General, European Commission

Since the beginning of the crisis in 2008 the European labour market has shrunk by 6 million jobs. Currently it counts 22 million unemployed workers. Many fear a period of slow and jobless growth in many countries. What does it take to restart the labour market engine? More growth or labour market reforms? Will demographic changes ahead work in favour or against the labour market? What reforms are necessary to secure high employment in Europe?

A European unemployment insurance?

Discussion Leaders:

Sebastien Dullien, European Council on Foreign Relations / **Miroslav Beblavý**, CEPS

With unprecedented disparities in national unemployment rates reaching records (over 25% in the South, close to full employment in the North of the eurozone), it might be time to imagine a European unemployment insurance scheme that helps to absorb asymmetric shocks. Should such policy be administered at EU level? If so, what should it look like?

A European minimum wage for all?

Discussion Leaders:

Frank Vandenbroucke, University of Leuven / **James Sherk**, The Heritage Foundation

Enrico Giovannini, Minister of Labour and Social Policies, Italy

In many EU member countries minimum wages constitute one of the cornerstones of income and social protection. Yet, minimum wages remain a controversial measure: some argue that these are essential to reduce poverty and to protect low-skilled workers, while others fear that it will be the former category to suffer the most. Moreover, in some European countries (such as Italy and Germany), no formal, legal minimum exists. Could and should a minimum wage, or at least a policy framework, be implemented in Europe? Would it be possible in a (non-) optimum currency area?

Rights

CEPS Anchor: Sergio Carrera, Elspeth Guild

Big (Brother) Data: Can the EU prevent another PRISM?

Discussion Leaders:

Caspar Bowden, former Chief Privacy Adviser at Microsoft

Prof. Didier Bigo, King's College London

The revelation of the top-secret US intelligence-led PRISM programme has triggered wide-ranging debates across Europe. Press reports and inquiries have shed new light on the electronic surveillance 'fishing expeditions' of the US National Security Agency and EU Member States' intelligence communities into the world's largest electronic communications companies. These companies are gathering ever-increasing data sets (Big Data) on consumers for commercial purposes. Yet, what happens when these data are transferred to law enforcement or intelligence services to be used for other objectives? This session will examine the main controversies raised by the PRISM affair and the policy challenges that it poses for the EU, in particular: Could or should the Union play a stronger role to reinforce the oversight of intelligence bodies in EU Member States? Which measures should be taken in its relations and cooperation with the US? How can the EU better protect citizens' personal data and privacy in the face of unwarranted mass surveillance?

Europe's future frontiers: e-borders or EU borderguard?

Discussion Leaders:

Franziska Keller, MEP, Group of the Greens - European Free Alliance

Recent years have brought increasing European cooperation in EU external border controls, but with it also a certain amount of controversy. Deaths at sea, mistreatment of migrants and claims of 'weak spots' in EU frontiers have all sparked debates on the limits of Schengen and how to best manage Europe's common borders. Yet, on-going discussions have failed to generate ambitious solutions. What kind of border guard and what kind of border controls does the EU need? Would a common European border guard system address the current challenges? Or is human intervention outdated - should future EU borders be primarily electronic through the use of biometrics, data bases and automated entry/exist systems or 'smart borders'? Would the transition to e-borders erode or better respect the rights of travellers? This session will discuss what Europe's future borders should look like and address the following dilemma: human intervention and/or machine-led control?

Rights continued on Page 14 ►

Rights continued

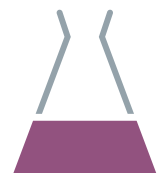
Mobility in Europe: A threat to our welfare systems?

