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MA Seminar: The Lisbon Summit and European Narratives (HOMER-Seminar)

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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 presence and 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, the HOMER project pays attention to these narratives and to the European Council which is key institution in terms of history making decisions.
- The project addresses three critical junctures in order to analyse their impact on the development of European narratives: In the first seminar (summer term 2015) the almost forgotten 1969 summit of The Hague – that was central to the emergence of the EU and the European Council as a political body – has been taken into consideration. The Maastricht summit of 1991 was a history-making act for the deepening of European integration. It stood in the focus of the seminar in the winter-term 2015/16. The third seminar in winter term 2016/17 is dedicated to analyse the 2009 summit of Lisbon that 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.

HOMER's organisation:

- is carried out jointly by the German Sport University Cologne (GSU), the University of Cologne, and the Maastricht University
- is supported by the European Commission
- focuses on the European Council and its summits
- will be held in English
- will be credited with a Certificate on European Studies of all three Universities

- consists of a joint seminar taking place on two days in 2016/17 in Cologne (Friday 4 November 2016 and Friday 20 January 2017) and an additional workshop in Brussels with experts (Friday 18 November 2016)
- assessment will be based on identifying, collecting and analyzing material for an online-presentation
- will not cause any additional fees (transport costs will be covered)

HOMER's key targets:

- HOMER is of high political and societal relevance since it provides historical and cultural orientation on European memory by identifying master narratives of European integration.
- HOMER has a strong academic impact since it generates new insights into the perceptions of the role of the European Council and its summits that have received limited scholarly attention thus far.
- HOMER has a strong transnational impact since it brings together the German Sport University Cologne (GSU), the University of Cologne, and the Maastricht University.
- HOMER is fully interdisciplinary by bringing together four EU experts representing history and political science.

The HOMER MA-Seminar 2016/17: The Lisbon Summit and European Narratives

The European Council forms the key body in the current institutional architecture of the EU. Based on the debates of the Convention on the Future of Europe (2001-2003) and the aim of a European Constitutional Treaty the Berlin summit in 2007 took up again major targets after the negative referendums on the Constitutional Treaty. The Lisbon summit in 2009 then paved the way to the structures of today's European Union.

The seminar will address the question whether and to which extent the Lisbon summit (and its forerunners) can be considered as a critical juncture in the history of European integration. This research question is as relevant as challenging since the political incidents just took place in the last decade. Beyond a focus on actors, motives, negotiations and outcomes of the summit, the seminar will assess how the Lisbon 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 Lisbon 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 University, and the University of Cologne. 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 Cologne and German Sport University; the seminar will include a one-day workshop in Brussels.

The maximum number of students is 30. Up to nine students will come from the University of Cologne; 15 will be recruited from Maastricht and another six from the German Sport University in Cologne.

Seminar Outline

Session 1: Introduction: The Framework of the Lisbon Summit and Discourse Analysis and (European) Master Narratives

November 4th, 10am-5pm, Meeting room of the Library, Am Sportpark Müngersdorf 6, Cologne (Köln)

- Organizational issues
- short introduction to the European Council/role of summits
- distribution of presentations
- students form teams of 2 or 3 to work on one of the following sub-dimensions:
 - How do politicians refer to the Lisbon summit in follow-up statements as well as in memoirs?
 - How did international newspapers report about the events at the time?
 - How and why did media write about the Lisbon summit?
 - Why do the media write differently about Lisbon summit?
 - What are the consequences of having different narratives in the member states?
- analysis of the history of the Lisbon summit

11:00 am: Welcome and Introduction (Mittag and Vanhoonacker)

11:30 am: First reflection with students on the Laeken declaration, the debate on the future of the European Union, the referenda, the Berlin and Lisbon summit and the Lisbon Treaty

12:30 pm: Lunch break

13:15 pm: Analysing the Lisbon Treaty: A historical perspective (Mittag)

13:45 pm: Analysing the Lisbon Treaty: A political science perspective (Vanhoonacker)

14:15 pm: Discussion

14:45 pm: Coffee Break

15:00 pm: Discourse analysis and the concept of narrative (Marhold)

15:45 pm: Identifying research sources (Marhold, Mittag, Vanhoonacker)

16:15 pm: Students come together in teams

17:00 pm: Conclusion

On the Lisbon Treaty and the summits:

Devuyst, Y. (2012), 'The constitutional and Lisbon Treaties', in E. Jones, A. Menon and S. Weatherill (eds.) (2012), *The Oxford Handbook of the EU*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 163-179.

Whitman, R. & Juncos, A. (2009), The Lisbon Treaty and the Foreign, Security and Defence Policy: Reforms, Implementation and the Consequences of (non-)Ratification, in: *European Foreign Affairs Review*, 14 (1): 25-46.

Boylan, T. S. (2008), From Constitutional Treaty to Reform Treaty: Constitutionalism in the European Union from an American Perspective. The Jean Monnet Seminar Series (Online: https://www.um.edu.mt/__data/assets/pdf_file/0007/41767/prof_timothy_boylan.pdf)

On the European Council:

Wessels, W. (2016), *The European Council*. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan (Chapter 1 and 2: Introduction: The Many Faces of the European Council; Multiple Approaches for Understanding a Contested Institution: Three Models)

On narratives:

Bryman, A. (2012), *Social Research Methods*. 4th edition, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 528-540.

Gilbert, M. (2008) Narrating the Process: Questioning the Progressive Story of European Integration," *Journal of Common Market Studies* 46, 641-662.

