



VYTAUTO
DIDŽIOJO
UNIVERSITETAS
MCMXXII



28th Annual Conference of Central European Political Science Association (CEPSA)
"TWENTY YEARS OF EU MEMBERSHIP: LESSONS LEARNED, CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES"

Thursday 3rd - Friday 4th of October 2024, Kaunas

*Organized by
Central European Political Science Association in cooperation with Vytautas Magnus University,
Faculty of Political Science and Diplomacy and Lithuanian Political Science Association*

DRAFT PROGRAMME

2024-06-24



Conference venue:
Vytautas Magnus University
Faculty of Political Science and Diplomacy
V. Putvinskio str. 23, LT-44243 Kaunas, Lithuania

PROGRAM – 1st DRAFT

1ST DAY: THURSDAY, 3RD OF OCTOBER, 2024
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Thursday, 3rd of October, 2024

8.30-9.30 **Registration of participants**

9.30- 10.45 **Welcoming speeches and Keynote speech (TBC) (Room 106)**

10:45-11:15 **Coffee break**

11:15-12:45 Session I	Panel 1	Room
11:15-12:45 Session I	Panel 2	Room
11:15-12:45 Session I	Panel 3	Room
11:15-12:45 Session I	Panel 4	Room
11:15-12:45 Session I	Panel 5	Room
11:15-12:45 Session I	Panel 6	Room
12.45-14.30	Lunch Break	
14.30 -16.00 Session II	Panel 7	Room
14.30 -16.00 Session II	Panel 8	Room
14.30 -16.00 Session II	Panel 9	Room
14.30 -16.00 Session II	Panel 10	Room
14.30 -16.00 Session II	Panel 11	Room
16.00-16.15	Coffee Break	
16.15-17.45 Session III	Panel 12	Room
16.15-17.45 Session III	Panel 13	Room
16.15-17.45 Session III	Panel 14	Room
16.15-17.45 Session III	Panel 15	Room
16.15-17.45 Session III	Panel 16	Room
17.45-19.15 Session IV	Panel 17	Room
17.45-19.15 Session IV	Panel 18	Room
17.45-19.15 Session IV	Panel 19	Room
17.45-19.15 Session IV	Panel 20	Room
17.45-19.15 Session IV	Panel 21	Room
18.00-19.00	CEPSA Council meeting	Room
19.30 Reception Dinner		

2ND DAY: FRIDAY, 4TH OF OCTOBER, 2024
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9.15-10.45 Session V	Panel 22	Room
9.15-10.45 Session V	Panel 23	Room
9:15-10:45 Session V	Panel 24	Room
9:15-10:45 Session V	Panel 25	Room
9:15-10:45 Session V	Panel 26	Room

10.45-11.15	Coffee Break	
11.15-12.45 Session VI	Panel 27	Room
11.15-12.45 Session VI	Panel 28	Room
11.15-12.45 Session VI	Panel 29	Room
11.15-12.45 Session VI	Panel 30	Room
11.15-12.45	Round table (TBC)	
12.45-13.00	Coffee	
Closing of the conference		

Panel 1.	Experiences and perspectives of CEE countries in the EU	
Room:	Panel chair: Assoc. prof. Sima Rakutienė , Vytautas Magnus University	
Experiences and perspectives of the Visegrad Group in the European Union	Anna Czyż	University of Silesia in Katowice
Twenty Years After EU Accession: Assessing Slovenian Experience	Miro Haček	University of Ljubljana
Examining EU Leverage and Linkage in Hampering De-democratization in Central Europe	Łukasz Zamęcki	University of Warsaw
Twenty years of Slovakia in the European Union – challenges and expectations	Peter Csanyi	University of Economics in Bratislava
Going East or West? Comparing the Profitability of the Weimar and Visegrád Coalitions for Poland's Bargaining Success in the EU Legislative Process	Adam Kirpsza	Jagiellonian University in Kraków

