The capacity of regional and international organisations to react to the COVID-19 pandemic

organised by the Institute for European Studies and the Faculty of Philosophy and Social Sciences, Université libre de Bruxelles
The global spread of the COVID-19 pandemic and its devastating social economic impact represent a considerable challenge for nation states and international organisations. While the effects of the crisis are global, nation states have acted as primary actors through a wide range of individual decisions. They sought to stop the spread of the virus by radically limiting internal and international travels, suspending economic activity, closing schools and universities, shops and public places and confining persons at home. Many of these drastic limitations to individual freedom of movement and assembly have been taken without cross-border coordination. Transnational problems require transnational solutions and but establishing these been a visibly challenging task for the European Union but also for international and regional organisations in general.

The aim of this summer programme is to address a set of timely questions such as:

- What is the role of regional and international organisations in responding to the COVID-19 crisis as a global challenge?
- How do they assert themselves against nation states surging ahead on their own?
- How do they react to the socio-economic, informational as well as human rights and rule of law challenges within their member states?
- What is their organisational capacity and mandate to (re)act and has there been a change due to the crisis?
- How is international and regional solidarity translated into concrete action?
- How is the COVID-19 pandemic affecting the multilateral system and the balance of power of nation states and regional organisations?

**PRACTICAL INFORMATION**

- Registration is free and mandatory at http://summerschool.ulb.be.
- ULB, Brussels, Belgium & online via Teams (synchronous format)
- 27 to 29 August 2020
- summerschool@ulb.be
PROGRAMME

THURSDAY 27 AUGUST 2020

All sessions will be moderated by Ramona COMAN, IEE, CEVIPOL, ULB.

10:30 - 11:00  Welcome
Ramona COMAN, IEE, CEVIPOL, ULB
Pierre ARTOIS, Continuing Education, ULB

11:00 - 12:15  The European Union’s regional and global response to the COVID-19 pandemic
   The EU from initial fragmentation to a relevant step towards further integration?
   Mario TELO, IEE-ULB, Luiss Guido Carli
   Constitutional aspects of the European Union’s response to the coronavirus crisis
   Julio BAQUERO CRUZ, European Commission, ULB, IEE

12:15 - 14:00  Lunch break

14:00 - 15:30  The German Rotating Presidency of the EU Council
   The German Council Presidency 2020, focus on development cooperation in Covid-19 times
   Andreas Jacobs, CODEV Chair of the German Presidency, Permanent Representation of Germany to the EU
   Kathrin Jaekel, Permanent Representation of Germany to the EU

16:00 - 17:15  The World Health Organisation
   The Emergency Management Cycle and COVID-19: Were We Prepared? Will We Ever Be Prepared?
   Dr Dorit NITZAN, Regional Emergency Director, World Health Organisation (WHO)
   Regional Office for Europe
PROGRAMME

FRIDAY 28 AUGUST 2020

All sessions will be moderated by Ramona Coman, IEE, CEVIPOL, ULB.

09:30 - 10:45  | How is NATO responding to disinformation in COVID-19?
               | COVID-19 and NATO - ensuring the health crisis does not turn into a security crisis
               | Oana LUNGESCU, NATO, Spokesperson

11:00 - 12:30  | The Council of Europe
               | The Council of Europe and COVID19: challenges and opportunities for Rule of Law and Democracy in Europe
               | Gisella GORI, Council of Europe Liaison Office to the European Union

12:30 - 14:00  | Lunch break

14:00 - 15:30  | The United Nations Development Programme
               | Barbara PESCE-MONTEIRO, Director United Nations Brussels

15:45 - 17:00  | The Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS)
               | Andrew BRADLEY, OACPS
               | Transnational responses to COVID-19 in Africa – the role of regional organisations in managing aid and curbing national fragmentation
               | Frank MATTHEIS, IEE-ULB

SATURDAY 29 AUGUST 2020

This session will be moderated by Ramona Coman, IEE, CEVIPOL, ULB.

