

New Challenges for Democracy – Exploring the Crisis of Trust and Democratic Legitimacy in Europe

INAUGURAL CONFERENCE of the CENTER FOR ADVANCED STUDIES – SOUTHEAST EUROPE

University of Rijeka, October 16 – 18, 2013

*Organized by CAS and University in Rijeka in cooperation with the Ministry of Science, Education and Sports of the Republic of Croatia, European Fund for the Balkans, Open Society Fund, Erste Stiftung, German Marshall Fund and European Forum Alpbach
With the institutional support of NetIAS*

In the last few years we have been increasingly confronted with crisis symptoms of democracy. The trust in political representatives and institutions is decreasing, while populism and nationalism are on rise. The economic crisis and hardships with which the world is confronted have challenged the notion of deregulated market economies and social welfare. Neoliberal economic policies go hand in hand with enormous power of multinational corporations and financial markets. At the same time, socioeconomic inequalities in the West seem to endanger the stability and legitimacy of the democratic order. The time of euphoria after the fall of the Berlin Wall and demise of communism is over; we have entered a time of fear, distrust and crisis. The end of history has not arrived. Rather, we face a new stage of global history with no guarantees regarding the outcome. As we live in fluid times, democracy has also become a fluid concept. Democracy has been challenged; the crisis of trust evident, and democratic legitimacy is contested. Deprived populations occupy the streets, new social movements demand more transparency in politics and the economy, and requests for a more direct form of participation are formulated.

All these questions are more than relevant for Southeast Europe, a region flanked by the struggling Greece and more powerful Turkey on one side, and which includes the countries of Bosnia, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia that are confronted with major political and economic challenges while trying to advance in the process of EU integration, Croatia, which has become EU's latest member in July 2013, and Slovenia. In all these countries we are witnessing multi-faceted reflections of the global phenomena mentioned above. It is time to reflect on global phenomena from a regional perspective and vice-versa, to engage in global intellectual dialogue, to rethink the common assumptions about trust and democratic legitimacy. A new common perspective on the future of democracy is needed.

Directors:

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The inaugural CAS conference will gather leading global and European scholars and intellectuals to discuss the new challenges to democracy in Europe and in its southeastern part. The newly established CAS¹ and the University of Rijeka will host the three-day conference, organized under the auspices of the President of the Republic of Croatia, Ivo Josipović. The inaugural CAS conference will feature several prominent speakers from Europe and the US. It will also present the first four CAS distinguished fellows.

Concept by Directors of CAS SEE: Petar Bojanić, Vedran Džihic, Snježana Prijić-Samaržija

1 The Center for Advanced Study, as a unique venue for scholars and intellectuals from Southeast Europe (SEE) and internationally, aims at providing constructive contributions to advanced studies of the social sciences and humanities (SSH) from the SEE perspective, by opening opportunities and space for independent scholarly and intellectual thinking and debates. CAS is committed to pursuing new lines of thought and to broaching often contested topics of social relevance for SEE and wider. There is a pressing need for critical discussion and reflection of relevant regional and global phenomena involving scholars, intellectuals, practitioners and society at large, in order to move the region towards full integration into broader European and global scientific and intellectual space. In response to these contextual challenges, the Center strives to create space for scholars and intellectuals to gather, dialogue, collaborate and offer their contribution to the world wide academic arena, with the ultimate goal of rebuilding SEE's social and scientific ties with leading global intellectual and scholarly centers. The mission of the Center is to provide the freedom of research and intellectual thinking, to strengthen transnational and regional scientific collaboration and joint work on current discourses in SSH. In collaboration with leading IAS in and outside Europe, the Center is committed to fostering space for research on a range of topics of social relevance, while at the same time aiming at improving the quality of scientific institutions in the region by supporting young talented scholars and emphasizing the strategy of "brain gain". The Center will identify prospective young scholars from Southeast Europe working abroad and in the region and help them to (re)connect to global scholarly trends by providing support and infrastructure for conducting independent research projects.

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Agenda for the CAS inaugural conference in Rijeka

“New Challenges for Democracy: Exploring the Crisis of Trust and Legitimacy in Europe”

October 16 – 18, 2013

Opening ceremony, 18.00 – 20.00

Venue: Aula Magna of the University of Rijeka

Welcoming addresses:

Under auspices of President of Croatia, Ivo Josipović

Pero Lučin, Rector, University of Rijeka

Zlatko Komadina, Prefect of the Primorje-Gorski, Kotar County

Vojko Obersnel, Mayor of the City of Rijeka

Opening addresses:

Vesna Pusić, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Vice-President, Government of the Republic of Croatia

Željko Jovanović, Minister of Science, Education and Sports, Republic of Croatia

Tomislav Jovanović, Minister of Science and Education, Republic of Serbia

Jerner Pikalo, Minister of Science, Republic of Slovenia

Dejan Jović, Office of the President of Croatia

Addresses by supporters and partners of CAS:

