

*Effects of Conditionality and Post-Conditionality on the Quality of  
Democracy in EU Member States and Beyond*

**November 8 (Tuesday), 2016**  
9.00am – 2.00pm  
Popper Room, Central European University

**9.00 Registration**

**9.30 Keynote Address**

**MICHAEL ROTH**, Minister of State for Europe, Federal Foreign Office, Germany

**10.15 Panel I. – Evaluating pre-accession conditionality: Path-dependency, effectiveness and the importance of context**

The discussion seeks to identify those aspects of conditionality that are considered to be the most problematic and challenging from the (current and past) candidates' perspective. Looking back with the experience of current member states in mind, it attempts to evaluate the shortcomings of accession conditionality. Building on a comparative approach, the discussion will draw lessons from past and current experiences with conditionality and its effects both on national democratic developments and the EU integration process itself.

Speakers:

Natasa Besirevic, Faculty of Political Science, University of Zagreb, Croatia: *Pre-accession political conditionality: the case study of Croatia*

Vladimir Petrovic, Department of History, CEU: *Serbia and EU Conditionality: From Possibilities and Limitations to Unintended Consequences*

Georgi Dimitrov, University of Sofia, Bulgaria: *The Academic Controversies over the EU accession conditionalities*

Hana Semanic, Center for European Neighborhood Studies, CEU: *Investigating the potentials and responsibilities of EU membership: the case of Bosnia and Herzegovina*

Selin Türkeş-Kılıç, Assistant Professor, Yeditepe University, Istanbul, Turkey

**Chair:** Györgyi Kocsis, Hungarian Europe Society

**11.45** Coffee Break

**12.15 Panel II. – Effects of (the lack of) post-accession conditionality on the quality of democracy in Central and Eastern Europe**

The discussion will address the impact of weak or non-existent post-accession conditionality especially in Visegrad countries, Romania and Bulgaria. The main focus will be on analyzing and evaluating political and democratic developments – progress and regress – after these countries' EU accession in the light of significantly reduced EU requirements when compared to the pre-accession period.

**Speakers:**

Antoaneta Dimitrova, Leiden University, the Netherlands: *The Vicious Circle of credibility and public opinion: Why conditionality does not always work?*

Luciana Ghica, University of Bucharest, Romania: *Discourses on Democracy and Conditionality in Foreign Policy-Making: Official Development Aid Commitments of Central and East European states within EU and UN in comparative perspective*

Bálint Magyar, Hungary: *Corruption versus criminal state*

Zsuzsanna Végh, Bogdan Radu, Center for European Neighborhood Studies, CEU: *Embedding democratic values: Lessons learned*

Olga Gyarfášová, Comenius University, Bratislava, Slovakia: *Pros and Cons of Strong Conditionality: Case of Slovakia*

**Chair:** Péter Balázs, Center for European Neighborhood Studies

**13.45 Concluding remarks**

**Péter Balázs**, Center for European Neighborhood Studies, CEU, Hungary

**14.00 Buffet Lunch**