

The end of the region?

The future of spatial constructs in the populist era

Trump, BREXIT, Russian-European crisis and the rise of populist parties in Europe and Turkey came as an existential challenge to regionalism in Europe, Eurasia and worldwide. The conference organised by Centre for International Relations Studies of the University of Liège and Cambridge Ukrainian Studies and co-funded by the European Union, seeks to address broad sets of questions about the effects of the above phenomena on the regions, broadly conceived.



In particular, the organisers invite papers which would look into the questions:

- > 1 - To what extent the rise of 'economic nationalism' in the UK and the US puts an end on regionalisation processes in Europe, North-America, Trans-Atlantic trade and overall state of regional integration in different parts of the world.
- > 2 - How the changes in the core of world economic system will affect regional integration and regional identities in other emerging regions in the world, i.e. Eastern Partnership, Central Asia, etc.
- > 3 - Will a new regionalism be limited to 'shallow' free trade zones or new forms of protectionist regional blocs will emerge as compromise between globalism and localism?
- > 4 - Will these new forms stick to neo-liberalism or will they adhere to other ideologies, thus, creating new spatial entities on totally different principles? How will such regions imagine themselves, other regions and structures of global governance?
- > 5 - Will the region exist as an objective entity or will it degrade into fractured amalgam of communities prone to multidimensional disintegration under new tensions bringing down regional orders and leading to inter-state conflicts?
- > 6 - Where did it come from? The session will explore the ideational sources of the new forms of nationalism and populism. We would welcome papers looking into popular culture in order to explore how great and regional powers imagine themselves and surrounding neighbourhoods and how this imagination informs region-building processes.

Papers which consider the above and related questions through the prism of regional conditions in Eastern Europe, Black Sea region and Central Asia are particularly welcome.



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> **The conference will be held at the University of Liège on 29 November 2017**

> **Limited funding is available for travel and accommodation of paper-givers.**

> **500-word abstracts with the title, research questions and methodology should be submitted via link:**

goo.gl/0xDZRp

> **Deadline for submissions is 25 August 2017**

Participants will be invited to submit the papers for the inaugural issue of the European Journal of Eurasian Dialogues, which sets to launch dialogue between European intellectuals and policy makers and other regions. Selection results will be circulated by the end of August 2017.

> **We will expect full papers to be submitted by mid-November**
> **For further queries contact: v.samokhvalov@ulg.ac.be**



Co-Funded by the
European Union
(BelPD-COFUND)

More informations on the Center for International Studies (CEFIR) on www.cefir.be