

2024/25 ANNUAL REPORT





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Introduction



Simon GlendinningHead of the LSE European Institute

LSE 2030 invited the whole School to reflect on its strategic planning and ambitions in an ongoing way. So too, following our Departmental Review, the European Institute has been exploring and sharpening its vision and identity.

On the back of this call, I have been convening a new working group to meet regularly: the European Institute's "Vision Group". The group's aim is to engage in open-ended discussions led by people both inside and outside LSE. We have not been looking to redesign the European Institute, but to explore the opportunities and new directions for what has hitherto been called "European Studies" or "Regional Studies of Europe" or "European Area Studies" – the future for what (as neutrally as possible) we are calling "studies of matters European". Like LSE 2030, we are looking at a 10-year horizon.

Our discussions to date have not pointed in the direction of a single narrative but rather to a series of emerging themes that we believe the El will need to engage with in the years to come. It's not about formulating or attaining a single approach or method but of identifying a field-illuminating perspective that can help orient a plurality of approaches and methods.

As a first attempt to formulate such a perspective, I have sketched the following statement of principle:

One understands little about Europe if one ignores its entanglement today in an increasingly globalised world. Conversely, one understanding little about Europe if one ignores its historical role in producing the very globalisation it is today totally entangled with.

This statement draws in two aspects of our existing strategy, but it links them. We had already attempted to capture our activity under the: "Study Europe. Understand the world." It should be clear that the first part of my sketch reflects something of this idea. However, our current banner might be taken to imply that one can understand the world by studying one little corner of it.

But that is not what we mean. What we mean is perhaps indicated by a second feature of our current strategy: to study Europe "Beyond Eurocentrism". What this highlights is that an adequate engagement with the culture, politics and economics of the little corner of the world that we focus on will inevitably draw in an understanding of international and global processes. One reason for that, however, and this is the second part of the sketch, is that Europe is in part responsible for the planetary condition in which it now finds itself just one little corner of.

The old nation states of Europe have never been exclusively nation states: they have all been (or have all been entangled with) states that are empire states, and as such they have traded with, fought against, dominated and remain even today still deeply engaged with non-European territories.

We believe that studying Europe in isolation – still less the European Union in isolation – is not really to study Europe at all. Indeed, globalisation is an historical development that has always been caught up with processes of the movement worldwide of the cultural, political and economic world that had its origins in Europe.

Europe is the beachhead of modern colonialism and modern capitalism. It is also the birthplace of the welfare state, social democracy, inter-state integration, and much more; and it continues to shape developments globally, from political-economic-social transitions in its neighbourhood (or further afield, via trade agreements) to developments and policies with regard to climate change, energy transitions, disaster prevention, intellectual property rights, and universal human rights.

Here, then, we have the ground of my little sketch. On the one hand, that one understands little about the European world if one ignores its entanglement with a global context; and, on the other hand, that one understands little about the world if one ignores Europe's historical tendency towards globalisation —

or "mondialisation", to put it in the European language that first conceived the phenomenon.

"Study Europe. Understand the World" – This is the headline banner on our website and it still seems to me to make good sense of what we do. And perhaps

it gives a hint at another wonderful feature of the European Institute; namely, that our students are drawn from right across the world too.

Some might say we convene the world to study just one little corner of it. Ah, but what a corner...



Carl-Ludwig Campbell Institute Manager

The European Institute's strength lies in its ability to bring together people from across the social sciences to engage in critical dialogue about a continent that has played a pivotal role in shaping our world. From the birth of the welfare state to its ongoing influence on global policy and human rights, Europe remains an important subject of study.

We are proud that our students, a truly international body, personify this global perspective. They are the future leaders who will apply their knowledge to address the complex challenges we face, and we are confident they are prepared to make a significant impact in the world. This year, we welcomed a cohort of more than 260 master's and doctoral students representing over 40 nationalities, reaffirming our status as a leading global centre for the study of contemporary Europe.

Our commitment to connecting with the wider community is exemplified by our extensive public events programme. We were honoured to host a diverse lineup this past year, including François Villeroy de Galhau, Governor of the Bank of France; and Alexander Stubb, President of Finland and LSE alumnus, who spoke at the European Institute on his way to a meeting with UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer. We were also proud to host the EU-UK Youth Dialogue 2024, which brought together 150 young leaders from across the UK and EU to discuss the future of UK-EU relations. These events reflect our foundational belief that to understand Europe, one must study its global connections. Our tagline, "Study Europe. Understand the World," remains as relevant as ever.

The European Institute also continues to benefit from the dedication of long-serving Visiting Professors in Practice Anthony Teasdale and Martin Westlake, who have been bringing together policy practitioners and commentators on the EU as part of our *EU in Practice* seminar series since 2012, and alumni like Dr Michael Cottakis, whose own journey from PhD candidate, to research assistant and class teacher, to co-founder of the 89 *Initiative* think tank, exemplifies the innovative spirit we foster at the European Institute.

Finally, the European Institute had some notable arrivals and departures this year. We were delighted to welcome new faculty members Dr Benjamin Braun, Dr Donato Di Carlo, and Dr António Valentim, all of whom bring valuable expertise to our growing department. At the same time, we extended our heartfelt gratitude to Professor Kevin Featherstone OBE for his 22 years of service, including seven years as Head of the EI. We are pleased that he is not going far, as he continues his important work at the Hellenic Observatory and as an Emeritus Professor. This year we have also said goodbye to three longserving members of our Professional Services team: Carolina Stern, Hannah Shearer, and Florence Samuels. We thank them for their service and wish them well in their new roles.

As we look forward to another year, the European Institute continues to foster a community that not only debates the issues of today but also shapes the solutions for tomorrow.

Thank you for being an important part of our El community.

The El in numbers



PEOPLE

1991 Year founded 29
Academic staff

13
Research staff

56 Visiting Staff 14 PSS Staff

-	ONLINE ENGAGEMENT		
100+ Media features & research publications	50k Total followe		12M Total post impressions
42 New Instagram reels	4304	14.5K	13.8K
49K Highest reel views	9397	1506	468 **



PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

38
Total public events

38.7K
Total recording

618
Total podcast listens



EDUCATION

Master's programmes

Stude

43
Nationalities

53
Total courses delivered

1900 Total teaching hours

3. Total ser

& workshops delivered

289 Certificates



programme

ALUMNI

4839
Alumni globally

62
Alumni
ambassadors

Alumni career & networking events

725
Alumni
events attendees

170
Alumni
volunteers

120
Alumni
mentorship pairs

543
Hours volunteered by alumni

All figures on this page span from Sep 2024 - June 2025

Our year at a glance



The El welcomes its new students to campus, including 241 MSc students and three PhD candidates. The week kicks off with welcome drinks, induction sessions led by Professor Simon Glendinning and our Programme Directors, and features a lot of activities for our new cohort, including a treasure hunt in the city, walking tours across London, and campus events.

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Contemporary Turkish Studies

hosts a panel examining the initial findings of a research project, "The Political Feasibility of the Adoption of the UNDP's Türkiye Compact," funded by the Centre for Applied Turkey Studies (CATS) at Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik (SWP).

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In November, the European Institute hosts the EU-UK Youth Dialogue 2024. Organised by the EU Delegation to the UK in partnership with the EI, this two-day conference brings together over 150 young leaders from across the UK and the EU to discuss how they can contribute to shaping the future of EU-UK relations.

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Under the auspices of the Justice and Interactions and Peacebuilding (JUSTINT) project, the El gathers leading experts in transitional justice at LSE to share their latest research at a Writers' Workshop entitled: "Gendering Discourse and Discoursing Gender in Transitional Justice".

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The El welcomes its most recent cohort of MSc and PhD students back to campus with their close ones to celebrate the Class of 2024 Graduation. Having completed their coursework in August, our new graduates officially join the El's vibrant and global alumni community of over 4,800 members!

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Klaus Welle, our Visiting Professor in Practice and former Secretary-General of the European Parliament (2009–2022), is joined by political scientist, author, and academic Richard Rose in this public event drawing on his new book, European Security: From Ukraine to Washington, to discuss the challenges Europe must navigate to strengthen its own defence in an increasingly unstable world.

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lan Goldin, Professor of Globalisation and Development at Oxford University, joins us for a public lecture to discuss his new book, The Shortest History of Migration, and to demonstrate how, from the ancient peopling of the planet to the present, migrants have been at the heart of advances in society.

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After a successful first year, the El Alumni Mentorship Programme returns for a second year. With 120 MSc students and alumni matched, the initiative connects our current cohort with our global community of graduates, who share their invaluable insights about finding their way after graduation.

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November

In collaboration with the Official Monetary and Financial Institutions Forum (OMFIF), the EI hosts a discussion on "The future of inflation," welcoming Governor of the Croatian National Bank Boris Vujčić, and external member of the Monetary Policy Committee of the Bank of England, Megan Greene.

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On 3 December, the **Beyond Eurocentrism Programme** hosts the public event,
"Understanding solidary support for
reparations: Memory production and public
meaning-making after mass violence,"
reflecting on a survey experiment in
Guatemala to explore how contentious
processes of discursive memory production
impact the emergence of political solidarity
with Indigenous survivors of the internal
armed conflict and support for their
reparations demands.

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The new year begins with students attending the El Student Conference at Cumberland Lodge. With four keynote speakers and a practical workshop on the theme of "Reinventing Europe: A Return to Geopolitics?," attendees get the opportunity to expand their perspective on and understanding of democratic risks, especially in the context of an increasingly unpredictable world.

