



# HOMER

Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence



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## WELCOME

Dear Readers!

*HOMER has successfully passed its first stage: 22 students from German Sport University Cologne, University of Cologne and University of Maastricht have intensively dealt in the summer term 2015 with narratives of European integration in general and with The Hague Summit 1969 in particular.*

*Having analysed different concepts of European memory culture from a historical and a political science perspective, students researched a broad variety of sources including newspaper articles, archival material, memoirs, academic interpretations, interviews, cartoons etc. Against the backdrop of these sources different perceptions and narratives of The Hague summit have been discussed with experts*

*such as Wilfried Loth, Hartmut Marhold and Baron Philippe de Schoutheete in Brussels. Through the focus of this multi-disciplinary research students directly applied theoretical knowledge and practical empirical research. In a final intense seminar, the 22 students presented the results of their studies. These results – partly available on the project's webpage – display different ideas and concepts of Europe, they illustrate the various historical factors which have shaped European integration and they reveal the difficulty to identify one specific master narrative of European integration. Instead different narratives and changing perceptions of critical junctures in the process of European integration prevail that capture the main characteristics and dynamics of specific time periods.*

*This third version of the HOMER*

*Newsletter provides a general overview of the first joint seminar. Particular attention is given to EP's president Martin Schulz who gave a talk at German Sport University and handed over the certificates to the students that have successfully participated in the first seminar.*

*HOMER is going to continue. The second joint seminar will already take place in winter term 2015/15. First information is provided here. Details can be found on the project's webpage ([www.eu-homer.eu/](http://www.eu-homer.eu/)). You are invited to subscribe to the newsletter ([iesf@dshs-koeln.de](mailto:iesf@dshs-koeln.de)) in order to receive all issues of this newsletter. We also appreciate forwarding this newsletter to other colleagues and students.*

*On behalf of the HOMER team  
Jürgen Mittag*

# President of the European Parliament Martin Schulz awards first HOMER-Certificates

The HOMER-Project has had the great honour of presenting Martin Schulz, President of the European Parliament. He visited the German Sports University and gave a speech to students on the topic:

„The European Union as an economic Union and Union of values: Opportunities and Limits of Sport“

In his speech, Martin Schulz emphasized the need for common values and enduring social bonds as the foundations of a functioning European Union. This can be found in the field of sport, where a shared emotional attachment and the bases for collective effort are learned and cultivated.

„Politicians often underestimate the value of sports. I am no better in this“ he admitted. He then looked on European Politics and said: „Looking at the EU today, in our present state - we are not a successful team!“ He went on to line out that he knows about no better idea of peace and cohesion than the EU. Finishing his speech he made an appeal to the sport-students to fight for a world with more social justice and asked them to start with it on a small level - for instance in their sport clubs.

Before the speech, the students in the HOMER-Project were awarded their certificate by Martin Schulz in a modest ceremony.

Programm:

- |                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| <b>9.20 a.m.</b>  | Arrival Martin Schulz at GSU<br>Reception in the Directorate.<br>Award of HOMER-Certificates               |
| <b>10.00 a.m.</b> | Public Lecture   |
| <b>10:30 a.m.</b> | Comments by Caroline Meier<br>and Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Wessels<br>and concluding remarks<br>by Martin Schulz |
| <b>10:45 a.m.</b> | End  |

Institut für Europäische  
Sportentwicklung und Freizeitforschung



**Deutsche  
Sporthochschule Köln**  
German Sport University Cologne

**Die Europäische Union als Wirtschafts- u. Wertegemeinschaft: Chancen und Grenzen des Sports**



Martin Schulz  
Präsident des  
Europäischen Parlaments

**Öffentliche Vorlesung am Mo, 06.07.2015  
Hörsaal 1, 10.00 Uhr**



[www.eu-homer.eu](http://www.eu-homer.eu)


**europa-union deutschland**

## German Press Coverage

*business-panorama.de*: Schulz: Wir müssen Europa vom Kopf auf die Füße stellen, 6. 7. 2015

*EU-info.de*: Schulz: Politiker unterschätzen Integrationskraft des Sports, 6.7.2015

*FAZnet*: Integration durch Sport. Schulz mahnt stärkere Sportbeachtung in der Politik an, 6.7.2015

*Bonner General-Anzeiger*: Martin Schulz in der Sporthochschule in Köln: „Die EU ist gerade keine erfolgreiche Mannschaft“, 7.7.2015

*Kölnische Rundschau*: EU-Parlamentspräsident an der Spoho. Martin Schulz ist FC-Fan, 6.7.2015

*Welt.de*: Schulz: Wir müssen Europa vom Kopf auf die Füße stellen, 6.7.2015

*Zeit online*: Schulz: Wir müssen Europa vom Kopf auf die Füße stellen, 6.7.2015

For further information see:

[dshs-koeln.de/iesf](http://dshs-koeln.de/iesf)

[jeanmonnetchair.uni-koeln.de](http://jeanmonnetchair.uni-koeln.de)

[mceg-maastricht.eu](http://mceg-maastricht.eu)

## Photo Gallery: Martin Schulz at GSU



## HOMER-RELATED Events

German Sport University,  
Cologne, Jean Monnet Lectures  
2015

17 September 2015  
9th Cologne Evening of Sports  
Science

University of Cologne

8 July 2015, 7:00 pm  
Turkey after the elections – Where  
is Turkey heading?  
Election analysis by Atila Eralp, Di-  
rector of the Center for European  
Studies at the Middle East Techni-  
cal University (METU) in Ankara. He  
will assess the domestic as well as  
external political consequences of  
the AKP's loss of its absolute major-  
ity.