09:30 - 10:45  | Essential skills for European and International careers - Meet the professionals
               | Diego CANGA FANO, European Commission
               | Tony VENABLES, ECIT Foundation
Andrew Bradley

Mr. Andrew Bradley was appointed Chief of Staff in the Office of the Secretary-General of the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Group of States on 1 March 2020. During 2019, he advised Governments and International Organisations on governance, development and democracy. Mr. Bradley headed the Office of the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA) to the European Union (EU) in Brussels, Belgium from 2012 to 2018. He was stationed at the Headquarters of International IDEA in Stockholm, Sweden, from 2010 to 2011, where he led the Global Programmes Division of the Institute. A South African native, Mr. Bradley served as the Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs and Human Development of the ACP Group of States from 2005 to 2010. Prior to that, he served as a diplomat in South African Embassies and Missions in Canada, Switzerland and Belgium, respectively. In this capacity, he contributed to the negotiations for South Africa’s accession to the ACP Group and the Lomé Convention (now Cotonou Agreement), and was a member of the South African Negotiating Team for the South Africa-EU Trade, Development and Cooperation Agreement (TDCA). In service to the ACP Group, Mr. Bradley participated in the first phase (all ACP) of negotiations for ACP-EU Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs), contributed to the successful 2005 revision of the Cotonou Agreement, and coordinated the 2010 revision of the Agreement for the ACP Secretariat. In 2019, Mr. Bradley joined the Institut d'études européennes of the Université libre de Bruxelles (IEE-ULB) as a Scientific Collaborator, and the United Nations University Institute on Comparative Regional Integration Studies (UNU-CRIS) as a Research Fellow. Previous professional affiliations include membership of the Results Management Council (RMC) and Consultative Group (GC) of the World Bank’s Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR), Scientific Committee Member of the 2008 International Conference on Migration and Vulnerability of the United Nations University Institute for Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS) from 2006 to 2008, and a Member of the Friends of the Forum of the United Nations Global Forum on Migration and Development (2008-2010). The new Chief of Staff has authored and contributed to numerous articles and publications. His academic qualifications include graduate and post-graduate degrees and diplomas in Political Sciences, Strategic Studies, International Marketing and International Politics.

Julio Baquero Cruz

Julio Baquero Cruz (b. 1972) has been a member of the Legal Service of the European Commission since 2009. He holds a Ph.D. from the European University Institute (Florence) and an LL.M. from the College of Europe (Bruges). He teaches European Union law at Université Libre de Bruxelles and Universidad San Pablo CEU (Madrid). For many years he was a visiting professor at Sciences Po in Paris. From 2000 to 2004 he was a référendaire at the European Court of Justice, in the chambers of President Rodríguez Iglesias and with Advocate General Poiares Maduro. He has lectured and published widely on Union law, including his recent book What’s left of the law of integration? Decay and resistance in European Union law (Oxford University Press, 2018).
SPEAKERS

Diego Canga Fano

Diego Canga Fano is principal adviser at the European Commission, an institution where he has held various positions. He holds a Law degree from the University of Oviedo in Spain, and Master's degree from the Institute for European Studies of the ULB. He studied common law at the University of Cambridge. After two years as a lawyer in Madrid, in 1991 he started his career as a civil servant at the EU level. He served as administrator at the General Secretariat of the Council until 1994, when he became a principal administrator in the Legal Department of the Council. After a few years in the Council, in 1999, he was appointed as legal adviser to the European Commission to the cabinet of Vice-President Loyola de Palacio. He served as Council's representative for 60 cases before the Court of Justice. In 2008, he accepted the post of Deputy Head of Cabinet and later Head of Cabinet of Commissioner Antonio Tajani, then Vice-President of the Commission. From 2017 to 2019 he served as Head of Cabinet of the President of the European Parliament, Mr. Antonio Tajani.

Ramona Coman

Ramona Coman is Associate Professor and President of the Institute for European Studies at Université libre de Bruxelles (ULB). Her research focuses on EU's rule of law promotion and judicial reforms in Central and Eastern Europe. She coordinates the Jean Monnet Module 'Rule of law and Mutual Trust in Global and European Governance'.