General reading List on Lisbon summit and Treaty (and forerunners):

Carbone, M. (2010), *National Politics and European Integration: From the Constitution to the Lisbon Treaty*. Cheltenham: Edward Elgar.

Castiglione, D., Schönlau, J., Longman, C., Lombardo, E., Perez-Solorzano Borragan, N. and Aziz, M. (2007), *Constitutional Politics in the European Union: The Convention Moment and its Aftermath*. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.

Cooper, I. (2012): A Virtual Third Chamber for the European Union? National Parliaments after the Treaty of Lisbon, in: *West European Politics*, Volume 35/3, 441-465.

Closa, C. (2007). 'Why convene referendums? Explaining choices in EU constitutional politics', *Journal of European Public Policy* 14 (8), pp. 1311-32.

Church, C. and Phinnemore, D. (2005), *Understanding the European Constitution: An introduction to the EU Constitutional Treaty*. London: Routledge.

Christiansen, T. and Reh, C. (2009), *Constitutionalizing the European Union*. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.

Dinan, D. (2008, 'Governance and Institutional Developments: Ending the Constitutional Impasse', *Journal of Common Market Studies* 46, Annual Review, pp. 71-90.

Dobson, L. and Follesdal, A. (eds) (2004), *Political Theory and the European Constitution*. London: Routledge.

Hug, S. and Schulz, T. (2007), 'Referendums in the EU's constitution building process', *Review of International Organizations* 2, pp. 177-218.

König, T. (2006), 'The Dynamics of the Two-Level Process of Constitution Building: Setting the Agenda by Agenda Setting', in: S. Puntischer Riekmann and W. Wessels, (eds). *The Making of a European Constitution: Dynamics and Limits of the Covention Experience*. VS Springer: Wiesbaden.

Laursen, F. (ed) (2008), *The Rise and Fall of the EU's Constitutional Treaty*. Leiden and Boston: Martinus Nijhoff.

Phinnemore, David (2013): *The treaty of Lisbon – origins and negotiations*, Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.

Reh, C. (2007). 'Pre-cooking the European Constitution? The role of government representatives in EU reform', *Journal of European Public Policy* 14 (8), pp. 1186-1207.

Trybus, Martin (2012), *The treaty of Lisbon and the future of European Law and Policy*, Cheltenham: Elgar.

General reading list on European Council

de Schoutheete P. (2012a), 'The European Council', in: J . Peterson and M. Shackleton (eds). *The Institutions of the European Union*. 3rd ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 43-67.

de Schoutheete P. (2012b), *The European Council and the Community Method*. Policy Paper Notre Europe 56.

General Secretariat of the Council (2011), *The European Council. 50 years of summit meetings*, (available online)

Rittelmeyer Y.-S. (2014), 'The institutional consecration of the European Council: symbolism beyond formal texts. The European Council and the European Governance. The commanding heights of the EU'. Abingdon: Routledge.

Tallberg J. (2007), *Bargaining Power in the European Council*. *Swedish Institute for European Policy Studies*, Report No. 1 (Stockholm).

Werts J. (2008), *The European Council*, London: John Harper Publishing.

Wessels, W. (2016), *The European Council*, (Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan).

General reading list on (European) Narratives

Crawford, N. C. (2004), 'Understanding Discourse: A Method of Ethical Argument Analysis', *Qualitative Methods: Newsletter of the American Political Science Association Organized Section on Qualitative Methods*, 2, 22–25.

Gilbert, M. (2008), 'Narrating the Process: Questioning the Progressive Story of European Integration', *Journal of Common Market Studies*, Vol.46 , 641–662.

Laffey, M. and Weldes, J. (2004), 'Methodological Reflections on Discourse Analysis', *Qualitative Methods: Newsletter of the American Political Science Association Organized Section on Qualitative Methods*, 2, 28–31.

Session 2: Brussels Workshop with experts

November, 18th 10:30am-5pm, UM Campus Brussels, Avenue de l'Armée 10, Brussels (32 2 732 50 76)

Panelists: N.N. (European Commission) (TBC)
Christoph Zöpel (Auswärtiges Amt)
Brigid Laffan (EUI) (TBC)
Wilfried Loth (Duisburg-Essen University) (TBC)
Hartmut Marhold (Centre International de Formation Européenne)
Sophie Vanhoonacker (Maastricht University)

Venue: Brussels Campus of Maastricht University

10:30:	Welcome and introduction by Sophie Vanhoonacker and Hartmut Marhold
10:45:	Theses concerning narratives on the the debate on the Future of Europe and Lisbon summit
11:30:	Coffee break
11:45:	Round-table debate among panelists
13:15:	Lunch break
14:15:	Selected participating students react as first commentators to the round-table's discussion
14:30:	General debate: panelists and students
15:45:	Coffee break
16:00:	Internal elaboration of discussion results and outlook

[Session 3: Preparation of Research Outlines]

November and December 2016 (taking place individually with the respective supervisors at the different universities)

Consultation hours with respective supervisor, discussion on research outlines

Session 4: Concluding Session

January 20th, 10am-5pm, Cologne, Senatssaal

9.30am: Opening and Introduction

Jürgen Mittag (German Sport University)

Hartmut Marhold (Cologne University)

Sophie Vanhoonacker (Maastricht University)

9.45am: Final presentation (each 20 minutes) and discussion (20 minutes) of students' findings