

Young European Federalists Erfurt Conference

European Identity Revisited

24- 25th of March 2017

For the past quarter of century, the European project has been trying to create a European Identity. This statement presents many questions. What is European Identity? Has the European Union been successful in producing an identity of its own? Is a European Identity even needed or desired? Could a European Identity peacefully coexist with a national Identity and vice versa?

This conference's purpose is to spur on and continue the discussion of these complicated and perhaps unanswerable questions. We, JEF (Young European Federalists) Erfurt, see this conference as a platform where academics, practitioners and students can come together to discuss these issues. We believe this inclusionary approach will bridge the gap between theory and practice, and help continue this much needed discussion.

Friday, March 24th 2017

| Time | Activity |
|-------------|--|
| 16:00-17:00 | Check-in |
| 17:00-18:00 | Welcome Announcement Icebreakers/ Networking |
| 18:00-19:30 | Keynote Speaker Prof. Dr. Ireneusz Paweł Karolewski |
| 19:30-21:00 | Dinner |

Saturday, March 25th 2017

| Time | Activity |
|-------------|---|
| 9:00-9:30 | Morning Reception Workshop Orientation |
| 9:30-12:00 | Workshop_1 Prof. Dr. Ireneusz Paweł Karolewski Ewa Chylinski Anne Kupila |
| 12:00-13:00 | Lunch |
| 13:00-15:30 | Workshop_2 Dr. Lars Klein Marta Kozłowska Julian Plottka |
| 15:30-16:00 | Break |
| 16:00-18:00 | Panel Discussion (open to the public) |
| 20:00-22:00 | Dinner (optional) |

Venue

Faculty of Catholic Theology at the University of Erfurt
Domstraße 10 99084 Erfurt
Germany

Unique location situated within the famous Erfurt Cathedral. Provides modern classrooms but also connects participant to the history of the location. As Martin Luther once preached there, giving a connection to an important part of European history and Identity.

Workshops

Workshop title: Identity in Eastern Europe in an EU context

Identity in Eastern Europe is focusing on national identity more than on civic nation. There is a strong attachment to language, religion, traditions and territory, a typical 19th century concepts. Since 2004 most countries of Central Eastern Europe are members of the EU and are using free labour movement opportunities. How is Eastern Europe integrated in the EU in terms of European identity and how is it ready to receive other migrants?

Ewa Chylinski is Regional Director for the European Centre for Minority Issues Caucasus. Former deputy director of ECMI HQ Flensburg, Germany, Head of Programmes at OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights in Warsaw, OSCE Mission to Tajikistan and Central Asia offices, and researcher at the University of Southern Denmark in ethnic policies across the world.

Workshop title: The importance and meaning of language and communication for European identity

Europe has always been a region of great linguistic diversity. On the other hand, during the course of European history there have been some dominant languages which have not only facilitated communication but have also created uniformity in administration, or been used as the medium of education. In the construction of collective identity language has often been used as a reason for both inclusion and exclusion. As language is in many respects a unifying force creating group identity, we will examine the question of linguistic identity from different points of view through examples that have counterparts in several European countries and periods.

Workshop leader: Anne Kupila is an internationally experienced and interdisciplinary oriented scholar with communication skills in Finnish, Swedish, English, German, cultural history, and intercultural communication. She is research assistant for Professor Dr Hartmut Schröder at the Europa University Viadrina in Germany in the international and interdisciplinary culture taboo research project.

Workshop title: EU governance and European identity

The workshop deals with the central topics of the research on European identity in the context of EU governance. As a point of departure it reverts to the gulf between European citizens and the European political elites as well as the lack of a European demos as the main challenges to the European governance. Against this backdrop, the workshop discusses various functions of collective identity drawing on recent research in political science, sociology and social psychology. In addition, the workshop explores the conceptual and methodological problems of the research on European collective identity, among others the conceptual ambivalence of the very term. Next, the workshop focuses on potential solutions to the collective problems in Europe, in particular in the light of the recent disintegration tendencies in the EU.

Workshop leader: Ireneusz Pawel Karolewski is professor of political science in the Willy Brandt Centre for German and European Studies at the University of Wrocław and adjunct professor at the Potsdam University. He holds a Ph.D. in political science from the University of Potsdam where he also was assistant professor in political science from 1999 to 2008. Karolewski is co-convenor of the ECPR Standing Group "Identity", co-coordinates the UACES Collaborative Research Network (CRN) 'Centrifugal Europe' and is the managing editor of the 'Annual European and Global Studies' (Edinburgh University Press).