# Joint Seminar: Concluding Session

## May 21st, 9.30 am-6pm, Cologne

The last session of the 2015 HOMER Project Joint Seminar has already come and gone. After initial meetings in Cologne and Brussels, students and lecturers from three institutions – the University of Cologne, the German Sport University and the University of Maastricht – gathered

for one final time in Cologne on May 21st.

Led by Kiran Patel, Jürgen Mittag, Wolfgang Wessels, Sophie Vanhoo-nacker and Hartmut Marhold, the Seminar addressed the question whether and to which extent the 1969

Hague Summit can be considered as a critical juncture in the history of European integration.

Beyond a focus on actors, motives, negotiations and outcomes, it assesses the way The Hague Summit was perceived at the time, and how it is



remembered today. To better gauge these perceptions, students were divided into thematic groups and tasked with locating and analyzing primary sources from different mediums and countries. From official pub-

lications, to books, to newspapers, to cartoons, students considered these different materials looking to answer numerous questions: What were and are the views of politicians? How did the media cover the event at the

time and afterwards? Are there differences or convergences between member states, political camps, and generations? What is the role of The Hague Summit in the narrative of European integration?

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[mceg-maastricht.eu](http://mceg-maastricht.eu)

At the final session, each team delivered their results and engaged in discussion with their peers. Teams were able to identify trends in media coverage, pinpointing similarities and differences in perceptions between different countries, people and organisations.

A further element of the HOMER Project is the production of online tools that deal with narratives on EU Summits. In that spirit, student presentations were filmed and will be shared on the website of the Centre virtuel de la connaissance sur l'Europe. Videos, along with the related slides and handouts, can be found at [www.cvce.eu](http://www.cvce.eu).

Cologne based students will receive their course certificates in the context of European Parliament President Martin Schulz's visit to the German Sport University on July 7th. More information on this special seminar can be found below.

Next year, the Homer Project will look at the 1992 Maastricht Treaty and, in two years, will conclude by dissecting how the 2009 Lisbon Summit ushered in a new age of European construction. More information and resources can be found at [www.eu-homer.eu](http://www.eu-homer.eu).

Topic and Media	Presenters
Political Cartoons	Anna-Maria Adamia Felix Erdmann Julia Klein
'Low' Countries (Belgium and the Netherlands)	Daisy Rutten Sjors de Ponti
Memories	Patrick Kettenbach Simon Odrowski
German and French Newspapers	Anne-Sophie Lang Louis Moustakas Caroline Meier
Candidate Country Newspapers (UK and Ireland)	Jennifer Fuhs Pritha Chakravarti
Non-EU Newspapers (Spain, USA and Canada)	Miguel Rober Soler Nelly Vassileva Dennis Krämer
European Union Sources	Jiayuan Wen Nicolas Wrobel



## HOMER IN WINTER-TERM 2015/2016

### New MA Seminar: The Maastricht Summit and European Narratives

Sophie Vanhoonacker/ Hartmut Marhold / Jürgen Mittag  
with Wolfgang Wessels and Kiran Patel

Today, the European Council forms the key body in the institutional architecture of the EU. The Maastricht summit in 1991 has reassured its importance, since this summit paved substantially the way to today's European Union.

The seminar will, thus, address the question whether and to which extent the Maastricht summit can be considered as a critical juncture in the history of European integration.

Beyond a focus on actors, motives, negotiations and outcomes of the summit, it will assess the way the Maastricht summit was perceived at the time, and how it is remembered today.

What were and are the views of politicians? How do academic scholars write about it? How did the media report about it at the time, and do journalists sometimes refer to it today? On all these issues, are there

differences between member states, political camps, and generations? Or do interpretations tend to converge? And, more generally, what is the place of the Maastricht summit in the wider history of EU summitry, and what is the role of summits in narratives of European integration?

The HOMER-Seminar is an interdisciplinary, research-oriented seminar open to students from the German Sport University Cologne, Maastricht

#### The HOMER Project in brief:

HOMER is a research-based teaching program that seeks to identify narratives, focusing on history making summits of national leaders in the history of European integration.

#### HOMER's background:

The future of the European Union will increasingly be shaped by the perception of its history and an evolving European memory culture.

Against this backdrop, it is necessary to pay more attention to the European Council which has been the key institution in terms of history making decisions.

