

Welcome to MERCURY Multilateralism and the EU in the Contemporary Global Order

MERCURY is now well into its final year, with a host of new events and papers coming to fruition. Keep an eye on the website for more details —www.mercury-fp7.net.

New papers are examining EU trade policy and Neighbourhood policy, as well as efforts at conflict resolution and development in Africa. Partnership with China is also a key theme of several papers.

Meanwhile, various events will bring MERCURY partners together over the next few months. Graduate students from all partners will gather in Brussels in July for a simulation exercise on the EU and the G20. We next gather in Rome in September for discussions on the final papers, then travel to Brussels in October with EU4SEAS and EU-GRASP (the other two consortia funded by the FP7 programme to look at EU external relations) for a major two-day conference. Discussions are underway to extend MERCURY by three months so we can hold an outreach event in South Africa in the spring of 2012.

We're also working ever more closely with EXACT fellows, a group of PhD students funded under the EU's ITN scheme. 'EXACTers' have joined us at our meetings in Prague, and will be on hand in Brussels in October. Aside from doing their own research, they've been invaluable chroniclers of our events, helping us create a record of what we're doing.

As ever, thanks for staying tuned. Events are posted on the website. Major research findings are uploaded as e-papers. And you can send us comments there too.

Mark Aspinwall
MERCURY Co-ordinator

What is MERCURY?

MERCURY is a consortium of academic partners formed to examine critically the European Union's contribution to multilateralism. It explores multilateralism as a concept, an aspiration, and a form of international order.

The MERCURY consortium is composed of the following nine institutional partners:

- University of Edinburgh, United Kingdom (MERCURY co-ordinator)
- University of Cologne, Germany
- Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic
- Istituto Affari Internazionali (IAI), Rome, Italy
- Fondation Nationale des Sciences Politiques (CERI Sciences Po), Paris, France
- University of Pretoria, South Africa
- Fudan University, Shanghai, China
- Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), Sweden
- University of Cambridge, United Kingdom

Upcoming MERCURY events!

Final conference of the three FP7 projects MERCURY, EU4SEAS and EU-GRASP.

6-7 October 2011, Brussels

See page 2 for more information on this and other upcoming conferences!

The MERCURY Newsletter is published twice a year by Gunilla Herolf, leader of Work Package V Dissemination (herolf@sipri.org). If you wish to be included or taken off the distribution list, please contact Information Manager: Rebecka Shirazi (shirazi@sipri.org). MERCURY is financed by the EU Commission's Seventh Framework Programme

Read more at www.mercury-fp7.net



MERCURY Events

MERCURY Plenary Conference 24-25 March 2011, Prague

In March 2011 MERCURY partners and practitioners gathered for the second MERCURY Plenary Conference. This time it was hosted by Charles University, Prague.

An international conference on 'The EU in the World: Conflict Resolution, Development, and Cooperation' was held on the first day. The two topic areas were 'Conflict Resolution and the Neighbourhood' and 'Development and Climate Change'.

Speakers included Jan Michal, EC Delegation in Prague; Jaroslav Kurfürst, Head of the CFSP department at the Czech Ministry for Foreign Affairs; as well as numerous speakers from the MERCURY institutes. Additionally, Dr Jiří Šedivý, First Deputy Minister at the Czech Ministry of Defence, gave a keynote address entitled 'Challenges for a Common European Security and Defence Policy' (CSDP).



Several papers on multilateralism were presented and commented on. These articles explored issues such as the EU's engagement in conflict resolution in the neighbourhood; EU-Africa relations with regards to the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) and its effect on regional integration, trade and development; and the CSDP and the EU's involvement in Georgia.

On the second day of the MERCURY Plenary conference the consortium convened to discuss upcoming papers relating to Work Package III ('Multilateralism in Practice: Key Regions and Partners') and Work Package IV (Organized Multilateralism: The EU in Multilateral Fora)..

In the first session on Work Package III, three papers were examined in depth. The first one was a paper on 'EU Trade Policy vis-à-vis China: Cooperation in the Interest of Multilateralism' by Dr Eliza Patterson, CERl Sciences Po. The second analyzed 'China, the EU and the World Trade System: an Identity Perspective' by John Armstrong and Dai Bingran, Fudan University. The third paper was entitled 'The State of Multilateralism in the EU's Relations Towards the Mediterranean' by Silvia Colombo, IAI, and Nur Abdelkhalik, University of Edinburgh.

During the second session on Work Package IV, five papers were discussed. First, a paper by Maxi Schoeman and Lorenzo Fioramonti, University of Pretoria, on 'EU-UN Cooperation in Crisis Management'.