> Watch our recap





As part of the three-day Careers in Brussels Fair organised by LSE Careers in the Belgian capital, our students join fellow LSE students to discover career pathways in Brussels and beyond, and to hear from the very active EI and LSE alumni working in the heart of the European Union. Between institutional visits to NATO and the European Commission, our students attend a career fair co-hosted by LSE, Sciences Po and the Collège d'Europe, gaining precious insights and connections with employers.

> Watch our recap



To explore how Europe can position itself in the face of increasing instability, in a world of growing competition, rising authoritarianism, and declining multilateralism, the European Institute welcomes Benjamin Haddad, Minister Delegate for European Affairs attached to the French Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs, for a public lecture at LSE.

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To honour the end of teaching before the final leg of their degree, our student social representatives help put on an El Student Ball for the current cohort, delivering a memorable night for our students to celebrate their LSE journey in style.



The Hellenic Observatory hosts its 11th Biennial PhD Symposium on Contemporary Greece and Cyprus to facilitate the exchange of knowledge between young researchers and to promote innovative and cutting-edge research on political, social and economic issues in Greece and Cyprus.

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As summer finally takes over the city, the El community gathers for a last 'hurrah' over the El Summer in the City Drinks on the Center Building 6th Floor terrace, officially concluding the Spring Term. Alumni join students, faculty, and staff for a relaxed evening of reminiscing and celebrating the end of the academic year.

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The El celebrates **Professor Denisa Kostovicova's** professorship with a powerful and timely inaugural lecture drawing on her academic career studying post conflict Balkans, notably, how former opponents engage with the legacy of mass atrocity and the lessons we may apply to contemporary conflicts.

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Marking a year in his new office, the El welcomes President of Finland and LSE alumnus Alexander Stubb for an exclusive talk to students and staff on the security situation in Europe and the changing global political landscape, in conversation with LSE President and Vice Chancellor Larry Kramer. The event finished with a private reception for El students, who had the opportunity to talk to President Stubb over tea and coffee.

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In the Spring Term, the EI welcomes some of its incoming students through its doors for an Offer Holder Lunch to get a taste of life at LSE and to meet the faculty and Programme Directors of our different MSc programmes.

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Research on South Eastern Europe (LSEE) hosts policy workshop titled "Challenges, Risks and Opportunities: The Western Balkans Before the 2025 London Summit". This high-level event convenes UK government policymakers, academics, and analysts to address regional priorities - security, economic growth, and migration.

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Our latest stories @

Dr Benjamin Braun and Dr António Valentim join the European Institute

September 2024

In 2024/25, we were delighted to welcome to our faculty, **Dr Benjamin Braun** and **Dr Donato Di Carlo** as Assistant Professors in Political Economy and **Dr António Valentim** as Assistant Professor in European Politics.

Dr. Braun joins us from the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies in Cologne, where he was a senior researcher. Dr. Di Carlo was a Max Weber Postdoctoral Fellow at the European University Institute in Fiesole, and worked as Senior Researcher at the MPIfG, as external economic advisor to the Cabinet of the Mayor of Rome, and was Lecturer in Political Economy at Luiss University. Prior to LSE, Dr. Valentim was a postdoctoral researcher at Yale University and obtained his PhD in political science from the DYNAMICS graduate school, jointly organised by Humboldt University Berlin and the Hertie School.



Professor Kevin Featherstone retires from the European Institute

September 2024



After 22 years at the LSE European Institute, including 7 years serving as Head of the Department, **Professor Kevin Featherstone** retired from his position as Chair in the European Institute and became a Professorial Research Fellow at the Hellenic Observatory.

The EI held a reception in honour of Professor Kevin Featherstone's two decades in the department on 17 September 2024, featuring speeches from Professor Larry Kramer, LSE President and Vice-Chancellor and Professor Simon Glendinning, Head of the European Institute. On this occasion, we caught up with Kevin and asked him about his time over the years, in a short interview linked below.



Professor Nicholas Barr recognised for his studies on pension sustainability

November 2024



On 22 November, 2024, our Professor of Public Economics, **Professor Nicholas Barr**, was awarded the Jon Aldecoa Prize by the Loreto Mutua in collaboration with the Novaster company for his studies on the sustainability of pension systems at a ceremony held in Madrid.

Moreover, in May, Nicholas Barr was elected as a founding fellow of the Royal Economic Society (RES). RES President Prof Sir Chris Pissarides, who chaired the judging panel, said: "Through their applications our new Fellows demonstrated the impact they have made not just in their roles, but to the wider economics profession. We congratulate them and look forward to working with them to advance the RES vision: that economics be understood, advanced and applied for the good of society and the world around us."

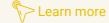


European Institute academic and alumnus join forces on collaborative research

November 2024

Our Associate Professor in EU and International Politics **Dr Mareike Kleine** published new research in *The Review of International Organizations* with our recent graduate **Samuel Huntington**, an alumnus from our MSc in European Political Economy (Class of 2022) who is currently working as an economist at the UK Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (DSIT).

Their journal article, "Negotiating with your mouth full: Intergovernmental negotiations between transparency and confidentiality," challenges received positive and normative theories about transparency in international institutions and contributes to the literature on informal governance, negotiation studies, EU politics, and the transnational democratic deficit.



Shanghai to London: A visit from our Fudan double degree partners

November 2024



This Autumn Term, we had the pleasure of welcoming Professor Yijia Jing, Dean of the Institute for Global Public Policy at Fudan University, and his team back to the European Institute to meet the students completing their first year of our LSE-Fudan Double Master's Degree in the Global Political Economy of China and Europe. Our partnership with Fudan University offers our students the unique opportunity to gain a multi-disciplinary understanding of key political and economic processes and issues in Europe and China within a global context, through two rich and diverse experiences in London and Shanghai.



The Knowledge and Informal Diplomacy (KIND) CIVICA Conference

November 2024

In November, the European University Institute (EUI) hosted the KIND (Knowledge and Informal Diplomacy) Conference in Florence, organised by our Visiting Fellow **Dr Marina Cino Pagliarello**, Marie Skłodowska-Curie Research Fellow at the Florence School of Transnational Governance. Our Assistant Professor **Dr Angelo Martelli** attended the conference and shared his experience in the exclusive interview linked above.



Recent El graduate selected for prestigious fellowship

January 2025



Shaun Ho, a recent graduate from our MSc in European and International Politics and Policy (Class of 2023), was one of 150 scholars selected from a pool of nearly 5,000 applicants worldwide to be part of the upcoming Schwarzman Scholars Class of 2025-26, a one-year fully funded master's programme at the prestigious Schwarzmann College in Tsinghua University, Beijing. In the interview linked below, Shaun shares how his experience at LSE prepared him for the scholarship.



Values in Practice (VIP) Awards 2025

February 2025



The European Institute's Professional Services Staff (PSS) were recognised and celebrated in LSE's annual Values in Practice (VIP) staff awards held on February 26, 2025:

- Carolina Stern, Events & Communications Manager - Runner Up, "Exceptional Team Member"
- Carl-Ludwig Campbell, Institute Manager -Highly Commended, "Inspirational Leadership"
- Charlotte Ennis, Senior Student Adviser and EDI Coordinator – Commended, "Student Experience Ambassador"



Professor Denisa Kostovicova celebrated for award-winning research

March 2025



This Winter Term, **Professor Denisa Kostovicova** took home three prizes for her research. Among the accolades was an award for a co-authored article with **Dr Vesna Popovski**.

Professor Kostovicova's research offers a novel approach to evaluating the effects of transitional justice in post-conflict societies through the examination of the Balkan conflicts.

Reconciliation by Stealth: How People Talk about War Crimes

- Winner Best Book Award (Human Rights Section), International Studies Association (ISA)
- Honourable Mention George Blazyca Book Prize, British Association for Slavonic and East European Studies (BASEES)

"Women's discursive agency in transitional justice policy-making: A feminist institutionalist approach"

in the Review of International Studies, co-authored with Dr. Vesna Popovski

 Honourable Mention - Women's Forum Article Prize, British Association for Slavonic and East European Studies (BASEES)



PhD graduate Dr Dustin Voss wins 2025 Socio-Economic Review Best Paper Prize

April 2025

This Spring, **Dr Dustin Voss**, PhD graduate and Visiting Fellow at the LSE European Institute, was awarded the 2025 Socio-Economic Review Best Paper Prize! Dustin's award-winning article, "Sectors versus borders: Interest group cleavages and struggles over corporate governance in the age of asset management," originated from his PhD thesis at the European Institute under the supervision of **Dr Bob Hancké** and **Professor Jonathan Hopkin**. He went on to complete his doctoral research at the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies.

Dustin's manuscript is a testament to the strength of the El's vibrant intellectual community, and we are proud to see his exceptional scholarship recognised in this way - a well-deserved honour for a timely and impactful contribution to the field of political economy.



CIVICA Global Forum in Madrid: Tackling today's challenges together

May 2025



The CIVICA Global Forum took place on 6-7 May on IE University's campus in Madrid, bringing together university leaders, scholars, students and policymakers to reflect on the role of the social sciences and higher education in tackling global challenges, and to imagine what comes next. LSE's delegation attended different sessions and contributed to various panels over the two-day event.

Our Professor of European Politics and Chair in Contemporary Turkish Studies, **Professor Yaprak Gürsoy**, offered an overview of recent developments in the Turkish higher education sector in a panel entitled 'The Political Economy of Higher Education: Inclusiveness, Societal Advancement and Shifting Demographics.'

