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of the European Union

Jean Monnet Network Crisis - Equity - Democracy for Europe and Latin America

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Profile of the Team, Project Partners and Researchers of the Network

Profile of the Team

- Highly qualified academics, officials and policy advisors to the Commission, EEAS, EP, IMF, ECLAC, national governments and parliaments, national banks and development banks
- USP-IRI is a hub on LA regionalism and presides over RIBEI (network of 38 research institutes in LA, Spain & Portugal), so that information, exchange of best practices and policy experiences and building of know-how on crisis management covers the entire LA region as well as Iberian peninsula.
- facilitates the bi-regional cooperation, exchange of information and mutual policy learning,
- guarantees highly specialized knowledge and experience as much as the network and contacts necessary to ensure that the research will lead to practical policy recommendations

Project Partners:

I. Interdisciplinary Institute for Relations between Europe and the Latin America and the Caribbean – IRELAC/ ICHEC -Brussels Management School, Belgium

Stephany Griffith-Jones: Financial Markets Program Director at the Initiative for Policy Dialogue at Columbia University, research on macro-economic management of capital flows in Latin America, proposals for international financial reform and for measures to diminish volatility of capital flows and reduce likelihood of currency crises; analysis of national and international capital markets, has been nominated to the list of the most influential economist 2016.

Christian Ghymers: President of IRELAC, is co-coordinator of the Jean Monnet Network as expert on monetary and economic policy, Professor of International Economics at ICHEC - Brussels Management School, former official at the European Commission DG ECFIN and previously at the National Bank of Belgium, at IMF and ECLAC/UN, and adviser to G20 Chinese Presidency.

Bettina De Souza Guilherme: is co-coordinator of this Monnet Network as expert on governance and democracy, previously Professora Colaboradora at the IRI-USP on globalization, democracy and governance, official of the European Parliament (on personal leave), served at the Economic and Monetary Committee, the Committee on Development and on the Special Committee on the Financial, Economic and Social Crisis of the European Parliament.

II. Hellenic Foundation for European and Foreign Policy (ELIAMEP/Crisis Observatory), Greece

Dimitris Katsikas: Director of the ELIAMEP Crisis Observatory, Lecturer at the University of Athens and previously London School of Economics (UK)

Lukas Tsoukalis former special advisor to former European Commission's president, Visiting Professor at the College of Europe in Bruges, at the European University Institute in Florence, is currently Visiting Professor at Harvard University, Professor of European Integration at the University of Athens as well as President of the Hellenic Foundation for European and Foreign Policy (ELIAMEP)

III. Istituto Affari Internazionali (IAI), Italy

Eleonora Poli: researcher at the Istituto Affari Internazionali (IAI), on EU economic policies, the political and institutional implications of the Eurozone crisis and the European role in regional conflicts resolution.

Nathalie Tocci: Deputy Director of Istituto Affari Internazionali, Editor of The International Spectator and Special Adviser to EU HRVP Federica Mogherini, in charge of outreaching to think tanks and coordination of work on a new European Security Strategy.

IV. Institute of International Relations of the University of Sao Paulo (IRI-USP)

Jose Briceño Ruiz: is expert on regionalism in Latin America, Professor at University of Bogota (Columbia), former Professor at the Universidade de los Andes (Venezuela), Visiting Professor at the IRI-USP, has widely published on comparative regionalism (EU-Latin America and Asia),.

Maria Antonieta Del Tedesco Lins: Associate Professor at the IRI-USP on international political economy, research and teaching on monetary and financial economics, international finance and regional economic and financial integration, economic and monetary union (EMU) and the global crisis and regional and national (crisis response). Co-founder of the Núcleo de Estudos de Política e Economia Internacional - NEPEI.

Kai Lehmann: Academic, Professor at IRI-USP on EU integration, crisis, security policy and regionalism in Latin America, founder of the 'Núcleo de Pesquisa de Estudos Europeus'.

Amancio Jorge Oliveira: Vice-Dean of the Institute of International Studies of the University of São Paulo, leading research in Brazil's EU relations, and providing training for executives and civil society, including within Latin American and South/South relations. Co-Founder of the Centro de Análise e Estudos em Negociações Internacionais – CAENI.

