LSEE is part of the LSE’s European Institute, a Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence

**Editorial**

‘LSEE’ as a research unit within the European Institute has now been established at the School for two years. LSEE aims to draw together colleagues from across the School to promote research and public debate on contemporary issues affecting South East Europe. As we look forward to a promising third year, this Newsletter also records some of the highlights of our second:

- Public events at the School, including: a lecture by Mr Traian Băsescu, the President of Romania; and another by Dr Simeon Djankov, Bulgarian deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister.
- The completion of a joint research programme on SEE — generously funded by the John S Latsis Public Benefit Foundation — with *L'Institut français des relations internationales* (Ifri), Paris, culminating in a conference in Brussels in December 2010 and the publication of a number of research papers.
- A collaborative research workshop with *Kolleg-Forschgruppe “The Transformative Power of Europe”*, Frei Universität Berlin, on environmental governance in SE Europe.
- A roundtable at the School, ‘Ten Years After Milosevic’, with senior politicians and media representatives from Serbia.
- A policy roundtable at LSE on the lessons of administrative and economic reform in Romania.
- A regular series of research seminars on SE Europe at LSE, with speakers presenting their latest work.
- Developing our networks and hosting visiting academics specialising on SE Europe.
- A number of important research projects undertaken by LSEE staff.
- In September we partnered the International Centre for Black Sea Studies for its 4th International Black Sea Symposium, held near Athens, charting the complex trends of the region.

This Newsletter reports on these and other activities in detail. LSEE members have also delivered important research publications on the region over the last year.

We also look forward to another year of development. In an exciting new venture, we will also be collaborating with the Regional Cooperation Council for SE Europe on a new series of conferences and workshops focussed on issues of social cohesion and employment. We see this as a major new initiative for us to work with an international body dedicated to an agenda that is compatible with our own. The RCC is the regional intergovernmental organisation, comprising each of the countries of the region, the EU, the Council of Europe, the EBRD, the EIB, OECD, the UN, the World Bank, and a number of other international bodies.

In addition, we look forward to a further external research call to invite applications to deliver high-quality projects on the policy agenda facing SE Europe in the coming years. An announcement on this will appear on our website.

Back at the School, LSEE will host a number of other major public lectures and will initiate ten or more research and policy seminars open to the public. These will complement those organised by the Hellenic Observatory and the Contemporary Turkish Studies Programme. We very much hope that you’ll be able to join us for at least some of these events.

In the coming academic year, our colleague Dr Vassilis Monastiriotis will serve as Acting LSEE Coordinator, helping to direct what is a growing programme of research and public events.

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**Professor Kevin Featherstone and Professor Şevket Pamuk**

Co-Chairs, LSEE
LSEE aims to produce high-quality, multidisciplinary research that will track developments in the region through in-house projects, collaborative efforts and co-authorships with partners at the LSE, the UK, the region and further afield. LSEE staff engage in a range of research projects covering a variety of thematic and geographical areas. As well as through peer-reviewed journals and in published books research produced at LSEE is also disseminated through papers series and other publications and at public seminars and lectures.

Highlighted here are key projects indicative of the research produced at LSEE. For further information, whether on individual research projects conducted by LSEE staff or on larger, collaborative projects, please visit our website.

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**Research Network on Social Cohesion**

Research on Social Cohesion and Social Inclusion in South Eastern Europe

LSEE has recently established a Research Network on Social Cohesion in South East Europe. The aim of the network is to promote high quality focused and policy-relevant research on the topic of social cohesion and social inclusion in South East Europe. This will initially involve a series of conferences, seminars, and meetings to share research results from individual research that is being carried out by members of the network. The research network is supported by funding from LSEE and from the European Commission through the office for Regional Programmes at DG Enlargement. The research network will provide policy makers in the region with access to relevant information and proposals for the development of economic and social policies that promote inclusive growth. This is particularly important in the aftermath of the economic crisis which has depressed economic growth in the region and in some cases reversed the decline in poverty and social inclusion that had taken place in recent years.

The LSEE research network will carry out some of its activities in collaboration with the Regional Cooperation Council in Sarajevo. The Council, which was established in 2008 as the successor of the Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe, has recently inaugurated a programme on social policies known as the “Social Agenda for South East Europe”.