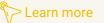


LSE Class Teacher Awards 2025

June 2025

LSE Class Teacher Awards are given to Graduate Teaching Assistants, Teaching Fellows and Guest Teachers in recognition of their very special contribution to teaching at LSE. This year, we were delighted to see our Guest Teacher in Culture and Conflict, and PhD alumnus, **Dr Tahir Rashid**, awarded an LSE Class Teacher Award. Additional academics were also "Highly Commended": congratulations to

Vesna Popovski, Cristóbal Garibay-Petersen, Patrick Kimunguyi, Eva Polonska-Kimunguyi and Jacob Lypp.



Kevin Featherstone awarded OBE in King's Birthday Honours 2025

June 2025

On June 13, **Professor Kevin Featherstone** was awarded the honour of Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) for services to academia and UK–Greece relations in the King's Birthday Honours 2025. The award was announced in the Overseas and International Honours List, which recognises individuals who have rendered exceptional service to the United Kingdom abroad. Professor Featherstone's recognition is a fitting tribute to his longstanding contributions to international academic collaboration and diplomacy.



The EI's research community comes together at the LSE Festival 2025

June 2025



From our faculty to our students and alumni, the European Institute's intergenerational community presented its latest research at the 2025 edition of the LSE Festival, including the LSE Festival Exibition: Visions for the Future and Knowledge Beyond Boundaries: LSE's Interdisciplinary Student Research Conference. We invite you to discover our academic community's research in the link below.





RESEARCH

Research at the **European Institute Ø**

Researching Europe has rarely been more challenging or more important than it is today. Ongoing war and conflict on the European continent and neighbouring countries, the rise of populism and nationalism, rising inflation and energy insecurity, as well as immigration and labour market pressures, are among the many crises of the present contributing to the growing geopolitical uncertainty that is reshaping Europe and its place in the world. At the European Institute, we seek to use these unfolding events as the springboard to the study of all things European. Consistent with our interdisciplinary status, our research is focused on cross-cutting themes. The work of the El's faculty, research staff, and our highly active doctoral community focuses on our four key research themes: Political Economy, Politics & Policy, Culture & Society, and Migration.

Political Economy Our research in Political Economy



Our research in Political Economy concentrates on the interaction between political and economic processes in Europe. We study these interactions in different areas, such as the monetary field, the field of international political economy, and the interaction between the labour market institutions and the economic governance of the EU and the Eurozone.



Politics and Policy

Our research in this field examines politics and policymaking in the context of pressures for integration and fragmentation within the European Union (EU) and as a response to developments in the wider international system. We explore the policy challenges that arise for the EU from different crises and analyse political responses.

Culture and Society



Our focus on Culture & Society examines the diversity of cultural, political and philosophical ideas invoked in Europe's name, the ways these have been politically contested and reshaped, and the extent to which they intersect with the lived experiences of Europeans. We combine the methods of philosophy, sociology, political science, and anthropology.

Migration



Our scholars approach this topic from different disciplinary angles, exploring why migration policies are restrictive or liberal, why international attempts of sharing the burden and responsibility of refugee protection have been elusive, how migration transforms the cultural, religious, and memory landscape of the host and guest communities, and how racism plays out in Europe as a continent of migration.

Our research affiliates







Our research projects





Our research initiatives







Publication Highlights @



Professor Nicholas Barr

Risk-sharing in pension plans: multiple options

Economics & Philosophy, Cambridge University Press 2025

Professor lain Begg

w/ Eulalia Rubio et al. Adapting the EU Budget to make it fit for the

purpose of future enlargements Budgetary Support Unit, Directorate-General

Budgetary Support Unit, Directorate-General for Budgetary Affairs, European Parliament 2025

w/ Alessandro Liscai et al. Performance-based instruments: How could their design be improved?

Budgetary Support Unit, Directorate-General for Budgetary Affairs, European Parliament 2025

Dr Benjamin Braun

w/ Daniela Gabor Green macrofinancial regimes Review of International Political Economy, Routledge 2025

Dr Abby Innes

Chapter 16: Neoliberal resilience Elgar Encyclopedia of Corporate Governance, Edward Elgar Publishing 2024

Will Bartlett

& Society

w/ Ivana Prica and Imane El Ouizgani
The transition to work and graduate
qualification and skill mismatch: Case studies
of Morocco and Serbia
European Training Foundation 2025

Dr Vesna Bojicic-Dzelilovic

w/ Mark van Dorp and Mary Martin Assessing peace and social impacts through local human security business partnership Business Horizons, ScienceDirect 2025

Professor Simon Glendinning

(My) life in a community of friends Revista Portuguesa de Filosofia, 2025

Professor Yaprak Gürsoy

w/ Görkem Altınörs Business as usual? A political economy approach to the Anglo-Turkish relations in the age of global crisis

Turkey and the Global Political Economy: I.B. Tauris 2024

Professor Vassilis Monastiriotis

w/ Tea Gamtkitsulashvili

Taking the territorial dimension of industrial policy seriously: Industrial and cohesion policy in the EU

EU Industrial Policy Report 2024, Luiss Hub for New Industrial Policy and Economic Governance (LUHNIP) 2024

Professor Paul de Grauwe

w/ Yuemei Ji

Fighting inflation without massive transfers to banks

Financial and Economic Review, Magyar Nemzeti Bank 2024

Dr Pierre Hausemer

w/ Francesca Squillante, Nessa Groman and Luca Tricarico

Proximity, productivity, and territorial justice: How urban planning can contribute to the development of an inclusive proximity economy

Networks, Markets, and People, Springer 2024

Dr Bob Hancké

w/ Toon Van Overbeke and Dustin Voss Understanding Political Economy: Capitalism, Democracy, and Inequality Edward Elgar Publishing 2025

Professor Denisa Kostovicova

w/ Vesna Bojicic-Dzelilovic and Fikret Čaušević

Tested by the COVID-19 economic shock: Peace-positive entrepreneurship and intergroup collaboration in post-conflict business recovery

Conflict, Security & Development, Taylor & Francis Online 2024

w/ Eleanor Knott

To report or not to on research ethics in political science and international relations: A new dimension of gender-based inequality *American Political Science Review*, Cambridge University Press 2024

Dr Seckin Sertdemir Özdemir

Civic Death in Contemporary Turkey: Mass Surveillance and the Authoritarian State Cambridge University Press 2025



Dr Mareike Kleine

w/ Samuel Huntington Negotiating with your mouth full: Intergovernmental negotiations between transparency and confidentiality The Review of International Organizations, Springer 2024

Dr Zbigniew Truchlewski

w/ Ioana-Elena Oana and Alexandru D. Moise Demand for EU Polity Building in the Shadow of the Russian Threat Cambridge University Press 2025

Professor Jonathan White

w/ Stuart Wilks-Heeg

Private funding, party politics and regulatory change: how the British Conservative Party prospered under Labour's political finance reforms

Italian Political Science Review, Cambridge University Press 2024



Dr Katerina Glyniadaki

Migrants serving migrants? Representative bureaucracy at the front lines of migration management

Journal of Public Policy, Cambridge University Press 2024

Dr Jacob Lypp

w/ Esra Özyürek

Taming Muslim masculinity: Patriarchy and Christianity in German immigrant integration *Men and Masculinities*, Sage Journals 2025

Dr Angelo Martelli

In search of security: The migration conundrum and the need for a global response

EconPol Forum 01/2025: A New Common Migration Policy for the EU – Why and How?, CESifo 2025

Dr Patrick McGovern

w/ Eiko Thielemann and Omar Hammoud-Gallego

The return of the state: How European governments regulate labour market competition from migrant workers *Comparative Migration Studies*, Springer 2025

The future as a democratic resource Perspectives on Politics, Cambridge University Press 2025

Transition: Revisiting a troubled concept in the age of climate change *Political Studies*, Sage Journals, 2025

Dr Gianmarco Fifi

Inventing and re-inventing populism to protect Europe: The case of the Italian Partito Democratico, 2007-2022

The International Spectator, Italian Journal of International Affairs 2024

w/ Xinchuchu Gao
From the green to the just transition: The
emergence of the compensatory state in the
EU's approach to climate change

JCMS: Journal of Common Market Studies, Wiley Online Library 2025

Dr Eiko Theilemann

Solidarity challenges in EU refugee policymaking: A comparison in the Yugoslav, Syrian, and Ukrainian crises

EconPol Forum 01/2025: A New Common Migration Policy for the EU – Why and How?, CESifo 2025

Dr Matilde Rosina

w/ Leila Simona Talani Special Issue: Globalization and international migration to the EU Social Sciences, MDPI 2024

w/ Marianna Griffini and Leila Simona Talani Special Issue: Right Move? Populist Radical Right Parties and Europe

The International Spectator, Taylor & Francis Online 2025

Dr Niina Vuolajärvi

The control of "wandering women:" The legacy of vagrancy laws in the contemporary governance of migrant sex work Critical Criminology, Springer 2024

Contemporary Turkish Studies

Contemporary Turkish Studies (CTS) is a recognised research group at LSE, bringing together academics from the European Institute and other departments. It focuses on Türkiye's politics, economy, and its relationship with Europe. The group is led by Professor Yaprak Gürsoy, Chair in Contemporary Turkish Studies, who fosters interdisciplinary and critical research, teaching, and public engagement. In the 2024/25 academic year, CTS continued to encourage dialogue and research on Türkiye's role in global affairs by organising a series of public events, facilitating in-depth discussions on Turkish politics, economy and society.

The Political Feasibility of the UNDP's "Türkiye Compact"



On 31 October 2024, CTS hosted a panel examining the initial findings of a research project, "The Political Feasibility of the Adoption of the UNDP's Türkiye Compact," funded by the Centre for Applied Turkey Studies (CATS) at Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik (SWP). This project assesses the political feasibility of the EU, the UK, and Switzerland adopting the UNDP's "Türkiye Compact" proposal. The event fostered a discussion on migration policy and international cooperation.

