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Centrul Altiero Spinelli de
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ABOUT US

The Altiero Spinelli Center for the Study of European Governance is a research institute set up in December 2007.

The mission of the Altiero Spinelli Center

The Altiero Spinelli Center performs the function of coordinator of researches and didactic activities by:

- ❖ Elaborating a strategy for research plans and human resource recruitment, specialized in the field of European government;
- ❖ Proposing to the Babes-Bolyai University Rectors office the recruitment of a specialized professorial body specialized in theories of European Integration and European political and constitutional systems;
- ❖ Setting up of a professorial body for the coordination of PhD programs in the field of federal political systems and multi-lateral governance;
- ❖ Planning new strategies for institutional and curricular development in the field of European organization studies;
- ❖ Creating research teams composed from didactic personnel, PhD candidates from International Relations and European Studies lines of Babes-Bolyai University, for competing for international grants;
- ❖ Publishing of a journal about theories and practices of European integration, which can offer a proper frame for publication of papers in the domain of European organization;
- ❖ Pragmatic development of institutional cooperation with institutes and research centers from the field of European federalism and global models;
- ❖ Systematic coordination of further institutional cooperation.

The founding of CASOE is based on the following principles:

- ❖ The promotion of scientific research in the field of European federalism and other paradigms related to the governance in the European Union and the assertion of it in the Romanian, European and international academic sphere;
- ❖ To promote principles of performance and competitive actions in the field of research of European Union governance theories;
- ❖ Cooperation with institutions from Romania and abroad, based on the principles of partnership, subsidiarity, in the frame of university autonomy;
- 4. The promotion and development of human resources of Babes-Bolyai University, with the purpose of guarantee the existence of a dynamic and high quality professorial body, stimulation of young researcher's activities or the integration of didactic personnel in the European research network on governance issues.



Official launch of the Altiero Spinelli Center
(December 2007)

The objectives of Altiero Spinelli Center are the following:

- ❖ The development of cooperation with Sapienza University of Rome, and especially with the Altiero Spinelli Italian National Committee;
- ❖ Promotion of a journal based on topics from the European Governance area;
- ❖ The organization of conferences, seminars and the publication of the research results;
- ❖ Participation in PhD joint programs between Babes-Bolyai University Cluj-Napoca and Sapienza University of Rome on the thematic of European federalism;
- ❖ The development of scientific competences of Romanian researchers from Babes-Bolyai University by promoting high level researches on the topics of European integration;
- ❖ Creation of an interdisciplinary research collective, by associating specialists in history, philosophy, law, political and economical sciences, etc, capable to elaborate far reaching scientific papers;
- ❖ The elaboration of EU organization projects, capable to enter in competition and debates of future Intergovernmental Conferences;
- ❖ To intensify the cooperation with other research units from Romania, especially on the topics of International Relations and European or transatlantic cooperation;
- ❖ The participation of Altiero Spinelli Center members in European projects regarding the place and the role of national and supranational entities in the Europe of the third Millennium;
- ❖ Elaboration of studies regarding the newest developments and approaches in the field of European federalism, and the dissemination of this information in Romania and other member states;
- ❖ Offering consultancy in the domain of governance and integration paradigms, constitutional reforms, cooperation between federal entities by promotion of dialogue between involved institutions;
- ❖ Promotion of academic courses about federalism, neo-functionalism, multi-level governance, theories and practice, comparative analysis of federate and confederate systems;
- ❖ Creation of a Romanian network for the study of European issues in cooperation with NGOs, for support of European reform attempts.

RECENT PUBLICATION OF CASOE STAFF

Book reviews:

Mihaela Herbel

1. Simon Hix, *Politica democratică în Uniunea Europeană*, Cluj-Napoca CA Publishing, 2009, pp.152-153.
2. Andre Liebich, *De pe cealalt țărm. Social-democrația după 1921*, Cluj-Napoca CA Publishing, 2009, pp.154-155.

JEAN MONNET LECTURES

- ❖ *15 February 2010: Prof. Henry Steck, Cortland University, USA,*

In February this year, Prof. Henry Steck sustained a lecture on democracy – types of democracy and the materialization of democracy in the U.S. and E.U. At the end of the presentation, the students in International Relations and Security Studies who attended the lecture engaged in a lively discussion on the challenges to democracy in the contemporary world.

- ❖ *6 May 2010, Senior Lecturer Thibault Lahalle, University Paris XII, France*

At the beginning of May, prof. Thibault Lahalle, sustained a lecture on the administrative system in France in correlation with the European Union's multi-level governance framework. The students were able to identify the similarities between the decentralization process in France and the reality of the multilevel characteristics of the European Union. The lecture ended with a debate upon the similarities between Romania's and France's administrative system, under the scientific guidance of professor Lahalle.