LSEE and RCC have drawn up a Memorandum of Understanding to provide a framework for collaboration between the LSEE Research Network on Social Cohesion and the RCC Social Agenda programme. The first event will be a panel organised by the LSEE Research Network at the RCC regional conference on New Skills for New Jobs to be held in Sarajevo in October 2011. The conference will bring together policy makers, practitioners and researchers to discuss problems of skills development and skills mismatches in the region at a time when countries are struggling to find a new growth model based on greater competitiveness of their economies in response to the deleterious impact of the global economic crisis on their societies and economies. Following on from this, a workshop on the same theme will be held at LSEE early in 2012. The LSEE research network will hold its inaugural conference at LSE in December 2011 on the theme of the social impact of the economic crisis on South East Europe. Individuals or institutions wishing to join the network and/or take part in the launch conference should send a short abstract and expression of interest to Ivan Kovanovic at euroinst.lsee@lse.ac.uk.
The Joint LSEE-Ifri Research Programme on South Eastern Europe consisted of four discrete research projects carried out by LSEE in collaboration with L’Institut français des relations internationals between September 2009 and February 2011. The research findings of the whole programme were presented at a high profile Conference in Brussels in December 2010.

At LSEE, research on “Decentralisation and Regional Policy in SEE” was carried out by LSEE staff Will Bartlett, Vesna Bojičić-Dželilović and Vassilis Monastiriotis in collaboration with research partners in the region including Sonja Avlijaš (Belgrade), Sanja Maleković (Zagreb), Silvana Majsovka (Skopje), Jakša Puljiz (Zagreb) and Božidar Šišević (Podgorica). Five project papers have been published as LSEE Papers on Decentralisation and Regional Policy. The research papers have led to several interesting findings. In an econometric study of spatial interdependence in Serbia, Monastiriotis finds only partial evidence for such interdependencies casting doubt on the role of decentralisation as an efficiency-enhancing process. The paper on the case of Croatia by Maleković, Puljiz and Bartlett argues that there is a need for “a greater concentration of resources on investments in developing local capacity. Deficient government structures at any level will not be capable of making the most of either the EU or the national resources that are available for specific development initiatives with major impacts on local and regional development.”

The paper on the Bosnian case by Vesna Bojičić-Dželilović argues that “strong local political interests to preserve the status quo in terms of powers and resources vested in the intermediate levels of government have made the separation of competencies and expenditures across different levels of government complex and complicated”. The project organised a conference on the theme of decentralisation and regional policy in Zagreb, Croatia in May 2010. Several project papers will appear alongside selected papers from the Zagreb conference in a book to be published by Routledge in 2012. The book, edited by Will Bartlett, Sanja Maleković and Vassilis Monastiriotis, will be part of the Routledge series Studies of Societies in Transition. Other papers from this conference will appear in a special issue of the journal Southeastern Europe to be published in 2011.

LSEE also contracted an external project on the privatisation of public services in the region with a focus on the case of Croatia by Maleković, Puljiz and Bartlett. Nevenka Čučković finds that “both telecommunications and the oil and gas industry are highly influenced by politics due to their strategic importance, the large number of people employed and the huge impact on the input costs of other economic sectors. The post-privatisation performance of Croatian Telecom, which has a majority foreign owner, has seen the effective removal of political influence on their top management. In contrast, INA, which retained a large state holding after privatisation did not manage to make a clear break from pressures exerted by the political elite such as having members of political nomenclature in the supervisory and management boards, and the direct impact on formation of prices through various modes of final government approval.”

The New Research Programme on South Eastern Europe was funded by a generous grant from the John S Latsis Public Benefit Foundation to which we wish to record our gratitude.

http://www2.lse.ac.uk/europeanInstitute/research/LSEE/SEE_Programme/Home.aspx
Economic Crisis in SEE

In addition to the LSEE Papers and LSEE Papers on Decentralisation and Regional Policy series and the publication of books through established publishers, LSEE also seeks to produce occasional stand-alone analytical publications to cover particularly topical themes. The first publication of this kind is “South Eastern Europe After the Crisis”, which developed from an economic policy panel discussion organised by LSEE in December 2009. The volume was edited by LSEE members Will Bartlett and Vassilis Monastiriotis and features region-wide analyses of the impacts of the global economic crisis on South Eastern Europe and also country specific studies, written by experts from each country. We hope that this synoptic account of the economic and social effects of the crisis makes a useful contribution to the study of the region’s economic prospects and potential as well as an historical record of the state of the region during a particular phase of the global crisis.