The speakers and project researchers were **Kemal Kirişci**, non-resident Senior Fellow at the Center on the United States and Europe at the Brookings Institution, and **Friedrich Püttmann**, a PhD candidate at the LSE European Institute. The discussants included **Professor Virginie Guiraudon** from the Sciences Po Center for European and Comparative Studies in Paris, and **John Alty**, Visiting Professor in Practice at the LSE European Institute. The panel was chaired by **Professor Yaprak Gürsoy**.

Learn more

Navigating the Nexus of Intelligent Media, Politics, and Academia



On 29 November 2024, CTS hosted a hybrid workshop titled "Navigating the Nexus of Intelligent Media, Politics, and Academia: The Case of Türkiye in a Global Perspective". This event brought together scholars and practitioners to explore the interplay between political populism, media, and academia in Türkiye, with a forward-looking discussion on the potential political implications of AI technologies.

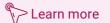
The workshop closed with a keynote lecture by **Professor Selçuk Şirin (NYU)** who explored how digital technologies are shaping youth development and identity formation globally, with particular focus on Türkiye.

Learn more

The 34th BATAS Spring Symposium: Turkish Politics and Society in Flux



On 7 June 2025, the 34th BATAS Spring Symposium was held in collaboration with the British Association for Turkish Area Studies (BATAS) & CTS. The event brought together scholars, practitioners, and cultural commentators to explore contemporary Turkish politics, society, and culture. The symposium showcased new research and interdisciplinary perspectives on a wide range of themes, including political change, diaspora identity, memory, and artistic expression. Panels addressed Türkiye's evolving foreign policy within the broader global context, as well as the shared experiences of displacement across Türkiye and the UK. The event reaffirmed the importance of interdisciplinary dialogue in studying contemporary Turkish affairs.



Inflation and Institutions: Türkiye, the USA, and the Politics of Price Stability



On 5 June 2025, CTS hosted a lecture by **Professor** Selva Demiralp (Koç University). Dr Orkun Saka (Visiting Senior Fellow at the European Institute, LSE) served as discussant, and the event was chaired by **Professor Yaprak Gürsoy**. The lecture explored how political pressures and institutional credibility shape inflation expectations and influence policy outcomes, using Türkiye and the United States as comparative case studies. Both countries have recently experienced high inflation through different institutional and political pathways. In Türkiye, inflation has coincided with growing questions over weakening central bank independence and policy credibility. In contrast, U.S. inflation followed pandemic-related disruptions and large-scale fiscal stimulus, sparking debates about monetary policy sustainability and central bank autonomy.

Learn more

LSE Centre for Research on Contemporary Greece and Cyprus @

The Hellenic Observatory has been a vital part of the European Institute for nearly 30 years, evolving from a small academic initiative into a major research presence, culminating in its upgrade to a research centre in 2024. Renowned for its policy-relevant scholarship and extensive public engagement, the Observatory exemplifies LSE's global outlook by connecting rigorous research with real-world impact and advancing public understanding of contemporary social and political issues.

The HO's first year as a research centre

Following the appointment of **Professor Vassilis Monastiriotis** as the Eleftherios Venizelos Chair in Contemporary Greek Studies, the Hellenic Observatory relaunched as the **LSE Centre for Research on Contemporary Greece and Cyprus**. Aligned with LSE's strategic vision, the Centre aims to develop and nurture academically excellent policyinforming work on Greece and Cyprus across the social sciences, along three key thematic areas: gender and the position of women in Greek/Cypriot economy and society; growth strategies and the green transition; and citizenship, civic engagement and the state.

New research launched by the Centre in this first academic year included: a major study on skills demand and hiring practices in Greece; research on age discrimination and on the representation of femicide in Greek media; a new project examining the composition of horizontal and vertical measures in Greece and elsewhere under EU's new industrial policy; new research on green jobs and the occupational shifts related to digitalisation; projects on the Greek housing market (housing uncertainty and the financialisation of housing in Athens and Thessaloniki), the role of economic incentives in vaccine up-take during the COVID crisis, and identity formation of diasporic Greeks. The Centre also established research collaborations with a number of external research bodies and think tanks (ETERON, IOBE, Institute for Regional Development), while its members have engaged through research and knowledge exchange with various government bodies and related organisations (Ministry of Labour, Hellenic Financial Stability Fund, Public Employment Service, and others).







A rich programme of events and public engagement

The Centre launched its inaugural year with a compelling lecture by **Professor Costas Arkolakis** (Yale University), exploring the global shift toward renewable energy - one of the Centre's core priorities and a defining challenge of our time. The year continued with a bold and timely programme centred on the themes of growth and gender, while also engaging with the legacies of key historical developments, such as the 50th anniversary of the 1974 events in Cyprus. Economic development featured prominently, with high-level panels addressing financial internationalisation, capital markets integration, and the structural reforms needed for long-term growth in Greece.

In May, at a joint event in Athens with Adecco Greece, **Professor Vassilis Monastiriotis** presented research from a major employer survey on hiring, training, and remuneration practices. The study examined employer preferences, green and digital skills training, and how skills are rewarded—garnering significant media attention.

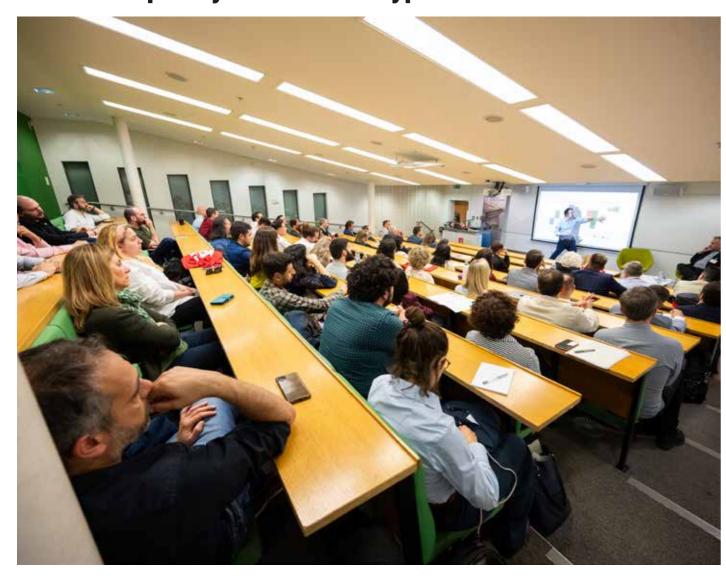
A major highlight of the year was a special event in Athens marking the retirement of **Professor Kevin Featherstone**, who led the Hellenic Observatory for over two decades. Co-hosted with the British Embassy in Athens, the celebration brought together a distinguished group of guests who paid tribute to Kevin Featherstone's enduring impact on the field and the institution.





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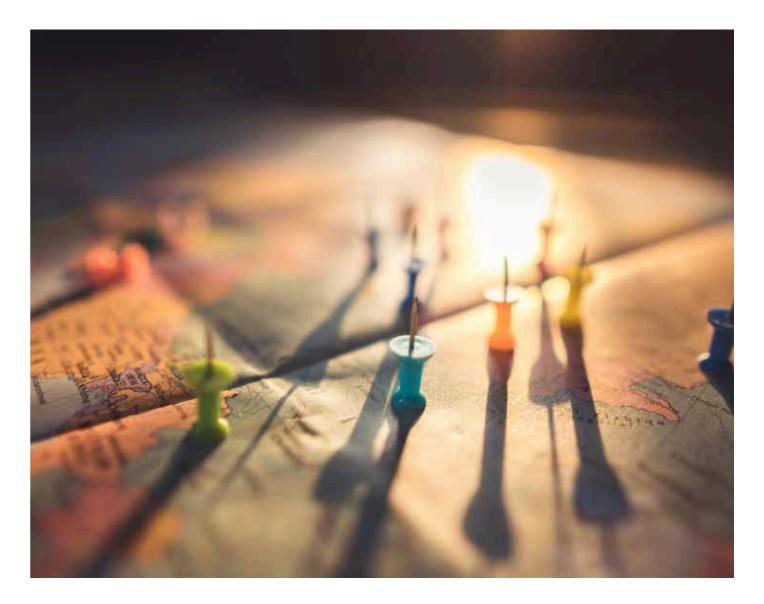
The 11th Hellenic Observatory PhD Symposium on Contemporary Greece and Cyprus



The PhD Symposium has long been a flagship initiative of the Hellenic Observatory. Since its launch in 2003, it has evolved from a small student gathering into a well-recognised international forum for doctoral research on Greece and Cyprus. It offers early-career researchers the opportunity to present their work, receive constructive feedback and engage with academic peers building valuable international networks. Many alumni have gone on to successful academic and public careers, underscoring the symposium's lasting influence. The Symposia benefit greatly from the active engagement of LSE academic staff, whose mentoring and support are vital to their success. We are also deeply grateful for the generous support of the A.G. Leventis Foundation, whose continued commitment enables broad international participation and enhances the overall impact of the event.

Held in May 2025, the 11th edition was the first of the newly established Centre, reflecting its continued commitment to advancing scholarship and supporting emerging researchers in the field. The programme featured fifty-one PhD candidates, presenting across a wide range of themes, including gender, political leadership, cultural diplomacy, and economic risk - demonstrating the intellectual depth and interdisciplinary scope of contemporary research on Greece and Cyprus. A highlight of this year was the keynote lecture by **Professor Elias Dinas** (EUI), whose powerful exploration of authoritarian legacies sparked vibrant discussion and brought the day to a compelling close.