Panel 2.	Security and Defence Policy Processes in Transatlantic Security Community and Their Implications to The Baltic States 1	
Room:	Panel chair: prof. Giedrius Česnakas , General Jonas Zemaitis Military Academy of Lithuania	
The U.S. Position Regarding NATO Transformation: A Return To The Original Mission With A Stronger European Role In The Alliance”	Gerda Jakštaitė-Confortola	General Jonas Zemaitis Military Academy of Lithuania
Deteriorating security environment and NATO collective defence adaptation	Ieva Karpavičiūtė	General Jonas Zemaitis Military Academy of Lithuania
Distributional effects of defence industry integration: the analysis of EU member states' participation in the European Defence Fund	Ringailė Kuokštytė	General Jonas Zemaitis Military Academy of Lithuania
American isolationism and its implications for transatlantic alliance relations – a view from Central Eastern Europe	Bohdan Szklarski	University of Warsaw
The strongest land army in Europe? The development of Polish Armed Forces in the context of Russian war on Ukraine and the EU plans of creating European Army	Łukasz Stach	Jagiellonian University
The Big Game in Southeast Europe: Groupism and Anarchy in Russo-Western Relations	Davor Boban	University of Zagreb

Panel 3.	Experiences and Perspectives of EU Enlargement and Integration processes		
Room:	Panel chair:		
Perspectives for Further Enlargement of the EU in the Light of Current V4 Positions	Boglárka Koller	Ludovika University of Public Service, Budapest	
“Is the V4 the growth engine of Europe? 20 years of convergence within the	Gál, Zoltán	University of Pécs	
Twenty years in the EU waiting room and the enlargement agenda in 2024. Act pragmatically and reward the pro-Western reformers	Christopher Walsch	Corvinus University of Budapest	
“Welcome Aboard?” Assessing and Explaining Absenteeism of Member States in the Union’s Cultural Project Funding Sphere	Birgit Mitter and Armin Mühlböck	University of Salzburg	
Ride-or-die until EU accession? Examining the support for EU integration among Albanians in North Macedonia	Ferenc Németh	Corvinus University of Budapest	
Shifting identities: EU integration in Moldova and Bosnia-Herzegovina	Petra Bezděková	Palacký University Olomouc	

Panel 4.	Democracy backsliding in Central and Eastern European EU member states		
Room:	Panel chair:		
THE FRANKFURT (SIDE-)EFFECT? Eurozone membership (and non-membership) and the quality of democracy in Central and Eastern Europe	Krisztina Arató	ELTE Faculty of Law, Institute of Political Science, Jean Monnet Fellow, European University Institute, Robert Schuman Centre	
From posterchild to pariah of the EU Illiberal unpolitics in Hungary	Robet Sata	Central European University	
Democratic Backsliding in Poland: Analyzing PiS’s Electability in National and European Elections	Marta Żerkowska-Balas	SWPS University	
Democratic backsliding and non-participation: Cross-European analysis	Algis Krupavičius, Ligita Šarkutė	Mykolas Romeris University, Vytautas Magnus University	
European Values in the 21st Century: Longitudinal Analysis of the State of (Liberal) Democracy in EU Member States	Dario Čepo	University of Zagreb	
Hungarian and Polish parliaments as tools of democratic backsliding in the hands of Fidesz and Prawo i Sprawiedliwość	Sebastian Kubas	University of Silesia in Katowice	

Panel 5.	Foreign policy perspectives in Central Europe		
Room:	Panel chair/-s: Prof. Jaroslav Ušiak, Matej Bel University in Banská Bystrica, Slovakia; Dr. Péter Rada, Budapest Metropolitan University, Hungary		
Dynamics of Visegrad Group Cooperation in Foreign and Security Policy Post-Ukraine Conflict	Jaroslav Ušiak	Matej Bel University in Banská Bystrica	
SurRealism of the Liberal World Order and the Place of the EU in its Future	Péter Rada	Budapest Metropolitan University	
State Strategy Planning and Regional Cooperation in Security Policy	Laura Nyilas	National University of Public Service	

25 years of Poland, the Czech Republic and Hungary in NATO	Ewelina Kancik-Koltun	Maria Curie-Skłodowska University
Foreign and Defence Policy Issues in the 2023 Czech and the 2024 Slovak Presidential Elections	Petr Just	Metropolitan University Prague
The Influence of Realist and Constructivist Perceptions of National Interest on Foreign Policy Priorities: A Case Study of Serbia	Nikola Jović, Milan Krstić, Marko Dašić	University of Belgrade