LSEE Papers Series

Topical and debate-provoking Papers series on South Eastern Europe

The LSEE Papers on South Eastern Europe, or just LSEE Papers, is a series is published both electronically and in hard-copy and which seeks to promote papers produced by the LSEE team or by visiting fellows and other guest writers. The aim of the series is to publish topical, provocative and timely Papers that will encourage debate of key issues relating to the region both within the academic community and amongst the wider public. The first paper in the series was Tim Judah’s “Yugoslavia is Dead: Long Live the Yugosphere”, depicting the emergence of a cultural and linguistic sphere emerging in the Western Balkans. This was followed by Kenneth Morrison’s comprehensive analysis of the political environment in Montenegro over the five years since its independence. Most recently, the LSEE Papers series has seen the publication of a paper on the privatisation of public utility companies in Croatia, “The Privatisation of Public Utilities in Croatia: An Assessment of the Major Gains and Pains” by Nevenka Ćučković, Krešimir Jurlin and Valentina Vučković. A number of additional papers are planned for the coming academic year. Please look out for announcements on the Publications page of our website.
New Perspectives on SEE
LSEE and Palgrave Macmillan Book Series

As part of its goal to produce and disseminate high quality research, LSEE has worked closely with Palgrave Macmillan Publishers to initiate the “New Perspectives on South-East Europe” book series. The series aims to engage with a range of issues affecting the region and the complex transitions it is currently undergoing. The disciplinary approach incorporates politics and international relations, modern history, economics and political economy and sociology. The EU is an obvious reference point for the current research on South-Eastern Europe, but this series also highlights the importance of this region in a broader context taking in the Caucasus, the Black Sea and the Middle East. The series editors are Professor Kevin Featherstone, Professor Sevket Pamuk and Dr Spyros Economides.

The first three books in the series have ensured that it is already off to a good start. The first book in the series, Nationalism in the Troubled Triangle: Cyprus, Greece and Turkey edited by Ayhan Aktar, Nizayi Kizilyurek and Umut Ozkirimli brings together scholars from Greece, Turkey and both sides of Cyprus (and beyond) to provide a systematic study of nationalism in Cyprus, Greece and Turkey from a comparative perspective. The Greek-Turkish Conflict in the Aegean: Imagined Enemies by Alexis Heraclides, the second book in the New Perspectives series, is a timely and balanced study of the diplomatic history of the conflict between Greece and Turkey and the various abortive attempts at settlement. The study conclusively shows that the complex conflict involving sovereignty, national security, energy resources and freedom of access to ports and islands is not insolvable. The third and most recent book of the series is The Last Ottomans: The Muslim Minority of Greece 1940-1949 by Kevin Featherstone, Dimitris Papadimitriou, Argyris Mamarelis and Georgios Niarchos. The Last Ottomans, based on extensive archive material from across the region, is the first in-depth study of the Muslim minority in Greece and traces a fascinating, untold story, raising important questions not only for the 1940s but also to the inherited assumptions and images of today.

Three new additions to the series are planned for the near future. The first of these, Health Reforms in South Eastern Europe edited by Will Bartlett, Jadranka Božikov and Bernt Rechel, began to take shape after a LSEE Conference on this subject held in Dubrovnik in 2009. Most countries in the region have attempted to reform their health systems by moving away from rigid systems of centralised planning and towards the use of competitive market mechanisms to allocate health care. Even so, this study is the first of its kind, bringing together experts from across the region to provide specialised knowledge that will also be relevant to a wide audience of academics, health and social policy professionals, NGOs and students. Another collection of papers, this time on Civil Society and Transitions in the Western Balkans edited by Denisa Kostovicova, Vesna Bojicic-Dzelilovic and James Ker-Lindsay, is also the product of a successful LSEE workshop, organised in collaboration with LSEE Global Governance. Civil Society and Transitions seeks to explain the ambiguous role played by civil society in the region since 1990 and problematizes both civil society and the complexity of the on-going transformation in the region. Finally, Europeanization of the Western Balkans: Environmental Governance in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Kosovo and Serbia by Adam Fagan, though not a collection of papers is also closely linked to a LSEE workshop. Europeanization of the Western Balkans seeks to answer these two key questions: can the EU really transform the post-conflict successor states of the former Yugoslavia in the way that it did in Central and Eastern Europe? And how successful has the Commission been so far in driving substantive change? From the perspective of environmental governance, policy and politics – a critical, costly and complex aspect of conditionality - the book will examine the extent to which EU assistance, influence and intervention are transforming the interaction between state and non-state actors as well as enabling civil dialogue and democratic change.