LSEE: A hub for research on South Eastern Europe



Since 2010, LSE's Research Group on Southeastern Europe (LSEE) has been a leading platform within the European Institute for high-quality research, regional engagement, and policy impact. In 2024, it was relaunched as a Recognised Research Group under **Professor Denisa Kostovicova** within the newly established HO Research Centre. LSEE promotes knowledge exchange and maintains an active Visiting Fellows Programme as part of its connection with the academic community in the region and beyond, and hosted several visiting scholars this past year. Its world-leading research is exemplified by Professor Kostovicova's *Reconciliation by Stealth*, which won the International Studies Association's Best Book in Human Rights Award, among others.

This past academic year, LSEE hosted impactful events. The panel "Street Power: Citizens' Protests and Polarisation in Southeast Europe and Greece" examined civic mobilisation against corruption

and state capture. A major highlight was the June 9th policy workshop "Challenges, Risks and Opportunities: The Western Balkans Before the 2025 London Summit" - a part of the Berlin Process. This high-level event convened UK government policymakers, academics, and analysts to address regional priorities - security, economic growth, and migration. Generating evidence-based policy recommendations in direct dialogue with decision-makers, the workshop powerfully demonstrated LSEE's mission to connect academic research with real-world impact.

LSEE also contributed to European security debates via the LSE-Carnegie project, with **Dr Vesna Bojičić-Dželilović** presenting on hybrid threats. Professor Kostovicova shared reconciliation research with ASPEN Germany and engaged media outlets including Deutsche Welle and Radio Free Europe.



Justice Interactions and Peacebuilding @

The 'Justice Interactions and Peacebuilding (JUSTINT)' is a project supported by the European Research Council (ERC) Consolidator Grant and directed by Professor Denisa Kostovicova. The project is scheduled for completion in September 2025. Focused on the four former Yugoslav countries - Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, and Croatia - the JUSTINT project provides a novel way of analysing how post-conflict justice practices advance or hinder peacebuilding by studying the interactive and dynamic aspects of discourse.

Writers' Workshops: JUSTINT gathers leading experts in transitional justice at LSE



Organised under the auspices of the research programme funded by the European Research Council (ERC), this past academic year, JUSTINT hosted its second Writers' Workshops at LSE. These initiatives provided a space for dialogue and fostered a broader engagement with JUSTINT's innovative framework for the study of issues related to war legacies. They will lead to a special issue in a top journal and an edited volume.

Organised in November 2024 under the heading, "Gendering Discourse and Discoursing Gender in Transitional Justice", JUSTINT latest workshop explored the intersection between gender and

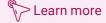
transitional justice in the Balkans, with leading scholars in the field presenting their latest research, focused on discourses of queer inclusion and ownership in transitional justice; women war veterans and their invisibility in transitional justice studies; the rethinking transitional justice through feminist care ethics; and centering children in transitional justice and understandings of victimhood after conflict-related sexual violence.

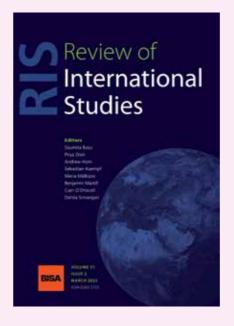
Learn more

Special Issue edited by Professor Denisa Kostovicova and Dr Sanja Vico

In December 2024, **Professor Denisa Kostovicova** and **Dr Sanja Vico** edited a special issue of the Journal of Intervention and Statebuilding (Volume 18, Number 5), titled "Interactions for Justice". The special issue is the outcome of the authors' workshop titled "Inside the Local Turn in Transitional Justice: Local Actors in Micro-Level Interactions" held at LSE in July 2022. Through its many contributors, the issue broadens the application of the interactional analysis of transitional justice pioneered by the ERC JUSTINT research programme to include interactions beyond discourse and beyond the Western Balkans in a number of post-conflict cases globally (Rwanda, Colombia, Canada, Cambodia, etc).

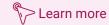






JUSTINT article receives Honourable Mention for BASEES Women's Forum Article Prize

The ERC JUSTINT article co-authored by **Professor Denisa Kostovicova** and **Dr Vesna Popovski**, "Women's discursive agency in transitional justice policy-making: A feminist institutionalist approach," published in the *Review of International Studies* in August 2023, received an Honourable Mention for the British Association for Slavonic and East European Studies (BASEES) Women's Forum Article Prize. The jury praised the article's rigorous quantitative and qualitative analysis, through which it sheds new light on the understudied question of women's impact on transitional justice in policymaking institutions, drawing on the study of the Croatian Parliament.



Publications

Professor Denisa Kostovicova, Dr Ivor Sokolić and Dr Lanabi La Lova

Legislative Debates and Transitional Justice in the Balkans

Reconciliation in the Western Balkans, Aspen Institute Germany, 2024

Dr Ivor Sokolić, Professor Denisa Kostovicova, Dr Lanabi La Lova and Dr Sanja Vico

Are Domestic War Crimes Trials Biased?

Journal of Peace Research, Sage Journals 2024

Professor Denisa Kostovicova

Discursive Interaction and Agency in Transitional Justice: A Conversation Analysis Perspective Journal of Intervention and Statebuilding, Taylor & Francis Online 2024

Professor Denisa Kostovicova and Dr Lanabi La Lova

Grandstanding Instead of Deliberative Policy-Making: Transitional Justice, Publicness and Parliamentary Questions in the Croatian Parliament Journal of Intervention and Statebuilding, Taylor & Francis Online 2024

Dr Ivor Sokolić

Meaningful Acknowledgement: How to Evaluate Acknowledgement in Transitional Justice Interactions Using Deliberative Reciprocity?

The International Journal of Human Rights, Taylor & Francis Online 2024

'Europe in Question' Discussion Paper Series

The 'Europe in Question' (EIQ) discussion paper series promotes high-quality, cross-disciplinary research on a broad range of questions touching on Europe and the EU. It publishes papers, from scholars at the LSE and beyond, that seek to influence the academic and policy debates concerning the future development and governance of Europe, broadly defined.

Contributions to the EIQ span a variety of disciplines, from political science, political theory, political economy, and public policy, to law, sociology, geography, and history. The working paper format maintains a formal and rigorous in-house review process while aiming above all at the dissemination of ideas and discussion among scholars.

Papers



Katrina Williams

A Practitioner's Perspective: The Politics and Practices of COREPER I: The Engine Room of the EU Council EIQ Paper No. 187, October 2024

Read the full paper



Dr Marta Lorimer

Ideologising Europe and Europeanising Ideology: Political Party Ideologies and the European Union

EIQ Paper No. 188, December 2024

Read the full paper



Emilio Congregado, Vicente Esteve, María A. Prats and Nicola Rubino

Prices and Money in the Early Modern Period in Spain: Fresh Evidence from New Data, 1492 - 1810

EIQ Paper No. 189, December 2024

Read the full paper

Conflict, Justice and Peace Platform @

The Conflict, Justice and Peace (CJP) platform embraces the multidisciplinary nature of research on conflict, justice and peace conducted by academics, researchers, graduate students and post-doctoral fellows at LSE.

The platform is a joint initiative by the European Institute, Department of International Relations, Department of Government and Department of International Development. It fosters integration, linkages and the exchange of ideas among LSE researchers in diverse disciplines, and specialists on different global regions. The platform disseminates the latest publications and commentary on justice, conflict and peace issues at LSE. The CJP promotes understanding of the complexities of war, justice and peace, while seeking to engage with practitioners and contribute to policymaking.





EDUCATION

The European Union in Practice: Politics and Power in the Brussels System

The European Institute's flagship "EU in Practice" seminar series has been bringing together policy practitioners and commentators at LSE since 2012 to talk about their experience working in and with the EU institutions. The series is chaired by two of our Visiting Professors in Practice: co-founder Anthony Teasdale, former Director General of the European Parliamentary Research Service (EPRS) and former Special Adviser, FCO and HM Treasury; and Dr Martin Westlake, former Secretary General of the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC). We sat down with Anthony and Martin to hear more about their experience convening the seminar series and the highlights of this past academic year.



Anthony Teasdale (left), Klaus Welle (middle), and Dr Martin Westlake (right)

Q: Could you tell us more about your motivations for setting up "EU in Practice"?

Anthony Teasdale: When I was appointed as a Visiting Senior Fellow in the European Institute back in 2011, I gave some thought to how, as an EU practitioner in Brussels at the time, I could make a distinctive contribution to the School. I proposed a new seminar series to the late Maurice Fraser, then Head of the European Institute. It was modelled on a similar, successful series about British politics that David Butler and Vernon Bogdanor ran for many

years at Nuffield College, Oxford, and from which I had learned a huge amount as a postgraduate there.

"EU in Practice" was launched in October 2012, with Klaus Welle, then Secretary General of the European Parliament and currently Visiting Professor in Practice at the European Institute, as our first speaker, and Maurice and myself as co-chairs. Due to Maurice's illness, another good friend, Martin Westlake, with whom I had worked in Brussels, replaced him as co-chair and we have been convening the series together since 2015.

Q: What are some of the key takeaways of the seminar series for students?

Dr Martin Westlake: There are lots of challenges facing young graduates who seek to work in the EU, but there are also lots of opportunities. In offering students a rare experience to regularly listen to senior practitioners and experts in fairly privileged circumstances, "EU in Practice" provides a rich insight into how the EU really works. Moreover, we very much encourage the students to put questions to our speakers so they can engage in a dialogue with people in the sector.

Anthony and I are always happy to help students discuss their career aspirations. By dint of long careers in the EU and its institutions, we have a lot of practical knowledge. In addition, it so happens that I have written a book about *Working for the EU: How to Get In* using my pen name (Johannes de Berlaymont). So I have become a bit of an expert on getting into the EU institutions and am happy to help the students whenever I can!