Second, a paper on 'The EU's Role in Financial Crisis' by Charlotte Rommerskirchen, University of Edinburgh. Third, a paper on 'Trade and Climate Change: Harnessing European Multilateralism for Africa's Development' by Brendan Vickers, University of Pretoria. Fourth, a paper on 'The EU and UN Reform' by Nicoletta Pirozzi, IAI. Finally, a paper by Nathalie Tocci, IAI, on 'Building Multilateralism? The EU and the Middle East Quartet'.

For a more extensive report on the conference see: http://mercury.uni-koeln.de/fileadmin/newsletter/Newsletter_Special_Issue_May_2011.pdf

Upcoming MERCURY Events

MERCURY International Summer School and G20 Simulation Exercise, 3-8 July 2011

An International Summer School and a G20 Simulation Exercise will take place in Brussels on 3-8 July 2011 on the topic 'New World, New Ideas —Security and Stability in the Contemporary Global Order'.

The International Summer School (3-6 July) is co-organized with THESEUS, a Franco-German network that aims at enhancing the European dialogue (www.theseus.uni-koeln.de). Academic experts from the MERCURY consortium and the broader academic community will share their expertise on 'Security and Stability in the Contemporary Global Order' with the participants. A keynote speech on the French G20 Presidency will give further insights into the actual developments of the global order.

For the Simulation Exercise (6-8 July) 25 participants have been admitted, representing the entire MERCURY consortium. They will, however, not represent their own countries. Instead they will form 11 delegations: France (the Presidency), Brazil, China, the EU, India, Germany, Russia, South Africa, Saudi Arabia, the UK and the USA. The delegations will explore the negotiation tools of today in order to communicate and finetune their positions across borders and great distances.

MERCURY Work Package IV Workshop, 9 September 2011, Rome

In September IAI will host the MERCURY partners in Rome for a workshop to discuss the research results of Work Package IV (Organised Multilateralism: The EU in Multilateral Fora) as well as broader MERCURY results. A forthcoming edited volume will be produced based on the workshop. The event will include both a closed-door MERCURY seminar and a public conference on the EU and multilateralism.

MERCURY, EU4SEAS and EU-GRASP Joint Conference, 6-7 October 2011, Brussels

In October MERCURY, EU4SEAS and EU-GRASP will host a two day conference in Brussels. This will be the final conference of the three FP7 projects. Four panels are planned: 'Understanding Multilateralism —The Evolving Research Agenda'; 'The Union in Action: The EU and the Practice of Multilateralism'; 'The EU as a Global Actor: A View from Outside'; and 'Looking to the Future: Policy Options for the EU'.

For further information on upcoming events see: <http://mercury-fp7.net/index.php?id=10077>

Recently Published

MERCURY Policy Brief No. 2

In December 2010 MERCURY issued its second Policy Brief. The Policy Brief focuses on the conceptual and institutional basis of EU multilateralism. It also summarises findings from an ongoing programme of research into multilateralism in the 21st century and the European Union's contribution to it.

Three main conclusions on the EU's capacity to act multilaterally are drawn. The first one is that a *single* characteristic multilateral approach of the EU does not exist. On the contrary, EU external relations are characterised by varying multilateral strategies, depending not least on the respective institutional context. Second, there are varying *degrees* of multilateralism across policy fields. Third, the EU's attempts to externalise its internal market-related policies and regulations in multilateral settings represent a power-driven approach, which has been largely neglected in the recent discourse on EU multilateralism and its normative foundations.

'The EU-China Partnership on Climate Change: Bilateralism Begetting Multilateralism in Promoting a Climate Change Regime?' (E-Paper No. 8)

In her paper, Giulia Romano presents an analysis of the outcomes of the agreement to establish a bilateral Partnership on Climate Change that was signed by the EU and China in September 2005. The two parties pledged to strengthen the dialogue on climate change policies, exchange views on key issues in climate change negotiations and develop concrete action to tackle climate change by carrying out specific cooperation projects.

The paper tries to assess if the EU-China partnership on climate change can be considered, as intended, an important contribution to a multilateral solution to climate change; or if this bilateral relationship only functions at a rhetorical level without producing concrete results.

All MERCURY publications can be found on: <http://mercury-fp7.net/index.php?id=10076>

MERCURY-Related Activities

Fudan University recently hosted Professor Mario Teló from the Institute of European Studies ULB. Professor Teló gave a speech entitled 'Is the European Union a federal state, an international organization or a new kind of constitutional polity?'. The speech covered a familiar theme in an innovative and enlightening manner.