Discussion Leaders:

Herbert Bruecker, *Institute for Employment Research* / **Alp Mehmet**, *Migration Watch*

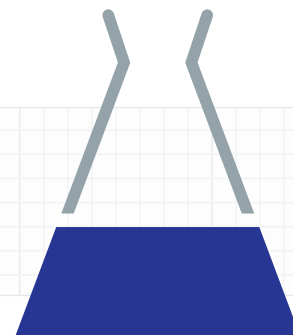
Panu Poutvaara, *CESifo*

Labour mobility within the Union has the potential to transform individual lives and help ease persistent economic imbalances. Citizens have the right to relocate where their skills can be put to good use. This eases the strain on welfare systems in countries where unemployment is high and boosts labour markets in countries in need of workers. However, if outflow is substantial and relocation is long term, mobility can cause problems in terms of financing the welfare state in countries with an outflow of workers. Welfare systems in receiving countries can come under pressure if mobility is largely non-work related. While the evidence suggests this is not currently a problem, public opinion can turn sour if mobility is perceived as 'welfare tourism'. Several EU Member States have called for new restrictions of EU free movement rights and liberties. This session will examine the challenges of mobility in Europe. How can labour mobility be promoted? Or constrained? Can free movement and associated rights be upheld and strengthened in Europe? How should welfare states respond to potentially increasing mobility? Does free movement and wider citizenship rights actually yield large economic benefits in a diverse Union precisely because they allow workers to move where opportunities are located?



Energy

CEPS Anchor: Christian Egenhofer



One energy transition - or 28?

Discussion Leaders:

Claudia Kemfert, *German Institute for Economic Research, DIW Berlin*

Teresa Ribera, *Senior Advisor for Climate and Energy at the Institut du Développement Durable et des Relations Internationales, SciencePo*

Even though European countries rely on each other, governments still act as if they had complete control over their energy mix. European countries go their own way with little regard for other Member States. This has led to a situation where not only approaches from Member States are incompatible, but also undermine crucial policy goals of others. While it may be too late to hope for a unified EU approach and maintaining one internal market, it may still be possible to develop a regional approach and markets that co-exist. Will this be enough to maintain a competitive energy market that ensures the EU's competitiveness? And more importantly, what strategies exist to coordinate and integrate EU energy markets?

The costs of the energy transition: Who benefits and who pays?

Discussion Leaders:

Graham Weale, *MEP, Chief Economist RWE AG*

Michael Hogan, *Senior Advisor Regulatory Assessment Programme*

Recent studies have identified the costs of the energy transition to be at around several thousands of billion euros by 2050. While this seems manageable there is a more important issue - that of wealth transfer between producers (importers), distributors, consumers and different consumer classes as well as between member states and their regions.

Carbon pricing: 'Idee fixe' or a realistic way forward?

Discussion Leaders:

Christian de Perthuis, *University Paris-Dauphine* / **Brian Flannery**, *Resources for the Future*

For many years there has been an assumption that carbon pricing will be a central element of any national, regional and global climate change arrangement. In reality, carbon pricing only makes slow progress and even in the EU it has come under pressure. Is carbon pricing really the way forward or do we need to look for alternatives, including the way it is implemented through the EU ETS?

Climate Change & Food Security

CEPS Anchor: Andrei Marcu

A GMO-free Europe?

Discussion Leaders:

Nathalie Moll, *EuropaBio*

The European Union (EU) has one of the most stringent regulations regarding genetically modified (GM) organisms in the world. The process of approval is slow and subject to extensive political interference. Despite an authorisation procedure at the EU level, several Member States have banned the cultivation of authorised GM products under the EU's 'safeguard clause'. In all cases these national 'safeguard clauses' have been judged to be unfounded and the European Commission asked for a repeal of the provisional safeguard measures. However, in most cases, the Council of Ministers rejected (with a qualified majority) the forced lifting of the provisional safeguard measures. This regulatory gridlock puts the EC in constant violation of both EU legislation and international law and any new proposals to overcome this deadlock have been blocked politically. It resulted in the paradoxical situation where the cultivation of GM crops is virtually prohibited in the EU while imports of several GM crops are allowed. In fact, in the recent years the EU livestock sector became strongly dependent on the imports of GM corn from the US and GM soybeans and animal feed from South America. This session will explore the political drivers that affect EU decision making. In addition, the session will discuss the role GM crops play in the free trade agreement negotiations between the EU and the US and the implications of such an agreement on both sides of the Atlantic.