For further information on the series, please visit the LSEE Publications section of our website.
LSEE Events

LSEE hosts an array of public events ranging from academic seminars and public lectures to large international conferences. We have highlighted here some of the key events of the past year. For further information on all of the events organised by LSEE, as well as podcasts of key events, please visit our website.

Visiting Speakers
LSEE Visiting Speaker Programme, a series of research and policy seminars

The LSEE Visiting Speaker Programme was launched in 2010 with the aim of bringing research by policy professionals, academics and other South Eastern Europe experts to a wider audience. In this first year we organised eight seminars, four in the Michaelmas Term and four in the Lent Term, with speakers covering a range of subject areas and coming from institutions in the UK and further afield. The success of last year’s seminars has encouraged us to continue the Programme and we hope to bring you interesting speakers, working on a range of South East European issues. For the Michaelmas Term schedule, please see opposite and please look out for the Lent Term schedule on our website.

Tuesday 4 October, 6.45pm
New Theatre, East Building, LSE
Professor Richard Caplan, Oxford University
"Exit Strategies and Lessons Learned: From the Balkans to Afghanistan"
Organised in cooperation with LSE Government’s Conflict Research Group

Tuesday 1 November, 6.15pm
Dr Jelena Obradović-Wochnik, Aston University
“What does ‘Coming to Terms with the Past’ Mean? The Serbian Public and War Crimes"

Tuesday 15 November, 6.15pm
Dr Dominik Zaum, Reading University
“The Political Economy of Statebuilding in Kosovo”

Tuesday 29 November, 6.00pm
Dr Radu Cîmpoeș, Kingston University London
"Socialisation and the Inclusion/Exclusion of Romanian Migrants in Britain"

Unless otherwise stated, all Visiting Speaker Programme seminars will take place in the Cañada Blanch Room (Room COW 1.11), Cowdray House, Portugal Street, LSE

LSEE Seminars
http://www2.lse.ac.uk/europeanInstitute/research/LSEE/Events/researchSeminars/Home.aspx
Europe and the Crisis Lecture
Dr Simeon Djankov Bulgarian Deputy PM and Finance Minister

On 22 November 2010 LSEE hosted a lecture by Dr Simeon Djankov, Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister of Bulgaria, entitled "What has the financial crisis taught Europe?" Dr Djankov discussed how the global financial crisis has uncovered several weaknesses in Europe’s regulatory system and the belated measures taken by the European Commission to fix these weaknesses with fresh regulation. Dr Djankov offered an analysis of the most current developments as well as a perspective on how the financial sector in Europe will look in the coming years.

Simeon Djankov is a Bulgarian economist, who currently serves as Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance in Bulgaria. Prior to his cabinet appointment, Minister Djankov was the chief economist of the finance and private sector vice-presidency of the World Bank. In his fourteen years at the World Bank, he worked on regional trade agreements in North Africa, enterprise restructuring and privatization in transition economies, corporate governance in East Asia, and regulatory reforms around the world. He is also known as the creator of the Doing Business series, the top-selling publication of the World Bank Group, he was a principal author of the World Development Report 2002 and has published over 70 articles in academic journals. Dr Djankov holds a PhD in economics from the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor.

For a full podcast of this lecture please visit the LSEE Events web page ●

Serbia Ten Years On
LSEE and LSE Global Governance Panel Discussion

On 10 November 2010 this LSEE event, organised in co-operation with the Czech Embassy, brought together a number of leading figures from Serbia to explore the ten years since the overthrow of Slobodan Milošević. The panel members were Ms Sonja Stojanović (Director of the Belgrade Centre for Security Policy, a leading NGO), Zoran Vujić (Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs), Zoran Jeftić (Deputy Minister of Defence) and Bojan Brkić (Deputy Editor in Chief of Radio Television Serbia, the national broadcaster). The diversity of the panel made it possible to cover a number of aspects of the mixed fortunes of post-Milošević Serbia, including insights into setbacks and breakthroughs in the country’s efforts at European integration, regional cooperation and reconciliation as well as reflections on future challenges. The event attracted a sizeable crowd of students, journalists, representatives of embassies and others resulting in a lively question and answer session. Please visit our website for a gallery and podcast of this and other key events ●
June 2011 saw LSEE inaugurate a new series of events. The programme, which is being co-organized with the Romanian Cultural Institute in London, aims to promote awareness of, and debate over, contemporary political and economic developments in Romania.