Janina Onuki: Academic coordinator of the nucleus on comparative and international studies, Associate Professor on Brazil's foreign policy, regional integration and international organizations at IRI-USP. Co-Founder of the Centro de Análise e Estudos em Negociações Internacionais – CAENI.

V. Stephan Schulmeister, Vienna, Austria

expert on the financial transaction tax, university of Economics of Vienna and Krems, American Association of Economists, former WIFO and adviser to the European Commission, European Parliament and the IMF.

Summary of Project

“The Eurozone crisis is dramatically shaping the construction of an EU polity as an integrated, legitimate and effective political space. The implications are twofold. The crisis has accelerated policy and institutional integration in ways thought unthinkable only a few years ago. At the same time, the economic crisis and ensuing societal and political malaise have generated centrifugal forces across the Union, threatening the very essence of the European project.”(Tocci N., 2014).

Economic stagnation, risks of deflation, persistent high unemployment, protest, rise of new social movements, increased xenophobia, populism, Euroscepticism and polarization of (new) political parties, are the expression of the perceived “democratic deficit” and the need for urgent action.

RATIONALE:

Latin America and Europe can both learn from their respective experiences on crisis response and the distributive and democratic implications at national and regional level. Democratic and distributive aspects of crisis response (monetary, financial & economic policies and institutional reforms) are key but have not been adequately addressed in the literature. Furthermore, opening a bi-regional dialogue in the field of socio-macroeconomic policies and crisis management would provide an additional strategic content to the Strategic Alliance the Summits EU-CELAC are supposed to build.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES:

1. research & teaching on EU crisis management, equity and democracy;
2. compare experiences in LA and EU;
3. comparatively analyze the impact of crisis, EU crisis response on integration and regionalism;
4. create an EU-Brazil network for cultural exchange, knowledge transfer and building; 5
5. connect it into IRI’s Latin America networks and co-organise events to further stimulate EU research in LA;
6. collaborate with EU institutions and regional development banks, Brazilian and Latin American regional institutions, social movements and media, to engage their active participation in 6 events and establish an international consortium of global players on crisis response;
7. elaborate policy recommendations on financial, economic and political governance responding to contemporary challenges;

8. increase the public awareness on regional and bi-regional issues contributing to create peer pressures for regional and bi-regional cooperation.

ACTIVITIES

The JMN will hold 6 outreach events/workshops/conference/debates and authors' meetings (3 in Brasil, 3 in EU countries: Italy, Greece and Belgium) and present the results to EU institutions, national authorities, Latin American regional institutions and RIBEI and CELAC.

IMPACT

Joint publications (books/articles), 6 events, permanent quality upgrade and europeanization/internationalization of the research/teaching in the partners' institutions, creation of a new transatlantic network and consortium of players on crisis management/equity and democracy .

The projects objective is to establish the IRI-USP as an EU/Latin American hub and possibly future Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence for comparative regionalism.

Young researchers/students will benefit from the europeanization (in Brazil) and internationalisation (EU countries), the events and guest lectures of the network and by assisting the event organization, the research, dissemination of research on the web using social media.

Media will be invited to the events and be informed of activities, results and research, peer pressure for bi-regional dialogue on socio-macroeconomic policies , crisis management and good governance.

MONITORING:

Bi-annual authors meetings, monthly evaluation of time sheets and progress on research, co-ordination in the preparation of the meetings, presentations of results.

Design and management of Network activities, including communication channels between the partners

PHASE 1

The work programme foresees an initial phase (+/-6 months) for setting up the network, organizing the coordination roles and the general planning, organization of the activities (first authors meeting and kick-off event), to set up the dissemination infrastructure/tools and activities (webpages, social media such as Facebook), recruit and organize the necessary staff or subcontract and young researchers and students. Researchers will engage into the initial phase of surveying the state of the art literature and other sources. The kick off/first authors' meeting sets the stage/rules and guidelines for the network/research and present the network to the public and media with the inauguration by the EU ambassador and rector of the USP.

PHASE 2

2 years from April 2017 - to March 2019 will be dedicated to the research and networking activities, the events (authors' meetings in which the research progress and guidelines will be set, discussed and coordinated) and outreach activities. The timing of the events has been chosen to give continuity through regular meetings (bi-annual) of the partners and authors to coordinate and evaluate the progress and quality both the activities and the research. The involvement and participation of policy makers, administration and social movements will feed into the research and broaden the network for interviews with pertinent stakeholders.