Erhard Busek, Erste Foundation, Vienna

Oliver Bouin, Network of European Institutes of Advanced Studies, Paris

Stipe Mesić, former President of Croatia

Ivan Vejvoda, German Marshall Fund of the United States

Hedvig Morvai, European Fund for the Balkans, Belgrade

Vedran Džihic, Director, CAS, Institute for Political Sciences, Vienna

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Addresses by honorary and permanent fellows of CAS

Maurizio Ferraris, University of Turin

Rade Šerbedžija, University of Rijeka

First working day**Venue: Aula Magna of the University of Rijeka**

9.30 – 10.30: Keynote speech

Is there a Crisis of Democracy? Comparing East and West

Wolfgang Merkel, Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin

Comments by Dejan Jović, Faculty of Political Sciences, Zagreb

Discussion

10.30 – 12.00 1st Panel:

Democracy in the Danube Region – EU's Danube Strategy and its Vision of an Integrated Danube Region

Moderated by Vedran Džihic

Erhard Busek, Erste Foundation

Goran Svilanović, RCC, Secretary General

Miroslav Vesković, Rector, University of Novi Sad

Ines Marinković, Western Balkans INCO Net

Eva Nussbaumer, European Commission

12.00 – 12.30 Coffee Break

12.30 – 14.00 2nd panel:

Roundtable: European Foundations and Institutes of Advanced Studies in Talk - Chances and Opportunities for the Center for Advanced Studies Southeast Europe

Moderated by Snježana Prijić-Samaržija, Director, CAS, University of Rijeka

Participants:

Olivier Bouin, RFIEA

Hedwig Morvai, European Fund for the Balkans

Gordana Popović, European Research Council

Mario Gioannini, The Compagnia di San Paolo, Torino

Thorsten Wilhelmy, The Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin

Philippe Narval, European Forum Alpbach, Vienna

14.00 – 16.00 Lunch**Directors:**

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16.00 – 17.30 3rd Presentation Panel

Venue: Rijeka City Hall

New Economic Perspectives of SEE Countries Developments

Moderated by Maja Vehovec, The Institute for Economics, Zagreb

Participants:

Vladimir Gligorov, The Vienna Institute for International Studies, Vienna

Dubravko Mihaljek, Bank for International Settlements, Basel

Ivica Rubil, The Institute for Economics, Zagreb

Tanja Broz, The Institute for Economics, Zagreb

Jelena Budak, The Institute for Economics, Zagreb

Nenad Starc, The Institute for Economics, Zagreb

17.30 – 18.00 Break

18.00 – 20.00

Public Roundtable “What democracy are we looking for? Democracy in Southeast Europe and the Mediterranean region”

Moderated by Vjieran Pavlaković, University of Rijeka

Participants:

Rade Šerbedžija, University of Rijeka, CAS SEE Permanent Fellow

Ana Dimiskovska, University of Skopje

Nenad Mišćević, Central European University, Budapest, CAS SEE Permanent Fellow

Wolfgang Merkel, WZB Berlin Social Research Center

Giovanni D’Alessio, University of Naples/University of Rijeka.

Second working day

Campus, University of Rijeka

9.15 – 10.00 *Keynote speech*

Framing Democracy - The Role of Legal and Constitutional Cultures

Werner Gephart, Käte Hamburger Kolleg "Recht als Kultur", Internationales Kolleg für Geisteswissenschaftliche Forschung

10.00 – 11.30 4th panel:

European Democracy – Europe between the Document and the Spirit

Moderated by Predrag Šustar, Dean, Faculty of Humanities, University of Rijeka

Participants:

Maurizio Ferraris, University of Turin, CAS Honorary Fellow

Jelica Šumič-Riha, Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts

Vjollca Krasniqi, University of Pristine

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Jovan Babić, University of Belgrade
Aleksandar Fatić, University of Belgrade

11.30 – 12.00 Coffee Break

12.00 – 13.30 5th panel:

Democracy and its foundations – Approaching (Mis) understandings of Modern Democracies

Moderated by Nikica Petković, University of Rijeka

Participants:

Elvio Baccarini, University of Rijeka

Ilija Vujačić, Dean, Faculty of Political Sciences, Belgrade

Darko Polšek, University of Zagreb

Nerzuk Ćurak, University of Sarajevo

Aleš Lipnik, University of Primorska, Science and Research Centre, Koper, Slovenia

13.30 – 15.00 Lunch

15.00 – 16.30 6th panel (co-organized by European Forum Alpbach)

Debating the future challenges to and expectations from democracy in Southeastern Europe: Cross-Generational Dialogue

Participants:

Milana Sredojević, President, Club Alpbach Belgrade

Marijana Tošić, Vice-President, Club Alpbach Croatia

Krenar Shala, EFA 2013 Scholarship Holder

Vjollca Krasniqi, University of Pristine

Nerzuk Ćurak, University of Sarajevo

Ana Dimiskovska, University of Skopje

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