Panel 6.	European Parliament Elections in CEE countries	
Room:	Panel chair: Assoc. prof. Ingrida Unikaitė-Jakuntavičienė , Vytautas Magnus University	
The EP Elections 2024 - Campaign Strategies of Austrian Parties and the Role of Social Media	Karin Liebhart	University of Vienna and University of Trnava
New political parties in the EP elections 2004-2024: the Czech experience	Daniel Sarovec	Jan Evangelista Purkyně University
2024 EP elections in Lithuania: campaigning of Lithuanian Parties in between European and National Issues	Ingrida Unikaitė-Jakuntavičienė	Vytautas Magnus University
The Prospects of Christian democratic parties in CEE Countries in light of the 2024 European Parliament Elections	Ádám Darabos	Research Institute for Religion and Society, Eötvös József Research Centre, University of Public Service, Danube Institute
Examining The Influence of Migration On Decision-Making Processes Within The EU in The Context Of The 2024 European Parliament Elections: Insights From The Polish Perspective".	Eugeniusz Kuznicow-Wyszyński	University of Warsaw
Participatory European Parliament manifesto writing: just a tool or a value choice?	Richard Bavlsík, Ákos Nagy, Daniel Oross	Corvinus University of Budapest, HUN-REN Centre for Social Sciences

Panel 7.	IPSA RC13 - Democratization in comparative perspective	
Room:	Belarusians amidst regional and national turbulences in post-2020 times	
	Panel chair: prof. Irmina Matonytė , Military Academy of Lithuania Discussant (TBC): Siarhei Liubimau , European Humanities University	
Post-2020 Belarus: mnemonic conflict in history interpretation amid the liquidation of the remnants of independent civil society	Hanna Vasilevich	International Centre for Ethnic and Linguistic Diversity Studies, Prague
Decolonial Slavic (un)coupling? EU politicians' views on the Belarusian and the Russian oppositions-in-exile and their reception	Pierson-Lyzhina, Ekaterina; Buyantueva, Radzhana	Repi of Université libre de Bruxelles; Cevipol of Université libre de Bruxelles
Exiled Belarusian civil society in the context of war in Ukraine	Tatsiana Chulitskaya	Vilnius University
Everyday life under authoritarianism: A case study of Belarus after the 2020-21 National Awakening	Katsiaryna Lozka	Ghent Institute for International and European Studies (GIES),
The Litvinism Debate as a Barrier for Belarus-Lithuania Cooperation towards Democracy	Vadim Vileita	Independent analyst, Vilnius

Panel 8.	Security of European nations in the era of hybrid threats: concepts, strategies and practices	
Room:	Panel chair: Assoc. prof. Robert Mikac, University of Zagreb	
Hybrid threats and challenges to the Western Balkans states	Robert Mikac	University of Zagreb
Hybrid threats to the European Union: Instrumentalisation of the anti-EU agenda in disinformation campaigns	Miroslav Mareš	Masaryk University
The Interconnection of Internal and External Security Concepts: Lithuania's Societal Resilience against Hybrid Threats	Ieva Gajauskaitė	Military academy of Lithuania
Civic education as a countermeasure to hybrid threats: the case of Latvia	Ieva Bērziņa	Vidzeme University of Applied Sciences, National Defence Academy of Latvia
Hybrid threats and security challenges to Estonia and Estonian countermeasures	Vladimir Sazonov	University of Tartu, Estonian Military Academy

Panel 9.	War, refugee movements and their political implications after the 2022 Russian invasion of Ukraine 1	
Room:	Panel chair/-s: Dr. Bartosz Czepil, University of Opole, Poland; Prof. Jarosław Jańczak, Adam Mickiewicz University, Poland, European University Viadrina, Germany	
In the aftermath of the war in Ukraine: Migration crisis and its geopolitical implications for Poland	Tomasz Brańka, Łukasz Donaj	Adam Mickiewicz University;
“Not a bullet for Ukraine“: The Janus-Faced Populism After the 2023 General Elections in Slovakia	Jaroslav Mihálik	Univerzita sv. Cyrila a Metoda v Trnave
Czech immigration and integration policy before and after the war in Ukraine	Lukas Vomlela	Silesian University of Opava
Good migrant or bad migrant - Ukrainian refugees and the changing narrative in Hungary	Andrea Schmidt	University of Pecs
A humanitarian superpower? Situation of the Ukrainian refugees and its evolution in Poland after the Russian invasion of February 24, 2022	Jarosław Jańczak, Bartosz Czepil	Adam Mickiewicz University, European University Viadrina University of Opole
Putin's aggression against Ukraine: Finland, Sweden and their NATO membership ratification in Hungary	Heino Nyysönen	University of Turku