PHASE 3

The last months from April 2019 up to August 2019 shall be dedicated to the last event in Greece and to the conclusion of the research, the collaboration with the publishing house (Springer), the presentation of the research in various public institutions such as the European Parliament, the Commission, at LA institutions such as CEPAL, Mercosul or at CELAC and national levels; looking for financing and forms how to organize a continuation/follow-up of the activities: further joint research, publications and projects such as the Consortium, Centre of Excellence, etc. The publication of the book(s) and the outreach events will certainly even increase the interest in the network. In parallel, the last months of the project in 2019 will be dedicated to the finalization and possibly already presentation of the book, the evaluation process of the activities and of the research findings, the finalization of the accounting and the reporting to the EU. The budget has been roughly equally divided to finance the research (one third), regular (bi-annual) meetings/outreach events (one third) in four different countries and the general management, financial management and publication and dissemination costs (one third).

Methodology

The team combines top level academics and policy advisors to the Commission, EP, IMF, ECLAC, EIB), and on the financial and debt crisis, FTT, EU economic governance, comparative regionalism EU-LA. This will facilitate the involvement of politicians/public administration in the events and the presentation/impact of the results in the different institutions and organizations in MS and regional organizations with the objective to improve governance.

The research structure/outline reflects the specializations of the different partners, guarantees quality and ensure concrete policy recommendations addressing some of the major governance challenges of our time. Inclusion of distributive considerations in monetary policymaking and banking is a key point in the literature, but has not been adequately addressed to date (Heymann & Leijonhufvud, 2014). The same is true for democratic aspects in financial, monetary and economic policy in situations of crisis response.

The research will address a number of these lacuna in regard to privileged access to liquidity, social and distributional aspects, as well as democratic aspects of the crisis and its response, and its political consequences nationally and at EU and LA level.

Latin America's past debt crisis will serve as an analytical background from which to draw lessons and comparisons with the current EU situation, while at the same time drawing comparisons with or analyzing contemporary crisis situations in LA including Brazil, combining an interdisciplinary and comparative-regionalism approach.

It will be based on policy, economic and legal sources, from EU and Latin American regional (ECLAC/UN) and national institutions, and regulators, UN and IMF, political /economic/ social/legal commentary, social media, interviews with and the involvement of policy-makers, administrators, social movements and civil society in the events.

The networks shall meet on a regular base in the 4 different countries, combine authors' with outreach meetings, allow students, young researchers, academia, policy-makers and public administrations to make an input and feed into the research. Interviews with policy makers, officials, NGOs and social movement representatives, elite and mass public opinion survey on crisis and regionalism in Brazil, simulations on options to stimulate investment, growth and employment based on the Juncker plan (Griffith-Jones), an analysis on possibilities to stabilize price fluctuations in financial markets(Schulmeister) will all be among the methods of the research teams.

In terms of the research environment, IRI is a hub on LA studies and regionalism. Griffith Jones is Financial Markets Director at the Initiative for Policy Dialogue Columbia University, ELIAMEP Crisis Observatory and the IAI will enrich the project with outstanding knowledge on EU integration, economic governance and on social and democratic impact of the crisis nationally and on EU level (N. Tocci, L. Tsoukalis, D. Katsikas). IRELAC is a network of Latin Americanist experts, macroeconomic specialists about crisis, and active in academic cooperation between EU and CELAC universities as well as with ECLAC/UN.

Relevance of the Jean Monnet Network (JMN) on Crisis Management, Equity and Democracy is a bi-regional research network and will