The series of events is named in honour of the late Prof. Ghiță Ionescu, whose distinguished academic career began at LSE, some 48 years ago. Born in Bucharest in 1913, Ionescu was politically active during the inter-war period — first in Romanian domestic politics and then in the country’s diplomatic service. When Romania fell under communist rule following the Second World War, Ionescu stayed abroad. After some years working for the BBC’s Romanian language service, Ionescu was invited to direct the Romanian branch of Radio Free Europe, in Munich. In 1963, he returned to England, where he began his academic career in political science by taking a position at LSE. He was later appointed to a professorship at the University of Manchester. Among the influential and diverse works that Ghiță Ionescu produced as an academic are titles such as *Communism in Rumania, 1944-1962* (1964), *Centripetal Politics* (1975), and *Politics and the Pursuit of Happiness* (1984). While at LSE, Ionescu also co-founded *Government and Opposition*, which soon became one of the most respected journals of comparative political studies. The journal’s interest in exploring the relationship between the theory and practice of politics underwrites LSEE’s interest in seeing the ‘Ghiță Ionescu’ series become a forum in which scholars and practitioners can come together to set discussion of current social trends in Romania within a comparative, regional framework.

The first event in the series was a lecture titled ‘Politics and the Pursuit of Welfare,’ which was delivered by Romania’s President, Traian Băsescu, on June 6 2011. In his address, the President first presented his case for constraining the role of the state. Arguing that Central and Eastern Europe had witnessed the deleterious efforts of pervasive state intervention while under communist rule, Băsescu told the audience that he had come to realize that "societies are composed of individuals who should be responsible for their own destiny". Liberal democracy and a market economy, he argued, combine to create an institutional environment that endows individuals with that responsibility. The President then reflected on Romania’s efforts to move towards democracy and the market over the past 20 years. After recognizing that the process of reforming the Romanian state has been a longer and harder task than many had expected, the President called for the West to continue its support for Romania — not only in the form of capital investment, but also through what he called “intellectual investment” in the country. It was this recognition of Romania’s transition travails that sparked a number of the audience’s questions, which were submitted to the President after Prof. Vladimir Tismăneanu of the University of Maryland had discussed the key themes in Băsescu’s talk. Among the questions posed was the issue of whether the President believed that Romania’s accession to the European Union had been premature, and what role he saw for the state in attending to the needs of Roma communities. His responses to these questions can be heard, along with the full speech, on the LSEE website (please follow the link on the left).
Romanian Policy Roundtable
Discussion of Current Issues in Romania

The second event in the ‘Ghița Ionescu’ series was a policy-focused panel that attended to "Administrative and Economic Reform in Romania: Lessons for the Region”. The panel, which was hosted at LSE’s European Institute on June 24 2011, brought together a distinguished group of commentators -- both Romanian and British. The first speaker of the evening was Ms. Monica Macovei, currently a Member of the European Parliament and a former Minister of Justice for Romania. As a renowned activist in the area of anti-corruption, Ms. Macovei was well-positioned to offer a set of guidelines for fighting graft in the region. One common theme that ran through the advice she offered was the need to have anti-corruption measures managed by an actor who comes from “outside” of the political or judicial system that she or he is investigating. The second speaker was Prof. Alan Smith of the School of Slavonic and East European Studies, London, who brought the audience up-to-date on the latest developments in the Romanian economy. Speaking in the midst of Greece’s financial crisis, Prof. Smith’s message was clear; while a number of the root causes of the economic crises in Romania and Greece may be similar, the degree of the crisis that has unfolded in Romania pales in comparison with that of Greece. The final speaker of the evening was Dr. Cătălin Avramescu, a lecturer at the University of Bucharest and (at that time) chief of President Băsescu’s chancellery. Dr. Avramescu’s comments focused on the complex electoral reforms that were introduced in Romania in 2008. After providing the audience with an overview of what he described as a “bizarre system,” Dr. Avramescu went on to identify some of the curious outcomes that have been produced through that system and to discuss the political strategizing that underwrote its adoption. Following his conclusion, the discussion was thrown open to the floor. The diversity of the themes that were covered by the panelists was matched by the diversity of the questions posed, and the liveliness of the discussion that ensued. Again, those questions can be heard, along with the panellists’ contributions, on the LSEE website (please follow the link above).