Panel 10.	The Russian war in Ukraine	
Room:	Panel chair: Assoc. prof. Victor Denisenko, General Jonas Zemaitis Military Academy of Lithuania	
The Russian-Ukrainian war and the role of the European Union	Jerzy J. Wiatr	European School of Law & Administration (Warsaw-Brussels)
Russian Invasion into Ukraine and Lithuanian Public Agenda in 2022-2023: Killer, Victim and Persistent Issues	Vaidas Morkevičius, Giedrius Žvaliauskas,	Kaunas University of Technology

	Vytautas Valentinavičius	
"Democratizing Defense in Ukraine: Analyzing the Interface of New Institutionalism and Societal Engagement in Democratic Control of Armed Forces"	Taras Ivanec	General Jonas Zemaitis Military Academy of Lithuania
The Depiction of the War in Ukraine in Central European Media	Orsolya Ring, Ákos Holányi, Jakub Stauber, Krzysztof Rybiński, Jaroslav Kopčan	HUN-REN Centre for Social Sciences, Charles University, Vistula University, Kempelen Institute of Intelligent Technologies
Managing Escalation or Prolonging the War? Explaining the Dynamics of German Military Aid to Ukraine	Justinas Juozaitis	General Jonas Žemaitis Military Academy of Lithuania
Hedging or shelter-seeking: explaining the divergence of Czech and Hungarian foreign policy towards Russia's war in Ukraine	András Hettyey	Andrássy University, HUN-REN Centre for Social Sciences, Budapest

Panel 11.	Local governments in CEE: Concept of European community-led development	
Room:	Panel chair: Assoc. prof. Simona Kukovič , School of Advanced Social Studies in Nova Gorica and University of Ljubljana	
Community-led development: Evidence from Slovenian local communities	Simona Kukovič	School of Advanced Social Studies in Nova Gorica and University of Ljubljana
A Critical Evaluation of Local Development Indicators: Case of Slovenia	Tine Šteger	University of Ljubljana
Involvement of local communities into municipal decision-making in Hungary: deliberative tools in the time of centralisation	István Hoffman, Borbála Dombrovsky	Eötvös Loránd University, Maria Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin
How Satisfied Councillors are with their Remuneration: The case of Lithuania	Aistė Lazauskienė	Vytautas Magnus University
Measuring variation in subnational electoral democracy: evidence from Czech and Slovak cities	Pavel Maškarinec	Jan Evangelista Purkyně University in Ústí nad Labem
Dancing on the edge of the abyss: Czech regions, populism and social risks	Petr Bláha	Jan Evangelista Purkyně University in Ústí nad Labem

Panel 12.	Populism in CEE countries	
Room:	Panel chair:	
Initiating constitutional amendments and populism in the law-making process: the case of Poland after Russian aggression against Ukraine	Łukasz Jakubiak	Jagiellonian University in Krakow
The European Union: leitmotif of the discourse of Central European populists (selected examples)	Rafał Dudala	Jan Kochanowski University in Kielce
Evolution of populist strategies in Polish politics in the 21st century	Natalia Stręk	Jagiellonian University

“We are not pro-Russian, but...”: Communication of War and Populist Rhetoric of Robert Fico and Andrej Babiš Compared	Ondřej Filipec, Petra Měšťánková	Palacký University in Olomouc
Populist Voters Voting for Populist Politicians? The Influence of Value Congruence on Voters' Choice	Gabrielė Burbulytė-Tsiskarishvili, Edita Stumbraitė-Vilkišienė, Alvyda Obrikienė	Klaipėda university

Panel 13.	Security and Defence Policy Processes in Transatlantic Security Community and Their Implications to The Baltic States 2	
Room:	Panel chair: Dr. Gerda Jakštaitė-Confortola , General Jonas Zemaitis Military Academy of Lithuania	
German Defence Policy Two Years After the 'Zeitenwende': Achievements, Issues, Prospects	Justinas Juozaitis	General Jonas Zemaitis Military Academy of Lithuania
From Global Britain to NATO's Northern flank and the position of the Baltic states in the UK defence policy	Giedrius Česnakas	General Jonas Zemaitis Military Academy of Lithuania
Sweden's role in NATO: between the Baltic States and the High North	Danguolė Bardauskaitė	General Jonas Zemaitis Military Academy of Lithuania
Multipolar visions in a bipolar-bound world?	Zoltán Vörös	University of Pécs
The Baltics Go South: The Estonian, Latvian, and Lithuanian Participations in the European Union Maritime Security Operations, 2008-2024	Giovanni Parente	Maynooth University,

