Welcome to the new termly edition of the European Institute’s Digest!

HIGHLIGHTS

This term we hosted nine virtual events, see below for some highlights:

**The Paradox Between Human Rights and Security Politics**
Covering issues surrounding surveillance, privacy and freedom, this event explored the issues raised by the use of modern technology and its impact on security politics and human rights. [Listen to the podcast.](#)

**Anti-System Politics: the crisis of market liberalism in rich democracies**
How do different kinds of anti-system politics emerge and what impact does politics and economics have on the electoral instability that emerges? EI Professor Jonathan Hopkin discussed his research and latest book. [Listen to the podcast.](#)

**Them and Us: how immigrants and locals can thrive together**
What are the overlooked benefits of immigration? EI Visiting Senior Fellow Phillipe Legrain presented his [new book](#) exploring how immigration benefits us all in many ways. [Listen to the podcast.](#)

NEW SERIES: Beyond Eurocentrism

This term we launched a new event series ‘Beyond Eurocentrism’, aiming to expand the lens through which we discuss Europe. This term’s events featured a panel with the Mayors’ of Milan and Freetown, discussing cities’ solutions to the problems that arise from migration between Europe and Africa, and a panel on young people and anti-racist activism in Europe. [Listen to the podcasts](#)

PODCASTS

All our previous events are featured on our podcasts page! [Check it out here.](#)
The Impact of Brexit on Higher Education

As universities increasingly compete in globalised markets, what impact will Brexit have on higher education in the UK? Now we know what we can expect from Brexit, what challenges might UK universities face? Find out more.

To find out more about our upcoming events programme, click here.

LSE Programme: Brexit and Beyond

The programme has run successfully for four years, stimulating public debate and informed discussions surrounding Brexit. Returning this term, the Brexit Programme explored what we might expect from the negotiations as we enter the final stint of the transition period.

Catch up with this term’s events here.

Upcoming Event

The Impact of Brexit on Higher Education

ESRC funding bid won

**Eddie Gerba**, EI Visiting Fellow, in cooperation with the Bank of England, Nottingham University's Business School and the Confederation of British Industry, has won 18-month funding from ESRC as part of UKRI’s rapid response to COVID-19.

The project will study the financial risk to small and medium-sized businesses (SMEs) in the wake of COVID-19.

PhD presentation prize won

**Simon Ganem**, PhD Candidate in European Political Economy, won the third prize in the 7th Annual MMF PhD Conference.

Simon received the third prize for his presentation on 'Risk, Knightian Uncertainty and Investment in Advanced Economies during the Great Recession'.

Alumni wins RSA award

**Elena Lutz**, a former European Institute Master's student (2018-2019) has won the Regional Studies Association's Nathaniel Lichtfeld Award for the best Master's thesis.

Elena's thesis investigated the puzzle of Switzerland's innovation success over the past few decades.
Professor Jonathan White has contributed a chapter to a new volume, *Pandemics, Politics, and Society: Critical Perspectives on the Covid-19 Crisis*, which studies the implications and significance of the current crisis for politics and society. Professor White's chapter is entitled 'Emergency Europe after COVID-19'.

Find out more

Professor Iain Begg, as Academic Director, has co-edited *The Dahrendorf Forum*’s concluding Compendium, 'Ralf Dahrendorf and the European Union 2030: Looking Back, Looking Forward'. The essays explore the future of European security, democracy, and economics with an eye to the state of the EU in 2030.

Find out more

Dr Joseph Downing has co-authored an article, published in *New Media & Society*, 'Theorising the ‘Security Influencer’: Speaking security, terror and Muslims on social media during the Manchester bombings'. Combining literature from marketing with security debates, the article brings forward the idea of ‘security influencers’ to understand how social media enables individuals to ‘speak’ and contest security, and how lay actors exert influence.

Find out more
Dr Orkun Saka has published an article in the *Journal of Money, Credit and Banking*, entitled ‘Domestic Banks As Lightning Rods? Home Bias and Information during the Eurozone Crisis’.

The paper provides evidence that the home bias in sovereign exposures exhibited by the European banks during the Eurozone crisis could also be explained by the informational advantage that domestic banks have (vis-a-vis foreign banks). It therefore cannot be fully attributed to the moral suasion potentially imposed by the European governments on their domestic banks.

Find out more

Dr Vassilis Monastiriotis and Dr Angelo Martelli have published an article entitled ‘Crisis, adjustment and resilience in the Greek labour market: an unemployment decomposition approach.’

Drawing on micro-data from the Greek Labour Force Survey, the authors measure the size of the shock exerted on the Greek regional and national labour markets and the compositional and price adjustments in response to this.

Find out more

Following the 2020 US Presidential Election, Philippe Legrain has written an article for *Project Syndicate*, ‘Populism After Trump’.

Commenting on the 72 million Americans who voted for Trump, Mr Legrain argues that despite Biden’s victory, right-wing populism is not dead. However, he argues it can be defeated.

Find out more

Dr Steve Coulter has co-authored a paper, entitled ‘Crisis, what crisis? Industrial strategies and path dependencies in four European countries after the crash.

The paper examines industrial policy responses to the 2008 crisis in four European countries, and gauges their long-term significance.

Find out more
This term we’ve been keeping our alumni connected through various online initiatives, including:

- **Recent Alumni Social** to welcome our 2020 cohort
- **Alumni Discussion on COVID-19 and the Labour Market**
- **Christmas Social and Quiz** for all faculty, alumni and students to celebrate the end of 2020.

We’ve also hosted four panel events where students have heard from alumni about their experiences. In addition to this, Professor Jonathan White and Dr Nathan Charlton opened up the EI reading group ‘Different Class’ to alumni for the first time as the sessions went virtual.

It’s been a very busy term and our alumni have really appreciated so many opportunities to connect with the European Institute again – a huge thank you to everyone who’s been involved.

If you want to get involved with our alumni activities, email [h.c.shearer@lse.ac.uk](mailto:h.c.shearer@lse.ac.uk)!

### Supporting the European Institute

Despite the restrictions of the ongoing pandemic, we want the EI experience to continue, so we are channelling philanthropic gifts from our alumni and friends back to our student community to expand welfare activities. Likewise, we are also hoping to expand our alumni online programme.

If you would be interested in supporting these endeavours, you can find out more by contacting us at [ei.alumni@lse.ac.uk](mailto:ei.alumni@lse.ac.uk) or [visiting our website](https://www.lse.ac.uk/ei) to see how to get involved. We would like to thank those of our alumni who have supported the European Institute in the past – your kindness is wholly appreciated.

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**Happy Holidays!**

Please note the European Institute is closed for the holidays from December 21 2020 – January 1 2021