Does climate change pose a real threat to global food security?

Discussion Leaders:

Ariel Brunner, *BirdLife* / **Tassos Haniotis**, *European Commission*

The relationship between food security and climate change is threefold. First, the agricultural sector is recognised as being a high-emitting sector and responsible for one third of global greenhouse gas emissions. Second, as an activity impacted by changes in natural conditions, agriculture is highly affected by the consequences of global warming, which inevitably has consequences for global food security (e.g. higher temperatures affect yields in different ways, in different parts of the world). Third, agriculture has a huge role to play in the fight against climate change (e.g. through its carbon capture potential) and the mitigation of its negative effects.

This session will briefly touch upon this threefold relationship to assess the costs and potential benefits of climate change for global security. It will distinguish between the effects in developed and developing countries and most importantly discuss pathways for Europe to tackle the threat posed by climate change on food security.

[Climate Change & Food Security continued on Page 17](#) ►

Climate Change & Food Security continued

A global climate change agreement: Worth pursuing?

Discussion Leaders:

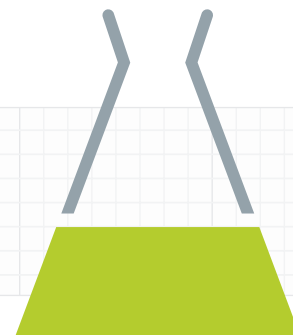
Richard Tol, *University of Sussex* / **Daniel Gagnier**, *International Institute for Sustainable Development*

For a long time, the EU has defined itself as the global climate leader and has actually been seen as such. The paradigm change that was completed in Durban (at the end of 2011) means that the EU's aspirations of a 'comprehensive legally binding climate change agreement' able to keep warming to the agreed 2° C may not materialise, or at least not in the way that most EU stakeholders would envisage. Should the EU continue to offer 'leadership' or should the EU rather defend its own interests (economic and political), i.e. getting on with its business as other countries seem to have done for a long time?



Institutions

CEPS Anchor: Stefano Micossi



Is the European Council taking over?

Discussion Leaders:

Jim Cloos, Secretariat of the EU Council of Minister / **Philippe de Schoutheete**, EGMONT Institute
Uwe Puetter, Center for European Union Research

The institutionalisation of the Presidency of the European Council by the Lisbon treaty and the management of euro crisis have brought the European Council to the core of EU decision-making, raising concerns about EU institutional balance and democratic legitimacy. Are these concerns reasonable? How could they be addressed? Will this trend abate after the crisis? To which extent do personalities (not only institutions) matter and will the election of the next President be relevant for future developments?

A greater say for national parliaments?

Discussion Leaders:

Ben Crum, Vrije University of Amsterdam / **Richard Corbett**, European Council, Adviser to the President
Eva Lichtenberger, MEP, Group of the Greens - European Free Alliance

The stronger role of the European Council, the Council, the Commission and the ECB in the new EU economic governance have raised questions of democratic legitimacy and the appropriate involvement of Parliaments. Some argue that democratic control and accountability should be carried out at the level at which decisions are taken and, therefore, the European Parliament should be strengthened. Others contend that, given that these decisions are implemented at national level and affect national taxing and spending policies, a stronger role should be given to national parliaments. What would the pros and cons of reinforcing the role of national parliaments? How could this objective be achieved?

What role for the EP in a post-euro crisis environment?

Discussion Leaders:

Danuta Hübner, MEP, Group of the European People's Party
Jean-Claude Piris, former Legal Counsel of the European Council and the Council of the EU (tbc)

This session will discuss the role that the next EP can play in a stronger Economic and Monetary Union. What say will it have in the future development of the EMU? What is its position in the new system for economic and budgetary policy surveillance and coordination and in the banking union? If necessary, how can it be reinforced? Does the EP need to adapt its organisation to better address eurozone matters (namely, the creation of a special committee for eurozone matters or limiting voting rights to MEPs from the eurozone)?

Europe in the World

CEPS Anchor: Steven Blockmans

What are uniquely EU foreign policy interests?