Panel 14	Political Parties and Leaders in CEE countries	
Room:	Panel chair:	
Managing Leader Selection in Political Parties in Poland	Maciej Hartliński	University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn
How the European Union changes party systems in CEE	Beata Kosowska-Gąstoł	Jagiellonian University in Krakow
Party System Institutionalization and Fiscal Discipline	Cătălin Constantin Balan	University of Bucharest
The decline of the importance of socialist parties in the CEE countries - causes and consequences	Jacek Wojnicki	University of Warsaw
Measuring Party Similarity: A Comparative Evaluation of Metrics	Daria Boratyn, Damian Brzyski, Beata Kosowska-Gąstoł, Albert Leśniak, Wojciech Łukasik, Jan Rybicki, Wojciech Słomczyński, Dariusz Stolicki	Jagiellonian University, Center for Quantitative Political Science
The Impact of Personalisation of the Electoral System on Personalisation of Political Parties: Experience from Kosovo and Bosnia and Herzegovina	Zlatko Vujovic, Marko Savic	University of Montenegro

Panel 15.	Patterns of Penetration to Democratic Systems from Authoritarian Regimes	
Room:	Panel chair: Assoc. prof. Sima Rakutienė , Vytautas Magnus University	
Discourse on Democratic Resilience to Authoritarian States: Analysis of the Influence of Russia and China in the Lithuanian Mainstream Party Debates	Sima Rakutienė	Vytautas Magnus University
Influence of authoritarian regime ideas: media narratives and public perspectives, Latvian case	Iveta Reinholde, Inese Abolina	University of Latvia
The diverse narratives and perceptions of the Russian invasion: a comparison between Lithuania, Poland and Italy.	Daniela La Foresta, Magdalena Ratajczak	University of Naples Federico II, Wroclaw University
Resilience of local democracy: the Case of Municipal Political Leadership in Lithuania	Jurga Bučaitė-Vilkė	Vytautas Magnus University
Resilience to Russian information propaganda and disinformation: physical and cognitive aspects	Dmytro Laroyvi	Vytautas Magnus University
The Democratic Development of East-Central Europe. A Comparison of change in Informal Institutions in Estonia, Poland, Romania, and Hungary since joining EU	Johannes Böhnlein	University of Würzburg

Panel 16	Citizens' Trust and Attitudes towards the EU	
Room:	Panel chair: Assoc. prof. Ligita Šarkutė , Vytautas Magnus University	
Poles - are they still in love with the EU? How populists influence attitudes towards the EU.	Agnieszka Kasińska-Metryka	Jan Kochanowski University, Kielce
What Shapes Affective Political Polarisation in the Czech Republic?	Pat Lyons	Czech Academy of Sciences
Just give me money and let me be Roots of EU support among Montenegrin citizens	Slaven Živković, Olivera Komar	DeFacto Consultancy, University of Montenegro
Anti-EU narratives delivered to the Russian-speaking audience in Lithuania by Kremlin-backed media (Sputnik Lithuania, Baltnews)	Viktor Denisenko	General Jonas Žemaitis Military Academy of Lithuania
Rethinking Eurooptimism: The Case of Czech MEPs within the Eurosceptic Paradigm	Veronika Velička Zapletalová and Pavlína Kutnarová	Masaryk University
The attitude of the Polish Diaspora in the Republic of South Africa towards the European Union	Arkadiusz Żukowski	University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn

Panel 17.	Political Communication	
Room:	Panel chair:	
Still Negative? Uncovering Principles of Populist Communication in case of two Central European Presidential Elections	Aleš Michal, Filip Žiljak	Charles University, Prague
Artificial Intelligence as a tool for disinformation during elections. Regulation initiatives and the importance of media literacy	Nikolaos Panagiotou, Christos Smilianis	Aristotle University of Thessaloniki.