Q: What has been the most fulfilling part about running the series all these years?

Anthony: Every year, quite a lot of the students come up and thank us at the end of the series - and that's always very nice. We have also enjoyed consistently high student participation rates, with 50 or so people in the room in recent years. This year again, we were delighted to see that an impressive number of students, fifty-one exactly, received a certificate of completion for attending our seminars. Last but not least, the enthusiastic and incisive questions that so many of our student ask our guest speakers are a great reward in and of themselves.

Q: Could you give us a snapshot of the topics covered this past year?

Martin: We were particularly proud of our line-up this last academic year. Our speakers included Iliana Ivanova, a former MEP and European Commissioner until 2024 who is now a Member of the European Court of Auditors, and Isabelle Le Galo Flores, current Secretary General of the European Economic and Social Committee, who shared insights from their respective current roles working in EU finance and economic policy.

Other topics covered included the concept of strategic autonomy (Elena Lazarou), geopolitics and the Arctic (Marie Anne Coninsx), Georgia and the EU (Mariam Khotenashvili), the rise of challenger parties (Sara Hobolt), the EU's internal frontiers (Lewis Baston), Britain and Europe (Roger Liddle), scenarios for the EU's future (Sir Michael Leigh), how the European Council and the Council have changed over time (David Galloway), and a five-decade retrospective on the EU's evolution (Richard Corbett).

Q: Who are you looking forward to welcoming to the series next?

Anthony: We always try to offer a rich and varied line up. We are still working on next academic year's schedule, but we are happy to announce that we will round off our Autumn Term series on December 5th, with a talk by Margaritis Schinas, who was Vice-President of the European Commission until just last year, and who is also an LSE alumnus!





There are lots of challenges facing young graduates who seek to work in the EU, but also lots of opportunities. In offering students a rare experience to regularly listen to senior practitioners, "EU in Practice" provides a rich insight into how the EU really works.



Master's Programmes 🕖 **Core programmes**



MSc Political Economy of Europe in the World

This programme offers a historically grounded, multi-disciplinary exploration of the intricate relationship between European political economy and how it influences - and is influenced by - international markets. Students engage with key topics such as European integration and fragmentation, welfare states and labour markets, finance, and global trade. The programme's distinctive blend of analytic elements and political theory also engages with contemporary issues such as industrial policy and inequality, and the green transition.

Find out more

MSc European and International Politics and Policy

This master's degree welcomes students interested in exploring the world of policy and governance challenges across domestic, EU, and global landscapes. It also gives students the opportunity to engage with EU policy practitioners, equipping them with essential policy knowledge for the future. Students gain a unique understanding of the multi-faceted realm of European politics and policy, helping them transition into their chosen careers.







Staying true to the El's multi- and inter-disciplinary approach, this programme offers a range of courses investigating the nexus of politics, culture, identity, and international relations. Students analyse how culture shapes conflict and affects its resolution through our varied curriculum. With a comprehensive knowledge drawn from social and philosophical realms, this degree sheds light on the intricacies of European debates and policies on culture and conflict within a global context.

Find out more



MSc International Migration and Public Policy

This programme welcomes students interested in studying policy responses to migration at national and international levels. The multi-disciplinary degree tackles major contemporary debates, piercing through the myths that have developed around this highly politicised issue, and analysing the intricate relationship between migration, globalisation, and public policy. This degree equips our students with skills which will help them tackle real-world challenges in migration policymaking and practice.





Double degrees



Boccon

Double Degree in European and International Public Policy and Politics (with Bocconi University, Milan)

This joint programme gives students the opportunity to study European politics and policymaking globally. New students commence their studies at Bocconi with the MSc Politics and Policy Analysis, and continue on to our MSc European and International Politics and Policy at the El. The curriculum spans the social sciences and enables students to acquire comprehensive knowledge from two prestigious institutions, with a focus on European and international public policy and politics.

> Find out more

Double Degree in European Studies (with Sciences Po, Paris)

Our double degree programme offered in partnership with Sciences Po offers a prestigious multi-stream European Studies qualification combining the strengths of two leading social science institutions in the UK and France. In the first year, students complete the Master Affaires Européennes (Master of European Affairs) in Paris, expanding their intellectual horizons. In the second year, students continue their studies in London on one of our four core MSc programmes at the European Institute.



SciencesPo



Double Degree in the Global Political Economy of China and Europe (with Fudan University, Shanghai)

Find out more

This joint programme is popular with students who wish to gain a comprehensive expertise of political and economic processes in Europe and China within a global framework. In the first year, students complete our MSc in the Political Economy of Europe in the World at the European Institute featuring a policy incubator project, where they propose solutions to a real-world policy challenge. In the second year, students undertake the Master of Management Science in Public Policy in Shanghai, with some opting for Mandarin language courses to improve their language skills.



Double Degree in European Politics, Conflict and Culture

(with Columbia University, New York City)

Last year, we launched a new partnership with Columbia University in New York City, offering students the chance to explore the role of globalisation in shaping Europe politically and culturally, as well as its role as a global actor and in global conflicts. Our new double degree combines an MA in European History, Politics, and Society at Columbia University in the first year, followed by an MSc in Culture and Conflict in a Global Europe at the European Institute.



Find out more

Life after the European Institute: Connecting our Students and Alumni

With over 4,800 alumni across 120 different countries, the European Institute enjoys a lively and vibrant alumni community which forms a key part of the El long after graduation. Each year we are delighted to welcome alumni back to the El, and this academic year has been no different – with twelve events held for our alumni community, including class reunions, career panel discussions and speed networking for our current students, but also relaxed termly drinks events.

The strong community spirit of the European Institute is also demonstrated in our alumni, who regularly give up their time to support the Institute and its members. This year, our alumni have volunteered through taking part in our annual mentoring scheme, speaking at career panels, organising reunions, and sharing their stories through alumni profiles. Overall, our alumni have given back over 540 hours of time to our community and we are grateful for all the effort everyone has put in to making our department a great place to be, during and after our programmes.

The El Alumni Mentorship Programme

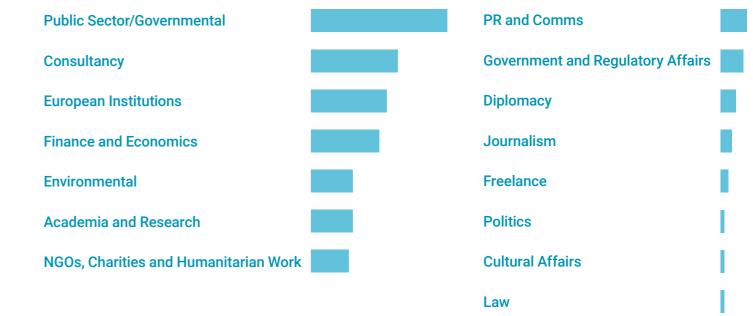
The El Alumni Mentorship Programme ran for its second year over the course of the 2024/25 academic year, with 120 alumni supporting a student mentee. Our mentorship programme seeks to help students gain valuable insight into the professional world by matching alumni to students: alumni mentors then commit to at least three meetings over the academic year, answering questions about their career, providing advice, and sharing their own experiences.

Reflecting the broad range of our student body's professional interests, our mentors come from a wide variety of backgrounds: working in European Institutions, diplomacy, consultancy, humanitarian aid, sustainable finance, refugee advocacy, journalism, research, international organisations, economics, public policy, and many other areas.





Our alumni mentors by sector





Spotlight on Indigo Carbajal and Ivana Kottasova

Student: Indigo Carbajal (MSc European and International Politics and Policy, Class of 2025)

"The mentorship programme was one of the best things I got out of LSE this year! Getting the chance to meet Ivana gave me the opportunity to talk to someone with professional experience in a field that I want to work in and to get the kind of technical perspective that is hard to get in a classroom. Ivana also helped me while I was applying to a scholarship to fund further studies at Columbia University in documentary production and helped me prep for the interview. It was in part thanks to her help and guidance that I ended up getting it! I am forever grateful."

Mentor: Ivana Kottasova (MSc European Government, Class of 2012 / Senior Reporter at CNN)

"The mentorship programme is a wonderful way to keep in touch with the school. It gives one an opportunity to take a break from the day-to-day grind to reflect and learn from each other. It has been a great pleasure to watch Indigo broaden her horizons and gain new skills during her year at the European Institute. I can't wait to see what she does next."

Read the full profile

Alumni in Focus @



Jonas Rautenberg

MSc European Political Economy, Class of 2022

Jonas is a Communications Officer at the Federation of German Industries (BDI)

Read the full profile

"I didn't know a year could be so intense: every week I learned something new, about politics, about my fellow students, and about London, this fascinating city. The friendships I made at the LSE last to this day, for which I am grateful. And without the LSE, I wouldn't have met my partner: not a bad side effect!"



Anna Ksiazczakova

Msc in European and International Public Policy, Class of 2020

Anna is a Political Advisor for the Socialists and Democrats Group in the European Parliament.

Read the full profile

"The professors were committed to engaging with students, always taking the time to offer guidance and share their expertise. One of my favourite moments was the 'EU in Practice' seminar series, where we learned directly from Brussels-based policymakers about the real-world intricacies of EU politics (often continuing discussions with classmates in a nearby pub)."

Ezgi Ilhan

Msc in International Migration and Public Policy, Class of 2021

Ezgi is the Leadership, Empowerment, and Communication Program Manager for Free to Feed: a social enterprise working with asylum seekers and refugees.

Read the full profile

"As a child of immigrants raised in the United States, I always felt that my experience growing up around people from different countries was enriching. I became interested in working with migrants and refugees in my early adulthood, particularly as migration and public perception of migrants became increasingly polarised and politicised."