- ❖ *11 June 2010, Prof. Pierre Chalvidan and Yves Palau, University Paris XII, France*

The institutional partnerships of the Altiero Spinelli Centre for the Study of European Governance of BBU follows its main research interests, namely

governance in all its dimensions. On Friday, June 11th, the Centre has hosted a conference on governance-related issues held by professors Pierre Chalvidan and Yves Palau from LARGOTEC Laboratory from University Paris XII, one of CASSOE's most reliable institutional partnerships. Professor Pierre Chalvidan challenged the governance-related issues in ethical terms, stating that the most important articulation point between governance and ethics lies at the level of institutions, namely at the level of institutional ethics. The predominance of economic governance, said professor Chalvidan opens up the way for manifestation of governance's hidden face(s) and one way for counteracting this manifestation is to use all institutional mechanisms that the political systems already have in order to enhance public participation. Prof's Palau lecture followed the same line, by stating that in the context of globalization, political systems are exposed to a multitude of crisis, which reflects a crisis of democracy as we know it. So the term governance reflects both an antidote-term to the crisis as well as a new mode of governmentality, which sometimes values expertise much more than public participation and which brings back expert-discourse and culpability into the political arena. How can political science embrace this agenda? In Prof. Chalvidan's opinion, political science and the other disciplines in the social sciences are required to open themselves to anthropological reflection, in order to come with new *outils de discernement*.

ROMANIAN REVIEW OF EUROPEAN GOVERNANCE STUDIES

The third issue of the online bi-annual journal edited by the "Altiero Spinelli" Center was launched at the beginning of June 2010. The current number of *The Romanian Review of European Governance* can be accessed at: <http://www.cassoe.ro/?q=revista/curente>. Reuniting authors from Romania and from abroad, this third number of the review comprises three articles and two book reviews: Alina Bârgăoanu & Roxana Maria Dascălu, *Absorption of European Funds in Romania. An instance of Europeanization by Evasion*, Thierry Brugvin, *La dimension adémocratique du pouvoir des élites économiques et politiques* and Luigi Moccia, *Il 'sistema' della cittadinanza europea: un mosaico in composizione*. This journal provides immediate open access to its content on the principle that making research freely available to the public supports a greater global exchange of knowledge. The review is listed in two international databases: *Ulrich's Web* and *Copernicus*.

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❖ 7-10 January 2010: *SUNY MEU*, University of Limerick

A group of four students – Stefana Ignea, Smaranda Muresan, Irina Pop and Rafael Soci – attended the 2010 *SUNY MEU*, a simulation of the European Council. Representing the Czech Republic, the students assumed the role of the President, the Foreign Minister, the Minister of Interior and the COREPER

representative. The issues on the negotiation agenda referred to the possible measures on the economic crisis, the energy security and climate change, enlargement, EU's foreign and defence policy and the immigration policy. The group coordinator, Natalia Cuglesan, assistant researcher, also took part in Faculty *workshop*, presenting a paper on the issues of multi-level governance within the Lisbon Treaty.



❖ February 2010

CASSOE Center has submitted three project proposals within the *Jean Monnet 2010* Call for proposals. The Center aims at establishing a *Jean Monnet Excellence Center* at BBU, a *Jean Monnet Module* on multi-level governance and organizing an international conference within the *Research and Information* activities program.

❖ April: Scholarship selection for Roma Tre University

Three MA students were selected to attend for a month and a half, lectures and seminars at the Department of Political Science, University Roma Tre. The scholarship was awarded by the Jean

Monnet Excellence Centre of Roma Tre. The scholarship covers the costs for housing and transport.

❖ *16 May 2010: ASSI student conference*

ASSI – the association of the students in International Studies at the Faculty of History and Philosophy – organized a student conference on the European perspectives on globalization. The event brought together B.A. and M.A. students in Security Studies and International Relations and European Studies who presented papers on topics pertaining to E.U. institutional structure and politics, European and international security and minority issues.

❖ *7-8 May 2010: Conference sustained by prof. Adrian Ivan, University Roma Tre, Italy*

Professor Adrian Ivan was invited to deliver a lecture within the master program *European citizenship and the euro-Mediterranean integration at University Roma Tre, Italy*. The lecture *L'élargissement de L'Union européenne: logiques et conditionnements: le cas de la Roumanie* was very well received by the master students who have shown great interest for the enlargement issues of the EU. Romania's accession to the EU has represented another important topic of discussions during the final debates.

❖ *20-21 May 2010: International Conference*

Regional Development and Territorial Cooperation in Central and Eastern Europe in the context of the CoR White Paper on Multilevel Governance

The conference was organized by the Institute for Euroregional Studies Oradea-Debrecen and The Altiero Spinelli Centre for the Study of European Governance Cluj-Napoca within the activity programmes of the Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence (University of Oradea) and Jean Monnet Chair Governance and Community Policies (Babes-Bolyai University Cluj-Napoca). This conference brought together, by means of the interesting topic put forward, high representatives of the European institutions (EACEA, CoR, IIAS), academic staff, academic researchers, representatives of the central and subnational authorities, professionals and civil society representatives, in order to explore new ways of contributing to the increase in the participation of subnational and private stakeholders in the public policies of the EU. CASSOE Center participated with 4 young researchers: Natalia Cugleşan, Alin, Nicula, Mihaela Herbel and Claudia Iov. The papers of the participants will be published in the conference proceedings.

By

*Irina Pop
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Mihaela Herbel
Natalia Cugleşan*