Yugoslavia Book Launch
“New Perspectives on Yugoslavia” presented to a welcoming public

At the end of the Summer Term, the editors Dr James Ker-Lindsay, LSE, and Dr Dejan Djokic, Goldsmiths University London, along with some of the contributing authors, presented the new edited volume "New Perspectives on Yugoslavia”. The informal and light hearted book launch was held at Waterstones Book Shop on the LSE Campus and brought together a crowd of those interested in former Yugoslavia. The contributors to the book mingled with the guests of the launch, providing a unique opportunity for relaxed discussion of the book and many of the important issues it covers. The guests included a number of bona fide experts on the region, ensuring highly informed discussion in an easy-going, end of term atmosphere.
LSEE-KFG Workshop on Environmental Governance in South Eastern Europe and the Western Balkans

LSEE hosted this one-day workshop, on 6 May 2011. The event was co-organized by LSEE and the Kolleg-Forschergruppe “The Transformative Power of Europe” of the Freie Universitat Berlin, and organised by Dr Adam Fagan, Visiting Senior Fellow at LSEE and Reader in Politics at Queen Mary, University of London.

The workshop explored the complexities of Europeanization in the Western Balkans and SEE from the policy perspective of environmental governance. It brought together leading scholars and practitioners, both from Western Europe and the region, working on aspects of Europeanization, environmental governance and regulation in new member states (Bulgaria and Romania as well as CEE states), as well as specialists on political-economy reform in candidate and potential candidate states across South East Europe. The programme ended with a lively roundtable discussion involving academics, NGO activists, policy makers and a representative from DG Enlargement, and a wine reception hosted by Routledge to mark the launch of Green Activism in Post-Socialist Europe and the former Soviet Union.

The general aim of the workshop was to consider the extent to which the experience of Europeanization and environmental governance across Central and Eastern Europe were relevant to South East Europe and the Western Balkans, whether lessons had been learnt and the extent to which the post-conflict states faced distinct challenges. A key question, posed by Professor Tanja Borzel in her keynote address, is to try to understand why the EU exerts a transformative effect at all in these weak states? What can the environmental sector reveal about the constraints and successes of conditionality and social learning?

As the day progressed and discussion intensified, it became increasingly evident that the nexus of Europeanization, environmental regulation and energy security provides an invaluable perspective from which to consider whether EU regulation and conditionality remain relevant in the context of weak states, significant non-EU investment in regional energy sectors, and the slow pace of economic liberalization and reform.

We plan to publish the workshop papers as a special issue of Environmental Politics in 2013.

Keynote speakers:
Prof. Liliana Andonova
Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva
Prof. Miranda Schreurs
Freie Universitat Berlin
Prof. Tanja Borzel
Freie Universitat Berlin

Other speakers:
Dr. Matthew Gorton
University of Newcastle, UK
Dr. Adam Fagan
Queen Mary, University of London / LSEE
Dr. Cristina Parau
University of Oxford
Dr. Aron Buzogany
German Research Institute for Public Administration, Speyer
Dr. Claudiu Craciun
SNSPA, Bucharest

LSEE Podcasts
http://www2.lse.ac.uk/europeanInstitute/research/LSEE/Events/Podcasts.aspx

Adam Fagan, the main organiser of the Workshop, welcomes the participants

A session on Environment, state and society in the Balkans

A discussion of lessons from previous EU enlargements

Prof. Kevin Featherstone chairs the session on Environmental Governance
Belgrade Summer School and Book Launch

LSEE Members Visit Belgrade to Participate in South-East European Summer School for Democracy and to Launch Serbian Language Translation of Book on Kosovo

The South-East European Summer School for Democracy has been organised as a joint effort by the Hellenic Observatory and subsequently LSEE and the Anglo-Serbian Society, Belgrade, since 2008. It aims to improve understanding of modern democratic theory among young academics, civil society activists and future political decision-makers in Serbia and beyond. The 14th Summer School was held from 19-23 September 2011 under the title "EU Perspective of the Western Balkans: Challenges and Opportunities". Dr Spyros Economides is Co-Director of the Summer School and has been closely involved with the project since 2006. This year LSEE members Dr Spyros Economides and Dr James Ker-Lindsay, gave lectures at the Summer School. In addition to participating in the Summer School, Spyros and James also used this trip to Belgrade as an opportunity to launch the Serbian language translation of James’ book, Kosovo: The Path to Contested Statehood in the Balkans (in Serbian: Косово: пут ка оспореној државности на Балкану). The book launch, organised by the Belgrade Fund for Political Excellence, received coverage by the most prominent news media organisations from Serbia. For more information on the Summer School, please visit the Anglo-Serbian Society website (http://www.anses.rs/). Further details of the book launch can be found on the LSEE Website.