On 18-20 January 2011 Fudan University held an international symposium on 'Conceptual Gaps in China-EU relations'. Participants gathered from both Europe and China to present their views and engage in exchange. How both parties interpret and articulate concepts such as multilateralism and unilateralism was one of the many themes discussed.

The University of Pretoria organized an international conference on 'Regionalism in Europe and Africa' on 16-18 February 2011. The conference saw participation from some of the most prominent scholars of comparative regional integration.

Several initiatives with strong links to multilateralism were recently launched by the University of Pretoria. On 16 February 2011 the Research Unit of Euro-African Studies was formally launched. This new entity within the Department of Political Sciences will be the University's flagship initiative on inter-regional relations, multilateralism, comparative politics and European studies in Africa. On 17 February 2011 the University launched the UNESCO Chair on Regional Integration, Migration and Free Movement of People in cooperation with the UNU Institute for Comparative Regional Integration Studies.

On 30-31 May 2011 SIPRI, in cooperation with the Swedish Institute of International Affairs (UI) and the Institut für Europäische Politik (IEP), organized a seminar in Stockholm. 'The EU's Foreign Policy – how to forward internal unity and external strength? Views from Germany, Poland, Nordic and Baltic countries' brought together researchers and officials from this area to discuss a range of issues, including the EU and multilateralism.

On 6-7 June 2011 three institutes —IAI, the European Policy Centre (EPC) and Paralleli Istituto Euromediterraneo del Nord Ovest— organized a dissemination conference in Turin, primarily for the EU4SEAS project. The programme, however, also included MERCURY results and researchers. Cambridge and SIPRI researchers represented MERCURY only whereas the IAI researchers represented both projects.

MERCURY-Related Publications

Chen Zhimin and John Armstrong, 'China's Relations with Europe', in Shaun Breslin (ed.), *A Handbook of Chinese International Relations*, Routledge, 2010

Chen Zhimin and Zhu Juhua, 'The Schengen Agreement and the Development of EU's Common Visa Policy', *International Review*, No. 2, 2010

Chen Zhimin, 'China, Europe and the United States: Cooperation and Competition in an Emerging Trilateral Relations', *World Economy and Politics*, No. 1, 2010

Chen Zhimin, 'China-EU Relations in a World of Multipolar and Multiple Partnerships', *Chinese Journal of European Studies*, No. 1, 2010

Nathalie Tocci (ed.), *The EU, Civil Society and Conflict*, Routledge, 2011

Gunilla Herolf, 'Multipolar World at the End of the First Decade of the 21st century: How about Europe?', *Central European Journal of Public Policy*, Vol. 5, No. 1, May 2011

In the Pipeline

Six Work Package III (Multilateralism in Practice: Key Regions and Partners) papers will be published in the coming months: 'The Neighbourhood and Comparative Modernization'; 'Conflict Resolution in the EU Neighbourhood'; 'China, the EU and Climate Change'; 'The EU in the System of Regions'; 'Conflict Resolution in Darfur'; and 'The EU's Development Strategy'.

Additionally, a series of papers on the topic of 'EU Trade and Mediterranean Policy' will also be published in the coming months.

Glossary of Multilateralism

MERCURY is producing a glossary of multilateralism as part of the work to elaborate and clarify this concept. The glossary is a work in progress which currently includes over 43 terms related to multilateralism. Partners continuously collect relevant terms and we welcome additional proposals.

To access the glossary see: http://mercury-fp7.net/index.php?id=10204&no_cache=1

Presentation of MERCURY Institutes

Fondation Nationale des Sciences Politiques, Paris, France

The Fondation Nationale des Sciences Politiques (Sciences Po) is a fully-fledged, self-governing research university specialised in the social-economic sciences and the humanities. The university enrolls some 10,000 students per year, 40% of which are foreign students coming from more than 130 countries.

Sciences Po is the leading research university in the social sciences in France with 60 full-time professors, 190 researchers, 80 foreign professors invited each year and 300 academic partnerships with universities around the world. Sciences Po is also home to a doctoral school offering seven graduate programmes. Based on a multi-disciplinary approach, it associates and combines skills and know-how from the different social sciences—in particular economy, history, political science, sociology and the humanities.

Within Sciences Po, the Centre for International Studies and Research (CERI) is involved in the MERCURY project. CERI is the largest of the nine Sciences Po research centers and has been, and continues to be, involved in different European projects such as ACCEPT Pluralism, CHALLENGE and GARNET. In MERCURY, CERI contributes to Work Package III, (Multilateralism in Practice: Key Regions and Partners').