Lessons Learned from Policy Responses to Disinformation in the Baltic Countries: Looking Beyond Risk-Awareness and Securitization	Auksė Balčytienė, Agnese Davidsons, Andra Siibak, Signe Ivask	Vytautas Magnus University, Vidzeme University College, Tartu University
Promoting dialogue and civic agency amid digital disruption: A new approach to public communication ethics	Kristina Juraitė	Vytautas Magnus University
Crisification of EU Communication: An In-depth Analysis of the EU Institutions' Twitter Discourse	Monika Brusenbauch Meislová, Karolína Garančovská	Masaryk University, Visiting Professor at Aston University
Multistakeholder partnerships in communications policy for digital resilience	Rimgailė Kasparaitė	Vytautas Magnus University

Panel 18	Public policy 1	
Room:	Panel chair:	
What kinds of emotions are mobilised by different policy fields? A text mining analysis of parliamentary speeches	Zsolt Boda & Orsolya Ring	HUN-REN Centre for Social Sciences
Monetary policy in the service of financial nationalism: The case of post-2013 Hungary	Krisztian Nemeth	Corvinus University of Budapest
A bumpy ride towards equality. The EU perspective on State-sponsored Homophobia and Misogyny in Hungary	Adrienne Komanovics	Corvinus University of Budapest
Europeanization of national volunteer policies: challenges and barriers	Remigijus Civinskas	Vytautas Magnus University
Evaluation of the integration of the evidence-based policy of early childhood intervention into Lithuanian context: the perspective of service users	Ilna Tamutienė, Vaida Auglytė	Vytautas Magnus University

Panel 19.	Local governance and political participation	
Room:	Panel chair:	
Faces of local democracy - do citizens still want to participate?	Karolina Tybuchowska-Hartlińska	Uniwersytet Warmińsko-Mazurski w Olsztynie
Women's share in municipal elections in Lithuania (1995-2023): the arithmetic of gender power	Gabrielė Burbulytė-Tsiskarishvili	Klaipėda university
Do female mayors support and implement participatory tools? The perceptions of strong democracy across European Councillors	Jakub Lysek	Palacký University Olomouc
Culture and Art (Online and Offline) as an Important Factor in Changing Democratic Participation in Elections	Małgorzata Kaczorowska	University of Warsaw
Navigating the Digital: Technological Affordances and Political Participation on Social Media in Lithuania	Lina Auškalnienė	Vytautas Magnus University
Exploring the culture of (dis)trust at the level of local governance in selected European countries	Inga Gaižauskaitė	Vytautas Magnus University

Panel 20.	Political discourses, narratives and memory politics in CEE countries	
Room:	Panel chair: PhD Tomasz Blaszczak, Vytautas Magnus University	
The EU's Vision for Ukraine. How are the Ukrainian Politicians using the Media Scene narrative to Manipulate of the Public Opinion?	Anzhelika Savchuk-Konarska	University Merito, Wrocław
Going the full circle: Evolution of the Baltic States' discourses on Russia (2004-2024)	Kiryl Kascian, Viktor Denisenko, Irmina Matonytė	International Centre for Ethnic and Linguistic Diversity Studies, Prague; General Jonas Žemaitis Military Academy of Lithuania
Pathways to Agonism: Managing Competing Memories and Peacekeeping in Disputed Territories	Tomasz Rawski and Christina Horvath	University of Warsaw, University of Bath
Eastern European Common Past? Trauma and Coloniality in the De-imperial Project of the Shared Memory	Bartłomiej Krzysztan	Institute of Political Studies of Polish Academy of Sciences
The problem of hermeneutical method when applying it for the understanding of Russia	Tomas Kavaliauskas	Vytautas Magnus University
The president as the culprit? Edvard Beneš and February 1948 in the context of history textbooks	Jan Bureš	Metropolitan University Prague

Panel 21	Security studies and cooperative strategies	
Room:	Panel chair: Assoc. prof. Ieva Gajauskaitė, General Jonas Žemaitis Military Academy of Lithuania	
Analyzing the European Defence Fund's financing distribution across EU countries: what drives national participation in defence-industrial integration projects?	Ringailė Kuokštytė	General Jonas Žemaitis Military Academy of Lithuania
The changes of security policies of Baltic States in the face of the Russian aggression against Ukraine".	Konstantinas Lotiuk	Klaipėda University
Implications of the Middle East conflict in 2023-2024 for the European Union – sectoral analysis	Anna Slania	University of Silesia in Katowice
Transformation of Ukraine's armed forces command in late 2010's: a new field of Europeanization studies?	Aivaras Bagdonas	General Jonas Zemaitis Military Academy of Lithuania
Strategic Narratives, Reflexive Control and Russia's Nuclear Deterrence	Ieva Karpavičiūtė	Vytautas Magnus University
Russia and Iran: Forever Friends?	Matej Machacek	Masaryk University

