



CALL FOR PAPERS

Assessing Accession – Central and Eastern Europe in the EU

2nd Annual Research Symposium

“Power and Representation”

Monday 11th May 2009, Széchenyi István University, Győr, Hungary

May 2009 will see the European Union (EU) celebrate the fifth anniversary of its 2004 enlargement to Central and Eastern Europe (CEE). Over the past five years the new member states from the CEE region have experienced a significant learning curve as they have sought to become successful in terms of influencing EU governance and policy making. These experiences reflect the fact that (1) EU governance is a game of power in which states influence policy as a result of their size, resources and vision, and (2) the EU is a political system with component units and mechanisms specifically designed to allow member-states to represent their interests within this governance power game. Finding a way to reconcile these two logics is essential if the CEE member-states are ever to become effective game players, thus allowing them not only to defend their vital national interests, but also to influence the development of alternative or new policies and positions for the EU as a whole.

This one day symposium is intended to provide a forum for scholars to identify some of the broad strategies CEE member-states use to influence policy making within the EU. In particular, there will be a specific focus on how CEE countries and their respective governments and private actors (e.g. unions, employers, and civil society organisations) organise and manage their position within the EU institutional frameworks. In other words, how have the past five years represented a continuation of integration, from a ‘bottom-up’ perspective, in terms of different CEE agents seeking to integrate and become effective actors in various EU institutional environments?

The symposium will include a keynote address, small-group workshops and a roundtable discussion. For the small-group workshops individual papers which focus on the [EU] institutional capacities of governments and private actors from the CEE region are invited. Therefore, papers should reflect (although are not restricted to) the following:

- EU institutions (Council/Council Presidencies, Commission and Parliament) and how CEE member-states and state agents (national, regional or municipal level) work towards influencing policy
- CEE private actors and their use of specific mechanisms (e.g. lobbying) to influence EU policy making
- CEE party involvement at European-level party federations

Please note that papers should focus on the representation of CEE interests within EU institutions and where possible should utilise discussion of specific policy areas in which CEE member-states are active (i.e. CFSP, ENP, external relations with Russia and human rights etc.) as case studies.

To submit a proposal please visit the Assessing Accession website (<http://assessingaccession.eu/workshop2009.aspx>) and download the proposal application form. All proposals should be between 300-500 words in length. Full papers should not exceed 8000 words. The deadline for proposals will be the 15th January 2009. It is hoped that a selection of papers will go forward for publication as a special issue of *Europe-Asia Studies* to be published in 2010.

For further details on the Symposium please visit the Assessing Accession Website or contact the symposium organisers by email at gyor2009@assessingaccession.eu

- Eamonn Butler, University of Glasgow, UK
- Claudiu Craciun, National School of Political Studies and Administration, Bucharest, Romania
- Károly Gruber, Széchenyi István University, Győr, Hungary