Gisella Gori

Gisella Gori has been working at the Council of Europe since 2002 and is currently a Senior Advisor at the Council of Europe's Liaison Office to the European Union Institutions in Brussels. At the Council of Europe, Gisella previously worked in the Children's Rights Division, the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities, the Departments of the European Social Charter and of the Execution of Judgments of the European Court of Human Rights. From 2010 to 2015, Gisella was Senior Political Advisor in the Political, Development and Security Section of the Delegation of the European Union, Washington, DC. Before that she was Adjunct Professor and Visiting Scholar on International Law at George Washington University, School of Law (Washington, DC). She taught European Union Law during the 2009-2010 Spring semester and in 2013. Before joining the European Institutions, Gisella was a Lecturer in European Union Law and Constitutional Law (Attaché de Recherche et d'enseignement) at the Institut d'Etudes Politiques Robert Schuman, University of Strasbourg, France, from 1999 to 2002. Ms Gori holds a PhD in European Union Law from the European University Institute, EUI, Florence, (Italy), July 2000. She has published extensively on legal, EU and Human Rights issues. Gisella is fluent in English, French and Italian.
Oana Lungescu is the principal Spokesperson for the North Atlantic Alliance, providing strategic advice to the NATO Secretary General, the North Atlantic Council, commands and NATO offices on press, media and social media. She coordinates NATO's 24/7 media operations, as well as planning and directing the media aspects of all major NATO events, including Summits and Ministerial meetings. She is also in charge of all speeches and publications by the NATO Secretary General and Deputy Secretary General. Ms Lungescu is the first woman – and the first journalist – to hold this post. In 2016, Politico named Ms. Lungescu one of the most influential women in Brussels. Ms Lungescu joined NATO after a long journalistic career with the BBC World Service, where she covered EU and NATO affairs for radio, television and online in several languages. Born in Romania, she joined the BBC’s Romanian Service in London in 1985 and subsequently became deputy head and then editor. In 1997, she was appointed European affairs correspondent in Brussels, where she covered practically every EU and NATO summit. Between 2009-2010 she reported on European affairs from Berlin. Oana Lungescu holds a Master’s Degree in English and Spanish Studies from the University of Bucharest.

Andreas Jacobs is Development Attaché at the Permanent Representation of the Federal Republic of Germany to the European Union. Chair of the Working Party for Development Cooperation (CODEV) during the German Presidency of the EU Council 2020. Previously Senior Policy Officer at the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), working on responsible entrepreneurship along global supply chains and development cooperation in fragile countries at the Horn of Africa. Various engagements before joining the German administration including as Researcher at the Peace Research Institute Frankfurt (PRIF). Research focus on ethno-political violence and local development, ethnographic field research in East Africa. Visiting researcher at the Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM). PhD in Political Science, focus on International Relations (TUD Darmstadt, Germany).

**SPEAKERS**

**Andreas Jacobs**

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Oana Lungescu is the principal Spokesperson for the North Atlantic Alliance, providing strategic advice to the NATO Secretary General, the North Atlantic Council, commands and NATO offices on press, media and social media. She coordinates NATO’s 24/7 media operations, as well as planning and directing the media aspects of all major NATO events, including Summits and Ministerial meetings. She is also in charge of all speeches and publications by the NATO Secretary General and Deputy Secretary General. Ms Lungescu is the first woman – and the first journalist – to hold this post. In 2016, Politico named Ms. Lungescu one of the most influential women in Brussels. Ms Lungescu joined NATO after a long journalistic career with the BBC World Service, where she covered EU and NATO affairs for radio, television and online in several languages. Born in Romania, she joined the BBC’s Romanian Service in London in 1985 and subsequently became deputy head and then editor. In 1997, she was appointed European affairs correspondent in Brussels, where she covered practically every EU and NATO summit. Between 2009-2010 she reported on European affairs from Berlin. Oana Lungescu holds a Master’s Degree in English and Spanish Studies from the University of Bucharest.
SPEAKERS