Discussion Leaders:

Javier Solana, former EU High Representative for Common Foreign and Security Policy

Tao Xie, Beijing Foreign Studies University

Does EU foreign policy exist? More or less. Sometimes less than more. Although many view the EU as having made considerable strides in forging common policies on a range of international issues, others argue that the credibility of the EU as a foreign policy actor suffers from an inability to reach consensus. Others note that some differences in viewpoint are inevitable among 28 member states that retain different approaches, cultures, histories and relationships—and often different national interests—when it comes to foreign policy. This session raises the question of which core interests should be considered in creating a strategic vision for EU foreign policy.

Multilateralism without representation?

Discussion Leaders:

Marc Leonard, European Council on Foreign Relations

While the Lisbon Treaty has led to limited changes to the EU's international representation (at the UN General Assembly and at the Council of Europe), the EU is refusing to adapt its own representation in key international organisations such as the International Monetary Fund and the UN Security Council. Should the EU be more humble in its presentation and representation, and more ambitious in its goals? Some say that simplifying its representation in international institutions and being more democratic in allowing for an appropriate representation of other countries would be a starting point. In that case, the Union would need to do so with the ambitious goal of persuading others that improved global governance and a multilateral, shared and fairer management of global public goods is the only way to deal with the changes that the emerging world will have to face with its own rising middle-classes demanding political change and greater equality of individuals, peoples and states. Is the EU caught between a sanguine worldview and a return to 19th century international politics? Is there a future for the EU's pledge of effective multilateralism?

Europe in the World continued on Page 20 ►

Europe in the World continued

The EEAS: Living up to the comprehensive approach?

Discussion Leaders:

Josef Janning, *Mercator*

For many years, politicians and officials have described a key EU added value in international security is its ability to bring together a wide range of capabilities, from diplomats to development projects and humanitarian delivery to military activities. The EU's thinking regarding implementation of such a 'comprehensive approach' is that it must apply to all phases of the conflict cycle. But the EU seems has a hard time living up to its own ambition. Critics point to the lack of a comprehensive approach to different stages of the conflicts in Libya, Mali, the Great Lakes Region and parts of the Middle East. This lab asks whether the EEAS, as the spider in the EU's web of external action, has proved its worth in following approaches and initiatives for using the Union's capabilities in a more coherent, joined-up way.



Face-Offs



Towards the mid-term review of Europe 2020: What role for infrastructure, innovation and the services economy?

Discussion Leaders:

Carlos López Blanco, *Telefonica*

The review of the Europe 2020 strategy, which sets ambitious goals for Europe's smart, sustainable and inclusive growth in 2020, is due in late 2014. Due to the urgency of fixing the governance of the Union to enable it to better respond to future financial and economic crises, many of the seven "flagship initiatives" originally included in the strategy have been partly set aside in the past three years. These initiatives speak of industrial policy, innovation, the digital agenda, creating new skills for new jobs, increasing resource efficiency, promoting youth mobility and tackling poverty. Will the review of Europe 2020 lead to a reshuffling of Europe's long-term goals? And what role will (and should) be played by key elements of growth, such as infrastructure, education and skills, and the service economy?



Economy: Where does Europe matter?

Discussion Leaders:

George Papandreou, *former Prime Minister of Greece*

Valdis Dombrovskis, *former Prime Minister of Latvia*

The performance of the European economy has been disappointing over the last years. However, it is not clear what could be done at the EU level to increase growth prospects. There exists an official growth strategy (Europe 2020), but it is little known and seems to have little impact. Action at the policy level might be needed on many fronts: the financial sector, the labour market, trade regulation and innovation policy. However, not everything can be done at the same time and many argue that Europe's problems do not derive from insufficient supply, but a lack of demand.

One key question is thus whether 'austerity' constitutes the biggest impediment to growth or a pre-condition. And what should be done to increase the growth potential once public finances have again become sustainable?

Face-Offs continued



Rights: Right?