Workshop title: Ideas of European identity

'European Identity' has long been discussed as a concept in academia as much as in public and political discourse. Especially in the face of right wing and populist movements or the so-called "refugee crisis", questions of identity are again on the agenda. While some aim for formulating a European Identity that contributes to fostering Europeanness, others criticize the concept for its assumed exclusiveness. The workshop will discuss different ideas of "European identity", see how these can be substantialized and be made (socially, politically) effective – or not.

Workshop Leader: Dr. Lars Klein is senior lecturer in the Erasmus Mundus MA 'Euroculture – Society, Politics and Culture in a Global Context' at Georg-August-University Göttingen. His research interests include European identity, memory and citizenship, generational theories, as well as war and war reporting in the 20th century.

Workshop title: How do we know, who we are? On identifying identity and researching into collective identities

The workshop, using interactive methods, including role-playing, mind-mapping and group work, will focus on the very basic problem of scientific approach to identity: what is it, actually, and even more importantly: how can we measure it? During the workshop, we will analyze the concept itself and similar concepts such as identification, (self-)categorization, belonging, connectedness, groupness, and commonality in order to better understand the idea. Furthermore, we will discuss the concept of 'imagined communities', as well as the social construction of identity. Finally, we will look into dynamic vs. static approaches to identity, the way identity can be constructed and maintained, and the possible ways of measuring it.

Workshop Leader: Marta Kozłowska is research assistant and lecturer at the Institute for Sociology, FU Berlin. She writes her doctoral thesis on political usages of the concept of solidarity. Her research interests include theories of social integration, macro-, cultural and political sociology and sociology of Europe.

Workshop title: Citizenship of the Union: A driver of European identity?

The previous economic focus of EU citizenship, which amends, but does not replace national citizenship, has been widened in the course of European integration, including political, protection, and consumer rights. The workshop will explore concepts of citizenship and the dimensions of EU citizenship as current primary and secondary EU law defines it. The workshop will also discuss scenarios of developing further EU citizenship. What reforms are needed to make citizens of EU member states to live their EU citizenship?

Workshop leader: Julian Plottka is research associate and programme manager of the PhD School "The EU, Central Asia and the Caucasus in the International System" at the Institut für Europäische Politik (IEP). His research focus is the legitimacy of the European Union, including the European Citizens' Initiative, EU citizenship and the future of European integration

Registration

<https://goo.gl/forms/N3Ca3nBxSzw5f7g43>

Registration fee

10 €

Bank account details

Kontoinhaber: JEF Thüringen e. V.
IBAN: DE59 8305 3030 0018 0071 12
BIC: HELADEF1JEN
Kreditinstitut: Sparkasse Jena-Saale-Holzland

Deadline for Registration

28 February 2017 23:59 CET

Contact

JEF Erfurt
conference2017@jef-thueringen.eu

How to register for the conference:

1. Step:

Please fill out the online link below.

Online link:

<https://goo.gl/forms/N3Ca3nBxSzw5f7g43>

2. Step:

Please transfer the registration fee of 10 Euros.
You do not have to wait for a confirmation from JEF Erfurt.
As soon as the maximum number of participants is reached.
The registration will be closed.

Additional information:

At the conference, a dinner and lunch will be provided for you as well as drinks and snacks. Further, you will receive a package on the first day including a note pad and pen. We can neither reimburse travel costs nor cover for accommodation of the participants. However, we will send you information on affordable accommodation in Erfurt once we have received your registration fee.

Getting to Erfurt

Train

Due to its central location, the city is well connected through the IC - ICE network with the rest of Germany and it has direct connection with Berlin. There are regular and frequent trains from Berlin leaving from Berlin Hauptbahnhof and Berlin Sudkreuz. The train ride is between 2 and 2.5 hours with prices from €29 each way.

Bus

There are several bus options to get to the City from Berlin ZOB or from Berlin Zoologischer Garten with the following bus companies:

Meinfernbus - www.meinfernbus.de

Postbus - www.postbus.de

Berlin Linien Bus - www.berlinlinienbus.de

The bus ride takes from 3.5 to 4.5 depending on the bus company and route with prices from €6 each way.

Car

The shortest way from Berlin to Erfurt is a 317 km ride taking the E51 in the direction of Nurnberg from the south of the city. After reaching Halle (Saale) take the A38 in west direction towards Gottingen and then take the A71 towards Erfurt.

Transportation in the City

Erfurt has a very good Tram system that connects the entire city. All of the Tram lines go through the Hauptbahnhof (which is also the end point of the bus lines) and Anger in the city center.

The conference venue located at the Dom can be reached on Tram lines 3, 4 (Bindersleben / Flughafen direction), and 6, Domplatz Nord or Domplatz Sud Stations.

For more information on the city urban transport system visit www.evag-erfurt.de.

Detailed information on places to stay and what to do, along with information of planned events will be provided to attendees after application.

Sponsored by



Cooperation- partner