Panel 22.	IPSA RC13 - Democratization in comparative perspective	
Room:	Democratic backsliding: from Brazil to Latvia	
	Panel chair: Prof. Irmina Matonytė, Military Academy of Lithuania Discussant: Assoc. prof. Liutauras Gudžinskas, Vilnius university	
The Rise of a Populist or the Misuse of Impeachment? Unveiling the Cause of Brazilian's Democratic Backsliding	Gustavo Venturelli	Skidmore College
Takeover by Taliban in Afghanistan: A Case Study of De-Democratization in South Asia	Mithila Bagai Verma; Smriti Singh	University of Delhi

Causes and Manifestations of De-democratisation: The Concepts of Clientelist, Illiberal and Progressive Democracy in the Context of Central Europe	Michal Klíma	Metropolitan University Prague
Major cities as “democratic enclaves” in de-democratising countries. Analysis of Polish cities of Warsaw and Rzeszów	Adam Szymański	University of Warsaw
Latvia and the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities: uneasy dialogue and some glances at the Lithuania's case	Kiryl Kascian	International Centre for Ethnic and Linguistic Diversity Studies, Prague
Better We Don't See Each Other? Intergroup Contact and Satisfaction with Democracy in the Western Balkans	Nemanja Batrićević, Nemanja Stankov	University of Montenegro

Panel 23	Political ideologies and post-communism	
Room:	Panel chair: Assoc. prof. Rytis Bulota, Vytautas Magnus University	
Remainings of Socialism? A Possible Political Cultural Legacy of the Socialist Era among Hungarian Youth	Viktor Papházi	HUN-REN Centre for Social Sciences, Eötvös Loránd University of Budapest
Ideological preferences and attitude towards clientelism. The case of young voters in Poland	Piotr Sula, Kamil Błaszczowski, Michał Kuś	University of Wrocław
Between East And West: Political Trust, Party Preferences And Geopolitical Alignment In Slovakia	Jozef Zagraban	Institute for Sociology of the Slovak Academy of Sciences
Sneaky autocratization in Hungary, Slovakia and Poland	Sonja Priebus and Darina Malová	Comenius University Bratislava/European University Viadrina Frankfurt (Oder)
Electoral Behavior of Post-Communist Peripheries, Evidence From The Czech Republic	Šárka Pittnerová	Masaryk University
The Soviet past and the Baltic security challenges	Rytis Bulota	Vytautas Magnus University

Panel 24.	Migration and Ethnic minorities in CEE countries	
Room:	Panel chair/-s:	
Migration trends and policies in Hungary after EU accession	Sándor Gallai	Corvinus University of Budapest and Mathias Corvinus Collegium
The New Pact on Migration and Asylum A Solution or a Patch?	Mariann Tánczos	Ludovika – University of Public Service
Assessment of the Visegrad Group Discourse on the Migration Crisis Compared to EU Institutions	Tofiq Ismayilzada	Corvinus University of Budapest
Navigating Ethnic Minority Challenges: Political, Social, and Cultural Dynamics in Latvia and Lithuania	Aistė Žemaitytė	Vytautas Magnus University

Panel 25	EU as international actor: policies and impact
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Room:	Panel chair: Assoc. prof. Ieva Karpavičiūtė, Vytautas Magnus University	
European Strategic Autonomy considering the Space Sector of the Visegrad Group Countries	Márk Dudás	Mathias Corvinus Collegium, Pázmány Péter Catholic University
EU Integration Process in the South Caucasus after the Second Nagorno-Karabakh War	Shirak Safaryan	University of Wrocław
The Impact of CEE Countries on the Evolution of Space Exploration and Governance	Matúš Babják	Matej Bel University in Banská Bystrica
The EU – Central Asia cooperation: “mission (im)possible”?	Giedrius Kviklys	Vytautas Magnus University
The role of the EU in the Arctic region: current state of play and recommendations	Matěj Prášil	Charles University in Prague
Great Power Competition in Territorial Autonomies: The Case of Gagauzia	Marcin Kosienkowski	The John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin

Panel 26	International Relations and Security Studies	
Room:	Panel chair: PhD Justinas Juozaitis, General Jonas Žemaitis Military Academy of Lithuania	
(More than) 20 Years of Experience. Selected Central and Eastern European Countries as ODA Donors	Monika Szynol	University of Silesia
Development Of European Defence Capabilities: Challenges And Opportunities	Gerda Jakštaitė-Confortola	General Jonas Žemaitis Military Academy of Lithuania
Differentiated integration and PESCO – case study analysis	Molnár Anna	University Of Public Service
State and state-sponsored terrorism: A case analysis of Russia	Agnietė Zotkevičiūtė-Banevičienė	General Jonas Žemaitis Military Academy of Lithuania
Defence Priorities of Baltic Countries in the Context of Escalating Geopolitical Threats	Mindaugas Norkevičius, Vigilija Žiūraitė	Vytautas Magnus University
Lithuania's Defence Paradigm Shift: Integrating Collective and Total Defence Strategies	Giedrius Česnakas	General Jonas Žemaitis Military Academy of Lithuania