Discussion Leaders:

Enrico Giovannini, *Minister of Labour and Social Policies, Italy*

The EU has conferred a range of social, political and civil rights on EU citizens and residents. Yet events such as the economic crisis and revelations like PRISM and other mass surveillance programmes have placed increasing pressures on the effective delivery of EU rights, and exposed the limits inherent in the current EU fundamental rights architecture. At the same time, the gaps in implementation of EU freedoms at national levels and the existence of outstanding barriers affecting their accessibility raise equally open questions for debate. Similarly, while there is budgetary pressure to reduce welfare expenditure, more than ever citizens demand social protection to face the Great Recession. Should European social rights be strengthened? Does it make sense for Europe to fill the social gap, especially given the differences in both economic performance and social history of European countries? Consequently, does it make sense to give Europeans more rights when these cannot always be ensured and fulfilled? Should the EU take a stronger role in safeguarding and enforcing Union rights and freedoms, and if so, which ones? Which policy instruments would be available to the EU to achieve this and what should be the guiding principles in the use of new instruments to further ensure Europe's rights commitments?



The challenge of sustainability

Discussion Leaders:

Since the introduction of sustainable development, the concept has increasingly become part of governments' and companies' narrative. This is even truer for the EU where the concept has become a pillar of the EU 2020 (economic growth) Strategy. In practice, however, sustainability is often confused with efficiency.

- While efficiency is uncontroversial both politically and economically, sustainable development is often paid only lip service. Does sustainable development (as opposed to efficiency) have a real meaning for EU policy?
- What does it take to make sustainable development a more meaningful concept for policy (in the EU and elsewhere) and to induce companies to develop business models that both support sustainable development and allow them to flourish?
- In the absence of global governance, how realistic is it to break the trend of overconsumption (in developed countries)? Is the sustainable development concept useful or should it be dumped, e.g. for more economically based concepts?

Face-Offs continued



Can Europe get its act together? And does the world care?

Discussion Leaders:

Danuta Hübner, MEP, Group of the European People's Party / **Kemal Derviş**, Brookings Institution

The European Union's decision-making and institutional balance has been in flux since the Treaty of Maastricht and continues to be in a process of change driven by recent developments in economic governance. In view of declining citizens' support for the EU and trust in its institutions, especially in the run-up to the European elections in May 2014, opinion-shapers and decision-makers in Europe consider it urgent that the EU's institutions and decision-making processes are made more efficient, democratically legitimate and flexible, so as to take account of the moves towards an increasingly differentiated Union. Seen from the outside, however, the European Union's obsession with restructuring its internal arrangements has been famously compared to rearranging the deck chairs of a sinking Titanic. The focus of the EU on internal challenges when the real threats are external is seen by some as a strategic error.



Logistics of the Lab

When and Where

Date: 3rd & 4th April 2014
Location: The Egg
Rue Bara / Barastraat 175, 1070 Brussels
www.eggbrussels.eu
0032 2 560 21 60
(10 minutes walk from Gare du Midi / South Station)

Programme schedule

(please see attached agenda for more details)

Thursday 3 April

12:30 Registration
13:15 Opening & 1st plenary session
14:30 1st Lab sessions
15:45 Break
16:15 2nd Lab sessions
17:30 Closing words and cocktails

Friday 4 April

8:30 Registration
9:00 Opening
9:15 3rd Lab sessions
10:30 Break
11:00 Face-off sessions
12:30 Closing plenary
13:30 Lunch

Travel and Accommodation

Please note that travel and accommodation are provided by CEPS for Discussion Leaders only.



Logistics continued

Entrance

Please note that participation in the **CEPS Ideas Lab** is by invitation only and that registration is valid only upon receipt of confirmation.

No entrance fee will be charged for participants coming from any of the following three groups:

- Think tanks and academia
- European and national institutions
- CEPS Members (one free entrance per member)

Fees will apply in the following two categories:

- Additional participants from CEPS Members - €350/person
- Corporate sector, non-member of CEPS- €1,000/person

Contact

If you have any questions, please contact us at: ideaslab@ceps.eu



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