- (1) gather and exchange information on “crisis management, equity and inclusiveness and democracy” in the EU and in LA and on its impact on integration/regionalism both at EU and Member States (MS) levels and in Latin America (LA);
- (2) lead to an exchange of research practices and experiences;
- (3) stimulating bi-regional research cooperation extenuating existing networks and promoting comparative regionalism as well as creating peer pressure for a bi-regional dialogue on socio-macroeconomic questions, on crisis management, equity and democracy;
- (4) exchange and build knowledge on best policies in situations of financial crisis, debt crisis, taking into account implications for equity and democracy given the increase of public protest, the rise of new social movements and of new and more radical political parties;
- (5) while there is research on crisis management, on the problem of inequality and on democracy, there are major lacunas on the impact of the crisis management on equality and democracy and in particularly in a comparative approach;
- (6) the deepening of the scientific base on the impact of both national and EU crisis on integration,/regionalism in each region and the impact on the transatlantic relationship,
- (7) allow the elaboration of a comparative research on these issues and mutual learning from each other’s experiences;
- (8) promote debate and research on the EU, its models and role as a global economic power in Brazil and Latin America and elaborate suggestions for the strengthening and deepening of the strategic partnership between the EU and Brazil,
- (9) promote interdisciplinary research and publish a book or a book series. The publication of the results will spin off further research in these and related areas both in Europe and in Latin America.
- (10) organize joint events together with public administration/decision-makers at EU (Commission, EEAS, EP, EIB, ECB) and Brazilian (national administrations, politicians, regional development banks), regional level (Mercosur, Unasur, ECLAC) and on bi-regional (CELAC) levels;
- (11) elaborate policy recommendations to improve governance in EU, LA and for CELAC;

- (12) the outreach events will be open to civil society and promoted through on and offline media which will further promote information on the EU;
- (13) establish a network of researchers/practitioners with a view to develop a Jean Monnet Center of Excellence on comparative regionalism at the University of Sao Paulo and a bi-regional consortium of academics, experts and players on crisis management, already submitted to the CELAC Academic Summit in Brussels 2015 as a flagship project.
- (14) Students will benefit from the events as participants (part of the curriculum of the courses on EU, regionalism and crisis), and assisting the organization of the events and of the research. Additionally the book(s) that will be used as obligatory literature for future courses.

Expected Impact of the Project

The team includes top academics and policy advisors such as Nathalie Tocci (Special Advisor of the EU HRVP Federica Mogherini), Loukas Tsoukalis (was Special Advisor of Barroso) and to the EP, IMF (Tocci, Tsoukalis, Griffith-Jones, Schulmeister), national governments and parliaments (Tocci, Katsikas), past-official from European Commission, adviser to ECLAC, Central Banks both in the EU and in Latin America, adviser to the G20 Presidencies (Ghymers) and past-official from the European Parliament (Guilherme).

This guarantees both highly specialized knowledge and experience as much as the network and contacts necessary to ensure the publication of the results.

Furthermore, the input, participation and results of the research will lead to practical policy recommendations on how to improve governance of crisis management, stabilize financial markets and increase growth and investment.

The project has already been presented and discussed the CELAC Academic Summit in Brussels as a possible flagship project of bi-regional socio-economic research and has a high potential to expand the network given the already expressed interest to participate given that additional financing can be ensured.

The project will present the results to the European Parliament, Commission, ECLAC, governments, regional and bi-regional (CELAC) and meetings of RIBEI.

6 working meetings combine with outreach activities (international conferences, symposia, open discussions, guest lectures) in 4 countries: Brazil, Greece, Italy and Brussels. All events will be open to the public and academia, public administration, civil society, the media and students will be invited to participate. We are planning to involve students who have an interest to specialize on EU studies to participate as interns in the organization of the events.

Apart from the possibility to participate at or help to organize the outreach events, students benefit from a “Europeanization” of the study curriculum at the USP. The research and the cooperation in the network will permanently upgrade the EU knowledge of the professors involved, the participants and subsequently of further courses taught on EU.

On- and off line media will be invited to the events to further spread the networks activities and ideas. Brazil is currently very focused on its own crisis, but a comparative vision to the EU's crisis will increase the interest in the EU and the will to cooperate in these areas of common interest.

The network addressing the crisis, the protests, inequality and the new social movements both in the EU and in LA will attract a far greater number of students to the events and incite EU studies beyond the basic EU classes and beyond the classical disciplines.

The network will organize 6 outreach events: 3 in Europe (Greece, Italy and Belgium) and 3 in Brazil, which will be instrumental for the debates and dissemination:

Target groups such as decision-makers, politicians and public servants at national and regional levels (including EU, CEPAL, Mercosur, Unasur, Presidency of CELAC), development and central banks, academia, students, social movements, civil society and media will be invited to contribute and/or participate. Their involvement and the high academic quality of the team will facilitate the impact of the research results/policy recommendations in EU and LA regional and national institutions.

Each event will result in a document highlighting key issues emerging during debates, and will be published on the partners' websites and submitted to press, policy-makers and public administrations at national level.