The project will address three critical junctures in order to analyse their impact on the development of European narratives: The almost forgotten 1969 summit of The Hague was central to the emergence of the EU and the European Council as an entity. The Maastricht summit

of 1991 was a history-making act for the deepening of European integration. The 2009 summit of Lisbon opened a new age for the construction of the EU. The project assesses these summits and analyses their roles in developing a 'master narrative' of European integration. The main rationale of the project is to contribute to the evolving European memory culture by scrutinizing past and existing interpretations while simultaneously building on these.

University, and the University of Cologne. The seminar will be held in English and will be credited with a Certificate on European Studies of all three Universities.

Students will work with a broad variety of sources (newspaper articles, archival material, memoirs, academic interpretations, interviews, etc.) and will contrast perceptions and narratives of the summit of the time with today's discussion.

The introductory and final sessions will take place in Maastricht; the seminar will include a one-day workshop in Brussels.

There will be a maximum number of 30 students.

Applications can be addressed to: Kiran Patel (k.patel@maastrichtuniversity.nl), Sophie van Hoonacker (s.vanhoonacker@maastrichtuniversity.nl), Wolfgang Wessels (wes-

sels@uni-koeln.de) or Jürgen Mittag (mittag@dshs-koeln.de).

#### Coming up Events:

**Joint Seminar in Maastricht  
(Oct. 22nd and Feb. 5th)**

**Additional workshop in  
Brussels with experts  
(Nov. 6th)**

## EVENTS

### Lecture by Hartmut Marhold:

## The role of European summits in the 21st century

In the framework of HOMER, Hartmut Marhold held a public lecture – entitled „Das war der Gipfel! EU-Gipfel seit Nizza und die Alternativen für Europa“ – on the role of European summits since the Nice summit of 2000 on June 3rd, 2015. In his lecture, he looked back at the contemporary history of European integration and provided the audience with insights into the internal functioning of the European Council.

On the basis of a short video, Hartmut Marhold, as a starting point, demonstrated how the European Council functions internally and which ways of conduct inform the cooperation among its members – the heads of state or government.

Regarding the historical overview, he went back to the year 2000 when the Nice summit and the convention which led to the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights took place. The year 2000 was in deed of high importance for the later development in the context of the elaboration of the Constitutional Treaty. These two experiences namely provided the member states with two different options concerning the drafting of a treaty: the traditional summit meetings, on the one hand, and the new convention method, on the other hand. Against the backdrop of the tough negotiations in Nice and their unclear outcome, the member states decided to set up a European convention under the chairmanship of Giscard d'Estaing which was allocated the task of drafting a European constitution. The former French president even compared this event to the convention in Philadelphia in 1787 the outcome of which was the US constitution. Still, after the presentation of the convention's treaty draft, its ratification faced several challenges. In particular, Spain and Poland did not want to accept the provisions regarding the weighting of the member states' votes in the Council. After respective modifications of the treaty proposal, the new text was rejected by referendums in France and the Netherlands. As a result, the treaty found its way back to the European summits – with the



Prof Dr Hartmut Marhold is Director of Research and Development of the Centre international de formation européenne. He is a member of the executive board of the Institut für europäische Politik in Berlin, of the board of the European Movement Germany and of the advisory board of HOMER. Furthermore, he teaches at the University of Cologne and in Istanbul. In his research, he focusses on the history of European integration, European federalism as well as institutional and constitutional developments in the EU.

convention method not being further pursued. In this context, Angela Merkel initiated the so-called 'union method' and redefined in particular the role of the European Council within the EU institutional architecture. This led to the Lisbon Treaty being fully handled and im-

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plemented by the heads of state or government.

At the moment of signing, the Lisbon Treaty was considered a long-term fundament for the Union. This hope was shattered by the emerged economic and financial crisis. Times of crises generally are times of the executives due to the need to act and take decisions fast. The consequence was the establishment of the crisis summits which were accompanied by an increasing relevance of summit meetings. With the new role of the European Council and the unity within this institution, the crisis brought about a new mode of governance. In spite of these observations, Hartmut Marhold also identified first evidence of a new role of the European Commission – the fact that the current Commission president Jean-Claude Juncker receives more attention than the President of the European Council Donald Tusk being one possible



proof for a potential reinforcement of the 'community method'.

Based on this overview, a discussion with the audience was set in motion. Topics brought into the debate by the participants were, for instance, the impact of the 'big bang' enlargement on the functioning of the European Council, the role of the UK and the Franco-German tandem in the European Council, the decision to exclude the foreign ministers from the summit meetings, issues regarding demo-

cracy and legitimacy as well as the repercussions of the Spitzenkandidaten innovation.

The lecture took place in the European Documentation Centre in Cologne at 6pm. It was well attended – in particular by students and researchers based in Cologne and the wider public comprising various generations. The event was co-organised by the Europa-Union Cologne, the German section of the European Federalists.



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If you have ideas for ways to improve it, suggestions for articles or if you want to subscribe, please contact:

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