Dr David Camroux holds a joint position as Senior Researcher at CERI and Senior Lecturer at Sciences Po in Paris. He is also a Visiting Professor at Gadjah Mada University, Korea University and the University of Malaya and co-editor of the *Journal of Current Southeast Asian Affairs*.



Working at the juncture between international relations and comparative politics, he has a particular interest in regional construction from below and the creation of macro-regional identities as well as the 'domestic' dynamics in EU-Asia relations. He is currently working on a study of the Asia Europe Meeting (ASEM). As well as coordinating all of Sciences Po's involvement in MERCURY David Camroux is responsible for work on interregionalism and regional integration in two work packages.

Eliza Patterson, a lawyer by training, is an Adjunct Professor teaching international law and politics at Sciences Po and the Johns Hopkins University School of International Affairs in Washington. Her particular interest is the law of the WTO and bilateral and regional trade agreements. She is currently researching the role of China

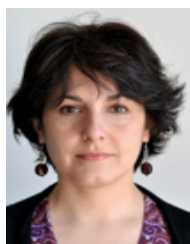
in the multilateral trade regime. In MERCURY, she is co-authoring a joint paper on China, the EU and the WTO with colleagues from Fudan University.



Giulia Romano graduated in European Studies from the Faculty of Political Science of Turin University and is currently continuing her PhD studies at Sciences Po. Her topics of research are the EU and the Chinese policies on climate change, their interaction in multilateral contexts and the EU-China partnership on climate change. Her main

fields of interest are the EU as a global actor, Chinese foreign policy and Chinese environmental issues. Her working papers for MERCURY address these subjects.

Roxana Vermel has a Master's degree in business administration from HEC-ESSEC-University of Paris X (Nanterre). Since 1997 she has been working in the field of the administrative and financial coordination of EU-funded projects; at first for the Ministry of National Education in Bucharest, Romania, and then in France for the Ministry of Justice, the National Social Security Authority and, since 2004, for Sciences Po. Her responsibilities at CERI Sciences Po include the management of all the Center's research projects funded by international organisations and, in particular, the European Commission (mainly FP5, FP6 and FP7 projects of DG Research).



University of Cambridge, United Kingdom

The Department of Politics and International Studies (POLIS), established in 2009 to bring together the Centre of International Studies and the Politics Department of Cambridge University, has a strong tradition of European Politics and a vibrant research community on European affairs led by Professor Christopher Hill, Dr Geoffrey Edwards and Dr Julie Smith.

The Department is host to the Cambridge Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence and is part of various international collaborations; including a Marie-Curie Initial Training Network (INCOOP 2010-13), an Open Research Area project on national parliaments post-Lisbon (OPAL, 2011-14), in addition to MERCURY.

The European Research Group led by Julie Smith brings together academics and graduate students to discuss various aspects of European research broadly defined, while the Jean Monnet seminar series provides a venue for high-level guest speakers on European affairs. Further information on the Department can be found at <http://www.polis.cam.ac.uk/>

Professor Christopher Hill is Sir Patrick Sheehy Professor of International Relations, within the POLIS

Department. From 1974 to 2004 he taught in the International Relations Department at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), where he was the Montague Burton Professor from 1991. He has published widely in the areas of foreign policy analysis and general International Relations, his most recent books being *The Changing Politics of Foreign Policy* (Palgrave, 2003), *The European Union in International Relations* (edited with Michael Smith, 2nd edition 2011), and, edited with Reuben Wong, *National and European Foreign Policies*, forthcoming 2011.



He is a past Chair of the British International Studies Association, and was elected a Fellow of the British Academy in 2007. He has been a Team Leader and/or major participant in the EU-funded research programmes FORNET, CONSENT as well as MERCURY. He is currently working on two further projects: the relationship between foreign policy and multicultural societies in Europe, and that between public opinion and foreign policy in the UK.



Dr Geoffrey Edwards is Reader in European Studies in the POLIS Department and holds a Jean Monnet chair in Political Science. He gained his PhD from the LSE. He spent a short period in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office before undertaking research at a number of research institutes. Since moving to Cambridge, he has been particularly involved in graduate teaching both at the Master's and PhD levels. His particular research interests are the EU's foreign, security and defence policies as well as the EU's institutional development.

Dr Julie Smith is a Senior Lecturer in International Relations at the POLIS Department, Cambridge University, and a Fellow of Robinson College, where she is a Graduate Tutor and Director of Studies in Politics. She was Deputy Director of the Centre of International Studies in Cambridge for five years until the Centre's merger with Politics in 2009. Julie also served as Head of the European Programme at Chatham House from 1999 until 2003.