Eugene Zapata Garesche

MSc in European Studies, Class of 1993

Eugene is the Team Leader at the Territorial Approach to Local Development (TALD Facility), European Commission.

Read the full profile

"I was a member of the first generation of students at the newly-created (1992) LSE's European Institute. I will always remember the opening day when Jacques Delors, President of the European Commission came to address our group. The EU had just been born with the Maastricht agreement signed by twelve member states."



Doctoral Programme @

The MPhil/PhD in European Studies offers research students the opportunity to make an original contribution to the study of contemporary Europe by undertaking an MPhil or PhD. We offer expertise in our Political Economy, Politics and Policy, Culture and Society, and Migration subfields. Students benefit from being situated in a world-class social science institution with a powerful public profile and have earned the prestigious UACES doctoral prize on four occasions.

Our recent PhD Graduates

Dr Tommaso Crescioli

Class of 2024

Destination: Research Fellow, Bocconi University

Expertise: Political Economy, Market Power, Voting Behaviour, Competition Policy

Thesis: "Essays in the political economy of competition aligned interests, institutions, and market power in Europe"





Dr Michael Cottakis

Class of 2024

Destination: CEO, 89 Global

Expertise: Entrepreneurship, Entrepreneurial imaginaries, Port cities, Greece, Turkey

Thesis: "Entrepreneurial imaginaries: explaining the long persistence of entrepreneurship in Thessaloniki and Izmir"



Destination: Fellow in International Migration, LSE European Institute

Expertise: Political Sociology: Migration, Citizenship, Religion & Qualitative Methods

Thesis: "A spiritual state: civil education, Christianity, and the governance of Islam in Germany"



Dr Sarah Ciaglia

Class of 2023

Destination: Economist, Public Sector

Expertise: Fiscal Policy

Thesis: "Why comply? Experimental evidence on the European stability and growth pact's incentives

for member states"

Dr Dustin Voss

Class of 2022

Destination: Senior Researcher, Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies

Expertise: Comparative political economy, Growth models, Financialisation

Thesis: "The political economy of finance in Germany: actors, coalitions, institutions, and power in times of global financial integration"



Read alumni profile



Dr Antonio Barroso

Class of 2022

Destination: Senior Geoeconomics Analyst, Bloomberg, and Adjunct Professor, Sciences Po Paris

Expertise: International Political Economy, EU Politics, Comparative Political Economy, Political Risk

Thesis: "Essays on the two-level political economy of eurozone crisis conditionality"

Dr Michael Hume

Class of 2022

Destination: Partner and Head of Strategy and Research, MKP Capital

Management LLC

Expertise: Global and European Financial imbalances and crises

Thesis: "Essays on the crisis of monetary union"





Dr Toon Van Overbeke

Class of 2022

Destination: Assistant Professor of Europe, Climate and Digital Society, Maastricht University

Expertise: Comparative Political Economy, Comparative Politics, Knowledge Economy

Thesis: "Essays in the political economy of automation: power, politics, institutions and labour-saving technological change"

Alumni Spotlight:

Michael Cottakis, 10 years on

There are very few alumni who can boast such a long and varied career in our department as Dr Michael Cottakis. From master's student to PhD candidate to research assistant to EU450 workshop facilitator, Michael truly embodies the European Institute's spirit of enquiry, collegiality, and community. Ten years on, after first stepping foot at LSE, we caught up with Michael about his incredible journey this past December at the Class of 2024 graduation, where he officially received his doctorate degree.



Q: Could you tell us more about your academic and professional journey at the European Institute?

Dr Michael Cottakis: My journey at the EI started in 2015 with a then called, MSc in Politics and Government in the EU (our current MSc in European and International Politics and Policy), where I focused on the international relations stream. The head of the EI was the late Maurice Fraser, who was a great initial inspiration. After graduating in 2016, I stayed on as a Research Assistant at the Hellenic Observatory, working closely with Professor Kevin Featherstone on his own research. A year later, I took on a role as Research Officer working with the Generation Brexit project, an initiative led by Dr. Jennifer Jackson Preece aimed at getting young people involved in debates about Brexit and Britain's future place in Europe.

In 2018, I started my PhD at the EI under the supervision of Professor Kevin Featherstone and Professor Saul Estrin (Management Department), completing and submitting this in 2023. My PhD was under the umbrella of 'European Studies,' but in reality it was a historical study of entrepreneurship dynamics in Greek and Turkish port cities from the late Ottoman empire onwards.

In parallel to the above, I co-founded, and have been the Director of, the 89 Initiative whilst I was an MSc student within the El. Maurice Fraser and others helped facilitate this initiative which originally sought to involve students and young people in policy debates about the future of Europe, before becoming a fully-fledged think tank. In its formative years, the 89 Initiative was based at the European Institute.



Q: Congratulations on obtaining your PhD! What initially drew you to the European Institute for your master's degree and then your PhD?

Michael: I was drawn to the European Institute because of its reputation for teaching and academic excellence. However, I was also impressed by the centrality of the EI within major European policy debates, something borne witness to by its unparalleled offering of public lectures and events. The interest in applying research methods to solving real-world policy challenges separates the EI from other comparable universities and certainly attracted me to study there.

I did not initially plan to do a PhD. However, after doing research work on several interesting academic projects, a PhD seemed an appropriate next step. I was lucky to have a fine mentor in Professor Kevin Featherstone, who helped me understand what was truly of academic interest to me, and to hone my initial idea and proposal.

My PhD sought to understand the long-term spatial persistence of entrepreneurship in the eastern Mediterranean, focusing principally on the port cities Thessaloniki and Izmir. Perhaps because my family comes from the East Aegean island of Chios, each of my undergraduate, Msc, and PhD dissertations have involved a geographical focus on the same region. I am endlessly stimulated by the history - social, economic, and political - of this part of the world, a liminal space where East and West appear to mingle in perfect synthesis, but one which is near-constantly beset by violence, crisis, and rupture.



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Q: What role would you say the European Institute has played in your career?

Michael: The EI has been seminal in my career. Doing two degrees here afforded me greater intellectual depth, whilst honing a wider sense of professional purpose. The people I have met throughout my time at the EI have been a constant inspiration. I have named one or two in this interview, but there are innumerable others.

I am particularly indebted to the EI for having allowed me to launch and incubate the 89 Initiative. This was an organisation that I built - with several others - and turned into an exciting and rewarding career. Had the EI not been so supportive of the idea, allowing us to register our legal address there, organise events and public lectures under the EI umbrella, and partner on EI research projects, it is doubtful whether the project would have gotten off the ground. Thanks in large part to its EI association, the 89 Initiative became a successful think tank, before evolving into an international consulting firm, 89 Global, which I now represent as the CEO.

Q: What was it like to facilitate an EU450 Professional Skills Workshop for our students? Do you have career advice to share?

Michael: I enjoyed teaching EU450! It is a great initiative and very much in keeping with the El's dual academic and professional offering. For five years, I ran a workshop series on 'developing policy recommendations', using expertise developed

through my work with the 89 Initiative. This involved me helping students to critically analyse policy issues, understanding gaps and how these can be addressed through measured policy. Through the workshop series, El students worked in groups to develop structured policy recommendations to the European Commission. I was always impressed by the creativity and ingenuity of El students.

My advice to students looking to pursue a career in European policy making and advocacy is that the public policy world can become quite siloed and withdrawn from the real world. Don't be an 'armchair' policy maker or analyst – spend time in the locations you're working on, and with the people you are trying to help; learn their language in more ways than one. This will allow you to retain your emotional intelligence and the creative instinct needed to develop good policy ideas, build partnerships, and ultimately make a real impact.

Q: What is it like being an EI alumnus? Are you still in touch with your peers?

Michael: It is great being an El alumnus. I made many contacts and friends at the El, many of whom I remain close to this day. The El alumni community is exceptionally strong. I've noticed that people do try to stay in touch and help each other where possible. There are many of us working in similar or related fields, and often our work intersects. It is nice when you encounter fellow alumni in a professional setting - there's always a 'nudge' or a 'wink', or an LSE anecdote somewhere to help break the ice.

Q: What's next for you?

Michael: Currently, I am the CEO of 89 Global, which is a new boutique consultancy that grew out of the 89 Initiative. The company advises governments and corporate clients on strategy and policy, with a principal focus on helping to develop - and attract international finance for large scale strategic projects involving public sector investment. At the moment, 89 Global conducts its principal activities in Ukraine, where it is involved in several reconstruction and economic recovery projects in the agriculture, energy, and water sectors. We plan to remain involved in the reconstruction of Ukraine for the long-term while diversifying our geographical focus over time.

At the core of 89 Global is an expert network that we've developed over several years. This network is used to support our core teams with external expertise, based on the needs of a project. Ultimately, our aim is to offer specific elite-level expertise in every scenario. We aim to expand and deepen this network, using technology to help scale 89 Global's offering more broadly.



The EI has been seminal in my career. Doing two degrees here afforded me greater intellectual depth, whilst honing a wider sense of professional purpose.





PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

EU-UK Youth Dialogue 2024:

Bringing together 150 youth leaders at LSE

Between November 6-7, the EI hosted the EU-UK Youth Dialogue 2024. Organised by the EU Delegation to the UK in partnership with the European Institute, this two-day conference, brought together over 150 young leaders from across the UK and the EU to discuss how they can contribute to shape the future of EU-UK relations.

The EU-UK Youth Dialogue 2024 was held under the framework of the "EU Youth Action Plan in External Action," which seeks to engage, empower, and connect young people globally. LSE President and Vice-Chancellor **Professor Larry Kramer** opened the event with a warm welcome, alongside **Isabell Poppelbaum**, EU Deputy Ambassador. Their opening remarks set the tone for two days of vibrant exchange through breakout discussions, expert panels and networking opportunities.