Forthcoming LSEE Events

The 2010-2011 academic year proved to be a very successful one for the LSEE public events programme, including the launch of the Visiting Speaker Programme and several lectures by high profile speakers as well as a large-scale workshop and a number of topical panel debates. We hope to continue to organise a wide range of events covering topics relevant to the South Eastern Europe. As well as co-organising a conference in Sarajevo in October, we plan to host a two-day academic conference to inaugurate the LSEE Research Network on Social Cohesion in South Eastern Europe in December. Also planned, for Wednesday 12 October, is a panel discussion on trade in the Western Balkans, which will include the presentation of the recent World Bank study on "Barriers to Trade in Services". Further events will be announced as they are confirmed so if you would like to receive our announcements, please make sure you are on our mailing list by contacting the LSEE administrator’s office (EuroInst.LSEE@lse.ac.uk) and ask to have your details added. Alternatively, for up-to-date information on our events programme as well as details of past events, including podcasts of key public events, please visit our website.
Who’s who

PROFESSOR KEVIN FEATHERSTONE, LSEE Co-Chair and Eleftheros Venizelos Professor of Contemporary Greek Studies

PROFESSOR ŞEVKET PAMUK, LSEE Co-Chair and Chair of Contemporary Turkish Studies Programme

DR VASSILIS MONASTIRIOTIS, LSEE Coordinator and Senior Lecturer in the Political Economy of South Eastern Europe

DR SPYROS ECONOMIDES, Senior Lecturer in International Relations and European Politics

DR JAMES KER-LINDSAY, Eurobank EFG Senior Fellow in the Politics of South Eastern Europe

DR WILL BARTLETT, Senior Research Fellow in the Political Economy of South Eastern Europe

DR VESNA BOJICIC-DZELILOVIC, European Institute Senior Research Fellow

DR CLAIRE GORDON, European Institute Teaching Fellow in East European Politics

MS ISMINI DEMADES, Hellenic Observatory and LSEE Manager

IVAN KOVANOVIC, LSEE Administrator

LSEE Visiting Fellows

Kenneth Morrison joins LSEE as a Visiting Senior Fellow for the duration of the 2011-2012 academic year. Kenneth is Senior Lecturer in Modern European History at the Department of Historical and Social Studies, De Montfort University, Leicester. Kenneth’s collaboration with LSEE has already resulted in a LSEE Paper, Change, Continuity and Consolidation: Assessing Five Years of Montenegro’s Independence, and plans to continue his research of the politics of the Sandžak region during his fellowship.

Aleksandra Nojković will join LSEE as a Visiting Fellow for three months from the 1st of October. Aleksandra is an assistant lecturer at the Faculty of Economics, University of Belgrade. Her primary research interest is the econometrics of emerging markets and transition economies. During her time with LSEE, she intends to focus her research on pre- and post-crisis growth in South Eastern Europe.

Jakša Puljiz will join LSEE as a Visiting Fellow for three months in April 2012. Jakša is currently a Research Fellow at the Institute for International Relations, Zagreb. While at LSEE he plans to investigate cross-border cooperation and its main effects on regional development and local governance in border regions.

Past LSEE Visiting Fellows

Tim Judah - LSEE Visiting Senior Fellow Spring 2009
Dr Umut Özkirimi - LSEE Visiting Senior Fellow January-December 2010
Dr Slobodan Markovich - LSEE Visiting Fellow Spring 2010
Dr Florian Beiber - LSEE Visiting Fellow Spring 2010
Dr Adam Fagan - LSEE Visiting Senior Fellow 2010-2011
Dr Alper Duman - LSEE Visiting Senior Fellow March-September 2011

LSEE Donors

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Hellenic Petroleum S.A.
John S. Latsis Public Benefit Foundation
National Bank of Greece
Viohalco S.A.

LSEE Website
http://www2.lse.ac.uk/europeanInstitute/research/LSEE/Home.aspx

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