Third country influence on the making of EU law: Legal and political science perspectives

4-5 November 2021

Workshop
University of Geneva
Unimail, Bd du Pont-d’Arve 40 1205 Genève

The study of European integration has traditionally focused on the internal development of common laws and policies. With the maturing of the single market and the evolution of EU external relations, attention has shifted beyond the EU on the ways in which the EU intentionally and unintentionally projects its norms beyond its borders. This workshop proposes a step further in the research on EU integration: the reverse influence of third countries on EU laws and policies. Three developments, in particular, motivate this focus:

(1) Deep association policies like the European Economic Area (EEA), Swiss-EU bilateralism as well as the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) have effectively integrated third countries in different EU policy regimes. This not only affects the functioning of these regimes but potentially also the evolution of relevant laws and policies;

(2) The extension of EU rules beyond its borders has in many cases deepened mutual interdependence, which means that in certain policy areas (be it energy, environment, migration or other) the EU today relies more on third country cooperation than ever before. This can be a source of leverage for third countries to influence EU laws and policies;

(3) Brexit, other difficult negotiations with associated countries like Switzerland or candidate countries, as well as the negotiation of deep preferential trade agreements exemplify the need for compromise formation in the design of EU external relations, which again has repercussions on the EU’s internal developments.

The workshop explores third country influence from the perspective of differentiated integration. It seeks identify levels at and venues through with third countries can exert influence and the consequences this has on the EU’s political and legal order.

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PROGRAMME

Thursday 4 November  Room 6220
Panel I – Rationales for third country involvement in the EU
13h15 – 14h30 zoom link. https://unige.zoom.us/j/65969537862

Introduction: Theorizing European integration outside-in. Third country influence on EU law and policy making
Sandra Lavenex (University of Geneva) and Marja-Liisa Öberg (Lund University)

Reversing the Democratic Gaze
Kalypso Nicolaïdis (European University Institute and Oxford University) and Richard Youngs
(Carnegie Europe and Warwick University) by zoom

Third country involvement in the EU – some legal considerations
Christophe Hillion (University of Oslo and University of Leiden) by zoom

Discussion
Coffee break 14h30-14h45

Panel II – Types of third country involvement
14h45 – 18h30 zoom link. https://unige.zoom.us/j/65969537862

Chair: Sandra Lavenex

The European Economic Area: Decision-Shaping during the COVID-19 Pandemic
Jóhanna Jónsdóttir (Embassy of Iceland in London) by zoom

EU concessions to Switzerland
René Schwok (University of Geneva) and Cenni Najy (University of Geneva)

The United Kingdom: turning its back on influencing the EU?
David Phinnemore (Queen’s University Belfast) by zoom

Turkey’s Triangular Relations with the European Union and the United Kingdom: An Evolving Third Party Partnership
Meltem Müftüler-Baç (Sabancı University)

Discussion
Coffee break 16h30-17h00

The EU as regulatory superpower? The case of the CETA
Kurt Hübner (University of British Columbia) by zoom

From Geopolitics to Trade: How the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement Necessitated Adaptation in the EU
Antoaneta Dimitrova (University of Leiden) and Rilka Dragneva (University of Birmingham) by zoom

Participation of the Western Balkan countries in EU agencies: the case of Europol and Frontex
Ivan Damjanovski (University of Skopje) by zoom

Discussion
Friday 5 November Room M 4276
Panel III – Venues for third country involvement
9h00 – 10h45 zoom link: https://unige.zoom.us/j/64681893963

Chair: Marja-Liisa Öberg

Venues for associated neighbouring countries to influence EU law and policies
Sieglinde Gstöhl (College of Europe) and Christian Frommelt (Liechtenstein Institut)
Accessing Europe through the Back Door: The Influence of Third Countries through Secondary Structures
Nadja S. Kühn (University of Agder) and Jarle Trondal (ARENA Oslo)
Third countries in EU agencies and programmes: between decision-taking and decision-shaping
Sandra Lavenex (University of Geneva)
Power of third countries in trans-governmental networks: Mapping and explaining public administration cooperation
Karina Shyrokykh (University of Stockholm)

Discussion

Coffee break 10h45-11h15

Panel IV - Consequences for the EU legal and political order
11h15 – 13h30 zoom link: https://unige.zoom.us/j/64681893963

Chair: Marise Cremona (EUI) - by zoom

Third country influence of foreign interference? The vulnerable EU and the emergence of the foreign integrity laws
Emilia Korkea-aho (University of Helsinki)
Third country influence under Association Agreements: Consequences for the EU legal order
Peter Van Elsuwege (University of Ghent)
Consequences for democracy and the political order
John Erik Fossum (ARENA Oslo) by zoom
The effects of third country participation on EU decision-making autonomy
Marja-Liisa Öberg (Lund University)

Concluding discussion