TARGET GROUP STUDENTS AND ACADEMIA

The research activity will lead to a further Europeanization of the research curriculum/permanently upgrade the quality of the research and courses, deepening the scientific base on the subjects and related research and stimulating the interest in EU studies for students and academics working on crisis management, equity and democracy.

The network will incite new subjects in the field of comparative regionalism. Students will be able to participate and collaborate at the events.

The research will address some lacunas on social, distributional and democratic impacts of the crisis and its management, on social movement mobilization and the political polarization and its consequences for the EU.

Extended networks of the partners, such as the EU-CELAC Academic Forum, the RIBEI network of 38 Latin American research institutes, Princeton will be invited to the events and serve as platforms to disseminate activities and results. This bi-regional socio-economic research network can serve as a nucleus of a possible larger EU-CELAC academic network in the future and thus promote bi-regional cooperation in this area.

The actuality of the topic, the high caliber of the academics will guarantee top quality and considerable readership potential of the joint publication.

Social movements and civil society at large will be informed about and invited to the outreach activities, which will furthermore be web-streamed.

The public at large shall be informed/invited through traditional media and the extensive use of online & off-line media: social networks, radio and newsletters to inform the wider public.

Relevant public fora will also be used to attract interest.

All project partners will publish information on the network, activities, programs and conclusions on their websites and create links to each others' websites to facilitate knowledge transfer (e.g.. the Greek partners provide an online hub on the crisis).

In Brazil 3 TV channels will be invited to the events: Global News Channel, TV Cultura and TV USP.

Dissemination and Exploitation Strategy

The network will organize 6 outreach events: 3 in European crisis countries (Greece, Italy and Ireland) and 3 in Brazil (Sao Paulo, Brasilia and possibly Rio de Janeiro) will be instrumental for the dissemination and debates of the JMN; decision-makers and public servants at national and regional levels (including EU, CEPAL, Mercosur, Unasur), development banks, academia, social movements, civil society at large and media will be invited. Their involvement and the high academic quality of the team and their networks will facilitate the presentation and impact of the research results/policy recommendations in EU (EP, Commission, EEAS,...) and LA regional and national institutions.

All project partners will publish information on the network, activities, programs and conclusions on their websites, create links to each others' websites to facilitate knowledge transfer (eg. the Greek partners provide an online hub on the crisis) and will engage in an extensive use of online and off-line media: social networks, radio and newsletters.

Each event will result in a document highlighting key issues emerging during debates, and will be submitted to press, policy-makers and public administrations at national level, and will be published on the partners' websites.

IRI-USP will establish a webpage on the Jean Monnet Network and its activities, advertising the activities, publishing programs and conclusions from events, and a facebook page. Parts of the debates will be web-streamed. IRI (CAENI) won a Jean Monnet Institution Building project, offering training courses on EU to public administration, civil society and business, which will be instrumental for the further dissemination.

In Brazil 3 TV channels will be invited to the events: Global News Channel, TV Cultura and TV USP.

The research will feed into the courses taught on the subject, upgrade the level of teaching and incite studies directly and indirectly related to European Union studies and comparative regionalism. The events will be open to academia and students and related courses will incorporate the events into their curricula.

Relevant public fora and the extended networks of the partners, such as the EU - CELAC Academic Forum, the RIBEI network of 38 Latin American research institutes, Princeton will serve as platforms to further disseminate activities and results. Already the network attracted the interest of various other research institution expressing the wish to cooperate.

The JM Network will serve as a nucleus for bi-regional research activities. The actuality of the topic and the high caliber of the academics ensures a high quality book publication with considerable readership potential.

EVENTS

1. Kick-Off Event in Brussels, Belgium: official inauguration of the Network

International workshop, lunch-debate and International High level Conference on “Reform of the International Monetary System and of the IMF: the G20 and International Macroeconomic Prospects”.

2. Kick-Off Event for Latin America in Sao Paulo, Brazil Times of Crisis: Contemporary Challenges, Comparing Crisis in Latin America to Crisis in Europe

3. Meetings in Roma, Italy: Workshop on the Eurozone Crisis Management in Southern European countries

4. Meetings in Rio, Brazil

5. Meetings in Santiago, Chile

6. Meetings in Athens, Greece