On the second day, we were honoured to welcome **Pedro Serrano**, EU Ambassador to the UK. The Ambassador offered timely insights into current

geopolitical challenges and emphasised the essential role of youth engagement in promoting safe, democratic and prosperous societies worldwide.

The event served as a powerful reminder that young voices are central to maintaining cooperation and shared purpose between the EU and the UK. By giving young leaders a platform to connect and collaborate, the event fostered a spirit of mutual understanding and possibility, one that will be vital for navigating the complex political landscape ahead.















Professor Denisa Kostovicova's Inaugural Lecture

On 26 March, the European Institute celebrated Professor Denisa Kostovicova's professorship with a powerful and timely inaugural lecture drawing on her academic career studying post-conflict Balkans, notably, how former opponents engage with the legacy of mass atrocity and the lessons we may apply to contemporary conflicts.

Professor Denisa Kostovicova is Professor of Global Politics at the European Institute and the Programme Director of both our MSc Culture and Conflict in a Global Europe and our LSE-Columbia Double Degree in European Politics, Conflict and Culture. She is a scholar of conflict and peace processes, and the author of two books: Kosovo: The Politics of Identity and Space (Routledge 2005) and Reconciliation by Stealth: How People Talk about War Crimes (Cornell University Press 2023). Professor Kostovicova currently directs JUSTINT, a major research programme at the EI, which is funded by the European Research Council (ERC). Her academic research has informed policy making at the European Union, the United Nations, and in the UK parliament.

Professor Kostovicova argues that, although war crimes need to be addressed, if peace is to be built in divided societies polarised by violence, "war crimes talk" can deepen these divisions. Throughout her academic career, she has explored the possibilities for peace in political communication across conflict lines, assessing the risks and considering alternatives, such as arts-based approaches.



Her inaugural lecture was chaired by **Professor Simon Glendinning**, Head of the European Institute, with opening remarks by **Professor Lord William Wallace**, Liberal Democrat Peer in the House of Lords and Emeritus Professor of International Relations at LSE, who taught and mentored Professor Kostovicova over 30 years ago. To honour the occasion, many El colleagues and students were in the audience and attended a special wine reception to close the evening.

In his opening remarks, Professor Wallace said: "I still recognise the serious and sober woman that I first met, though now a mature scholar and I am very proud to say that I made a small and early contribution to your impressive career. I hope that by now some of your own students in their turn are beginning to make impressive contributions of their own."

I still recognise the serious and sober woman that I first met, though now a mature scholar and I am very proud to say that I made a small and early contribution to your impressive career.

In her round of acknowledgements, Professor Kostovicova shared: "I would like to thank my European Institute and other LSE colleagues for being there for advice, guidance, companionship and inspiration. There is a lot you can learn in this place from smart people all around."

The El welcomes the President of Finland

On Monday 31 March, we welcomed President of Finland and LSE alumnus Alexander Stubb for an exclusive talk with students and staff at LSE. President Stubb explored the security situation in Europe and the changing global political landscape, in conversation with LSE President and Vice Chancellor Professor Larry Kramer.

President Alexander Stubb framed his lecture around the themes of his forthcoming book, *The Triangle of Power: Rebalancing the New World Order*, and explored the evolution of the global order, from the Cold War's bipolar structure to the unipolar dominance of the United States after the fall of the Soviet Union. Closing his speech, President Stubb reflected on the ongoing transformation of the world order, predicting that "the rejigging of the new world order will take somewhere between five to ten years."

"I have always been a firm believer in combining theory and practice. [...] If you are in academia, you get a really good theoretical framework of what the world might look like, or even in some cases what you want it to look like. But when you are in civil service, or politics and international relations you get a taste of what the world is actually like and combining the two and oscillating between the two is never a bad thing. Not for an academic, not for a diplomat and not for a politician, and I have been very fortunate in my life to be able to do that," President Stubb

stated regarding his decision to trade his academic career, featuring a PhD from the LSE Department of International Relations, for that of a politician.

The event closed with a dynamic Q&A covering topics including global politics, international institutions, and foreign policy, and was followed by an exclusive reception for our El students, who had the opportunity to talk to President Stubb over tea and coffee. After taking photographs to mark the occasion, the President went straight to his official appointment with Prime Minister Keir Starmer.







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> Learn more

Fostering public dialogue @

The European Institute's public events programme is shaped around its four core research themes, which in turn underpin a series of public events designed to engage critically with pressing issues across Europe and the world. These events showcase the El's commitment to fostering public dialogue informed by leading thinkers.



Political **Economy**

In the field of political economy, we welcomed the Governors of the Bank of France (François Villeroy de Galhau), Croatia (Boris Vujčić), and Austria (Robert Holzmann), as well as the former Governor of the Bundesbank (Jens Weidmann), the former Minister of Economy and finance of Italy (Pier Carlo Padoan) and the Executive Director of the National Bank of Slovakia (Reiner Martin), among others. Across these events, discussions explored key issues such as Eurozone monetary policy, financial governance, and the future of European economic cooperation.



Politics & Policy

Under the realm of politics and policy, the European Institute hosted a series of events exploring the evolving challenges facing democracy, governance, and international relations. Key speakers included **Mark Blyth** (Brown University), who examined the intersection of climate politics and global finance; **Timothy Garton Ash** (Stanford University), who delivered the Maurice Fraser Annual Lecture on Europe's place in a shifting geopolitical landscape; and **Klaus Welle**, who unpacked the dynamics of right-wing populism across Europe and the US.



Culture and Conflict

Debates around culture and conflict led the European Institute to explore how historical narratives, nationalism, and geopolitical tensions shape contemporary societies. Security and defence in Europe were at the forefront of our event featuring **Richard Rose** and **Klaus Welle**, who addressed the current threats and necessary policy responses. Moreover, another public lecture saw **Siniša Malešević** challenge the notion that nationalism and war are relics of the past.

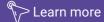


Migration

On the topic of migration, this year's events explored the historical, political, and sociological dimensions of human mobility and belonging. A panel discussion on the Türkiye Compact assessed the political viability of a new model for refugee responsibility-sharing across Europe, and in our event titled "Suspect citizenship: rethinking belonging and non-belonging in plural societies," **Dr Jean Beaman** examined how race and exclusion shape experiences of non-belonging in plural societies, offering critical reflections on citizenship in contemporary democracies.

The future of inflation Monday 18 November 2024

The years 2021 and 2022 saw a surge in inflation that caught many by surprise, including leading central banks. To discuss what's coming next in this uncertain scenario, we welcomed Boris Vujčić, Governor of the Croatian National Bank and **Megan Greene**, member of the Bank of England Monetary Policy Committee.





Europe's strategic crossroads *Friday 28 March 2025*

Europe's capacity to stand its ground and advance its interests and values is being tested by a world of growing competition, rising authoritarianism and declining multilateralism. Discussing how Europe can position itself in the face of these challenges, we welcomed **Benjamin Haddad**, Minister Delegate for European Affairs attached to the French Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs.

Learn more



The urgency of now Wednesday 12 February 2025

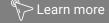
Donald Trump's return to the White House has accelerated a historic shift in the nature of transatlantic relations since 1945, with an urgent need for Europe to provide much more effectively for its own security. **Klaus Welle**, our Visiting Professor in Practice and former Secretary-General of the European Parliament (2009–2022) was joined by political scientist, **Richard Rose** to explore the challenges Europe must navigate to strengthen its own defence.





The shortest history of migration Thursday 24 October 2024

Professor Ian Goldin, Professor of Globalisation and Development at Oxford University, joined us this term for a public lecture drawing on his new book, *The Shortest History of Migration*. During the lecture, Professor Goldin explored, alongside Associate Professor Kristin Surak, how migration has driven societal progress throughout history, from the earliest human movements to the present day, and why it remains crucial for our collective future.





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The Beyond Eurocentrism Programme @

The Beyond Eurocentrism (BE) Programme at the European Institute highlights existing and upcoming research, events and activities that demonstrate our commitment to going beyond Eurocentrism at the European Institute.

Understanding solidary support for reparations: Memory production and public meaning-making after mass violence

On 3 December 2024, we hosted the public event "Understanding solidary support for reparations: Memory production and public meaning-making after mass violence," with Dr Elke Evrard, a postdoctoral researcher at the Human Rights Centre of the Faculty of Law and Criminology of Ghent University. This presentation reflected on a survey experiment in Guatemala to explore how contentious processes of discursive memory production impact the emergence of political solidarity with Indigenous survivors of the internal armed conflict and support for their reparations demands. Learn more



Our motto is "Study Europe. Understand the World" because the issues we face are not unique to our continent. We are not bound by a Eurocentric approach to our work. On the contrary; through a critical approach to studying Europe, we can better understand the world around us.













Support for the European Institute ©

The support from our alumni and friends is immensely appreciated by everyone at the LSE European Institute, helping us to keep our community strong and to introduce new opportunities to our students. Our thanks go out to everyone who has supported us through donating their time volunteering with our students and providing them with much needed advice – you are helping us keep the European Institute a fantastic place to learn.

We would also like to take this time to recognise those in our community who have supported the European Institute through philanthropic donations. The ongoing generosity of such supporters helps our institution thrive and enables us to find new ways of supporting new generations of scholars and policy leaders.

We would like to thank and recognise the friends of the EI who made a philanthropic donation over the 2024/25 financial year:

- AKO Foundation
- Ceresio Investors
- Our anonymous supporter of EU450 Engaging with Europe: Professional Skills



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