Panel 27	Public Policy 2	
Room:	Panel chair: Assoc. prof. Remigijus Civinskis, Vytautas Magnus University	
Housing as a Right, Not a Commodity - Reflections on the Anniversary of EU Expansion	Mateusz Zieliński	Uniwersytet Wrocławski
Incorporating Alcohol's Harm to Others into Lithuania's Policy Agenda: Barriers and Pathways	Ilona Tamutienė, Daumantas Stumbrys	Vytautas Magnus University
Changes in teaching about the EU and young people's knowledge and skills in this area – the case of the Polish matriculation exams in civic education from years 2020-2024	Agnieszka Bejma, Piotr Załęski	University of Warsaw
Crisification of EU Communication: An In-depth Analysis of the EU Institutions' Twitter Discourse	Monika Brusenbauch	Masaryk University,

	Meislová, Karolína Garančovská	Visiting Professor at Aston University
Lithuanian Youth's Digital Literacy Skills And Self-Conscious Use Of Information In A Changing Media Landscape	Patricija Lenčiauskienė	Vytautas Magnus University
The Ethical Aspect in European Intelligence Cooperation - Forms and Narratives	David Shakarishvili	Klaipeda University

Panel 28	Parliamentarism and national bargaining in the EU	
Room:	Panel chair:	
The Politics of Investigative Parliamentary Committees: Evidence from Central and Eastern Europe	Marko Kucec	Helmut Schmidt University Hamburg
Drifting towards the East? An AI-supported analysis of the sentiment of Central-Eastern European parliaments towards great powers	Miklós Sebők – Levente Pakot – Orsolya Ring – Csaba Molnár – Ákos Holányi	HUN-REN Centre for Social Sciences, Budapest
The comparative advantages of the Visegrad countries after participating in the EU and the capitalist political response	Thi-Ly Nguyen, Norbert Szijarto	Corvinus University of Budapest
Presidency as a Task: Reflection of the Czech Presidency 2022 by Czech Insiders in Brussels	David Broul, Jakub Janega	Palacky University Olomouc
Does the Czech Senate go the extra mile? Advocacy of territorial interests by the upper chamber that was not meant to do that	Jakub Čapek, Jan Hruška	Charles University, Masaryk University
Which interest representation channel to choose? Visegrad Group subnational actors representing their interests at EU level	Brucker Balázs	CERS, Institute of Regional Studies

Panel 29.	20 years of EU membership and the changing post-secular frameworks of state-church relationships from a minority perspective.	
Room:	Panel Chair: Dániel Vékony	
'We Are Restoring Historical Justice': Critical Observations On The Process Of The Establishment Of The Ecumenical Patriarchate Orthodox Church In Lithuania In 2022-2024	Milda Ališauskienė	Vytautas Magnus University
Minority religions in Lithuanian Parliamentary debates: any discourse shifts in 1990-2023?	Eglė Aleknaitė	Vytautas Magnus University
20 years in the EU: Have the Baltic States become (like) Western European?	Egdunas Račius	Vytautas Magnus University
The illiberal post-secular turns and its effects for Muslim communities in Hungary	Dániel Vékony	Vytautas Magnus University

Panel 30.	Conspiracy theories and manipulations	
Room:	Panel chair: Linas Kontrimas, Vytautas Magnus university	
European Crises as a Source of Social Frustrations and Conspiracy Beliefs. Evidence from Central and Eastern Europe	Agnieszka Turska-Kawa, Christian Welzel, Bogłárka Koller	University of Silesia, Leuphana University in Luneburg, University of Public Service
How Contagious Are Political Conspiracy Theories?	Paweł Matuszewski	Collegium Civitas

Unveiling the Veil: Exploring Conspiracy Theories Surrounding the Introduction of the Digital Euro in Slovenia	Tine Šteger	University of Ljubljana
The Euro as a political tool	Laura Gheorghiu	Karl Franzens University Graz