Julie's research and publications focus on a wide range of European issues, including: elections to the European Parliament, institutional reform, EU enlargement, and the UK's relations within the EU, including bilateral and trilateral. She is responsible for the Cambridge part of the EU-funded INCOOP project on inter- and intra-institutional cooperation within the Union and on OPAL. She is currently working on British political parties and Europe.

Istituto Affari Internazionali (IAI), Rome, Italy

The Istituto Affari Internazionali (IAI) is a non-profit organization founded in 1965 by Altiero Spinelli, its first Director. The Institute aims to promote understanding of international politics and contribute to the world's advancement towards forms of supranational organization.

IAI pursues three main objectives: research, training and the dissemination of knowledge. The institute's research focuses on the following thematic areas:

- institutions and policies of the European Union
- international economics
- security and defense
- trans-atlantic relations
- the Mediterranean and the Middle East
- Italian foreign policy

IAI is an active participant in –and has sometimes even been a promoter of– important transnational research networks, e.g. EuroMeSCo (EuroMediterranean Study Commission) and TEPSA (Trans European Policy Studies Association). Publications include a yearbook on Italian foreign policy; an English-language quarterly published by Routledge (Taylor & Francis, UK); a web-magazine (www.affarinternazionali.it); two series of books (IAI Quaderni and IAI Research Papers) in Italian and English; occasional monographs published by either Italian or foreign publishing houses; research reports (Documenti IAI and IAI Working Papers).

Within the framework of MERCURY, IAI leads Work Package V (Organized Multilateralism: The EU as an Actor in Multilateral Fora) and takes part in Work Package III (Multilateralism in practice: Key regions and partners).

Dr Nathalie Tocci is Deputy Director of the IAI, Head of the department on 'The EU and the Neighbourhood' and Associate Editor of *The International Spectator*. She is also a member of the MERCURY project's steering group.



Dr Tocci received her PhD in International Relations from the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) in 2003. She was a Research Fellow at the Centre for European Policy Studies, Brussels; Jean Monnet and Marie Curie Fellow at the European University Institute, Florence; and Senior Fellow at the Transatlantic Academy in Washington. Her research interests include European foreign policy, conflict resolution and the European neighbourhood; with a particular focus on Turkey, Cyprus, the Mediterranean, the Middle East and the South Caucasus.

Nicoletta Pirozzi is Senior fellow in the European Affairs area. She works on EU civilian crisis management, policy and institutional developments in CFSP/ESDP and EU relations with other security organisations. She has been



a Research Fellow in the European Foreign and Security Policy Studies Programme and Visiting Fellow at the EU Institute for Security Studies in Paris. She studied Political Science at the University of Pisa and at the Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna in Pisa. She also obtained a MSc Degree in European Political and Administrative Studies from the College of Europe (Bruges, Belgium).

Nona Mikhelidze, Researcher at the IAI, holds a M.A. in Regionalism: Central Asia and Caucasian Studies from the Humboldt University Berlin (HU) and was awarded with the Volkswagen Foundation Scholarship as a Research Fellow at HU. She also holds M.A. and B.A. degrees in International Relations from the Tbilisi State University. Her research interests include the ENP and conflict resolution in the South Caucasus, the Wider Black Sea and regional cooperation, Turkey and the Caspian Region, and Russian foreign policy in former-Soviet areas.



Silvia Colombo is a Researcher at the IAI. She is an expert on Middle Eastern politics. She completed a traineeship at the International Secretariat of Amnesty International in London where she focussed on Middle Eastern issues. Colombo holds a Masters Degree in Near and Middle Eastern Studies from the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), London. She is now a PhD student in Political Science at Istituto Italiano di Scienze Umane (SUM) in Florence. She speaks Arabic fluently and has travelled extensively in the Middle Eastern region.

Second Version of the DATEX Database

MERCURY has set up a database categorising legal acts on external relations instruments in the framework of EC and Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) from a multilateral perspective.

A first version of the DATEX database, referring to the CFSP, was created in February 2010. A revised and extended version of the DATEX database was launched in August 2010 and included qualitative and quantitative data on the level of multilateralism in the fields of CFSP and the Common Commercial Policy.

The second version of the DATEX database was published in December 2010. It includes data on the CFSP, the Common Commercial Policy and EU environment policy.

The DATEX database is available on:
<http://www.mercury-fp7.net/index.php?id=10075>