Frank Mattheis

Frank Mattheis is Post-Doc Research Fellow at IEE-ULB and works on governance structures beyond the nation state, chiefly in relation to regionalism. His publications and projects deal with processes of region-making/unmaking, comparative regionalism as well as North-South and South-South interregionalism. He was previously based at the Centre for the Study of Governance Innovation, University of Pretoria (South Africa) as a senior researcher, where he first coordinated a work package for the ATLANTIC FUTURE FP7-project and later carried out postdoctoral project for the German Academic Exchange Service. Prior, he was senior research fellow at the Centre for Area Studies of the University of Leipzig (Germany), first as part of the research team on “Changing Stateness in Africa”, working on the interplay between Brazilian development models and African partners and later as a postdoctoral researcher for the project “New Regionalisms in a Changing Global Order: Mapping Latin America and Africa”. Frank Mattheis is trained in Global Studies with a M.A. from the Universities of Leipzig and Vienna and a Dr. phil. from the University of Leipzig. His doctoral thesis offers a conceptual framework to overcome Eurocentric theorising and Southern idiosyncrasy in the study of regionalisms. He speaks English, French, German, Italian and Spanish and has spent several fieldwork stays in Central Africa, Southern Africa and South America. He has taught at universities in South America, Africa, Asia and Europe and developed coursework on methods of international studies, on comparative regionalism and on African politics.

Dorit Nitzan

Dr. Dorit Nitzan joined WHO/Europe's Division of Health Emergencies and Communicable Diseases as Coordinator of Health Emergencies and Programme Manager of Emergency Operations in August 2016. In March 2019, she was appointed Acting Regional Emergency Director, leading the European Region's WHO Health Emergencies Programme through the full emergency cycle, from prevention and preparedness to response and recovery.

Dr Nitzan joined WHO in 2005. She was Manager of Public Health Services in the South-eastern Europe Health Network and Head of Offices and WHO Representative in Serbia (including Montenegro at that time) until 2012. She then served as WHO Representative in Ukraine until 2016. Prior to this, Dr Nitzan was in senior management positions in the Israeli Ministry of Health. She was also active in the humanitarian nongovernmental organization Physicians for Human Rights. She supported humanitarian operations in Ethiopia and the Middle East with the World Food Programme, and was a nutrition, food safety, public health and emergency response consultant in China, the Republic of Moldova and the Russian Federation. She led health sector activities in disaster preparedness and response missions to Africa, Asia and South America, and served the search and rescue operations response to the 2004 tsunami in Thailand. Dr Nitzan is a paediatrician with a degree from the Sackler Faculty of Medicine at Tel Aviv University in Israel. She completed her residency, fellowship and Master of Public Health degree at the New York-Presbyterian/Columbia University Children's Hospital in New York City, United States of America. Prior to this, she graduated as a registered dietitian from Hebrew University in Israel.
SPEAKERS

Barbara Pesce-Monteiro

Barbara Pese-Monteiro is the Director of UNDP's Representation Office in Brussels. She is also the UN Secretary-General's Representative towards the EU and the Belgian authorities.

Mario Telo

Mario Telo is Full Professor of International Relations and EU Studies at the ULB and at the LUISS Guido Carli di Roma Emeritus President of the Institut d'Études Européennes of the ULB Member of the Royal Academy of Science, Belgium.

Tony Venables

Tony Venables is Founder at ECIT Foundation (European citizens’ rights, Involvement and Trust). A leading expert on the Institutions and decision-making processes of the European Union and both the opportunities and obstacles for citizens to make their voice heard. Expertise on European citizenship and European civil society. After graduating with a first class degree from Cambridge, he worked first for the Council of Europe in Strasbourg and then after 1973 for the EU Council of Ministers in the department for relations with the European Parliament. Also Secretary General for a time of the staff trade union (Union Syndicale). Then decided not to remain a Eurocrat and from 1978 ran the European consumer lobby BEUC for 20 years, getting results with high profile campaigns. Founded ECAS in 1991 and developed the organisation for the next 22 years as a major support to civil society organisations dealing with Brussels and for citizens to defend their European rights. He left ECAS in December 2013 and started writing a book on European citizenship and doing some consultancy work. The book has since been published in 2016 by Nomos under the title "piecing together Europe's citizenship" and in French by Editions Charles Léopold Mayer under the title "vers un citoyen européen". Neither version is yet really out of date, but I am thinking about producing a new, shorter, more popular version, since there is a gap there when it comes to European citizenship.
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