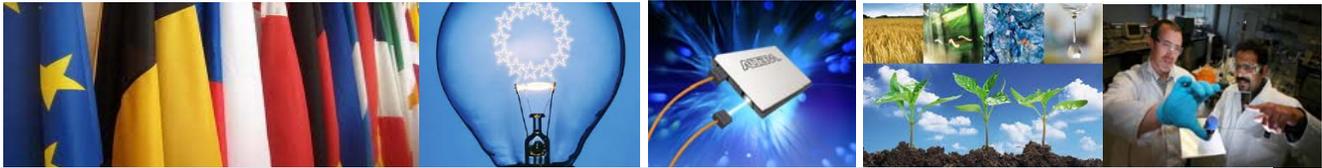


THE MIAMI-FLORIDA EUROPEAN UNION CENTER OF EXCELLENCE**Comparative Regional Perspectives on Innovation in
Single/Common Markets****- the 2nd Annual IPE Conference in Cooperation with****GEDIZUNIVERSITY**
izmir

A Conference of the Miami-Florida European Union Center of Excellence
A Consortium of the University of Miami and Florida International University

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Florida International University – Modesto A. Maidique Campus
11200 SW 8th Street – Miami, FL 33199 - MARC International Pavilion

Conference Participants: Abstracts**ACADEMIC PANELISTS****Beverly Barrett**

*PhD Candidate, International Relations
University of Miami*

TITLE: “Successes and Challenges in Policy Implementation of the Bologna Process: The Political Economy Context in the EHEA”

ABSTRACT

Across Europe there are inter-regional differences in how the Bologna Process has been implemented and in the timing of implementation of policy convergence for higher education reform. The world’s largest regional integration initiative in higher education includes 47 countries, and policy implementation has taken place most rapidly in the EU 27, where northern countries have adopted the policy criteria most expeditiously. There are traditions in higher education, corresponding to particular social models, that influence policy convergence across in geographic areas: Anglo-Saxon, Continental, Central and Eastern European, Mediterranean, and Scandinavian. There are three explanatory variables in the political economy context:

1. competitive economic pressures and globalization
2. domestic politics at the national level
3. sociological and ideational processes stemming from the supranational European Union

Primarily, this research analyses the influences of the political economy on higher education reform and attainment, in light of the Europe 2020 target of 40 percent. Innovation and education are two core areas of the EU’s economic growth strategy Europe 2020, together with employment, social cohesion and climate sustainability. Secondly, this research compares the extents of integration in higher education to integration in the global economy, through participation in international trade, across countries and regions within Europe. There exists a dynamic policy space among three levels of institutional governance: supranational, national, and sub-national corresponding to the university. The successes and challenges of the Bologna Process thus far find explanations through understanding the influences of the political economy on policy implementation that varies across inter-regions within Europe.

Dr. Konstantinos Kourtikakis

Lecturer & Research Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Illinois

TITLE: “Networks and Innovation in European Union External Relations: The Spread of Practices in the European Neighborhood”

ABSTRACT

Networks of organizations are an important part of relations between the European Union and the countries of its immediate neighborhood. Businesses, non-governmental organizations and local governments from EU member-states and partner countries participate in a wide range of regional networks, which extend across the EU’s southern and eastern borders. The networks operate within the framework of the European Neighborhood Policy (ENP) and are supported financially from the policy’s funds. Using a mix of qualitative and quantitative (social network analysis) methods, we study these networks as conduits of innovation. We examine if and how these interorganizational structures facilitate the diffusion of norms, practices and information from the EU towards the countries of the neighborhood. Our empirical focus is on the Civil Society Forum, which is active in the Eastern neighborhood, and the Ana Lindh Foundation, which acts as a network “hub” for organizations from around the Mediterranean.

Dr. Mariely Lopez-Santana

Assistant Professor, Comparative Politics, European Politics, Department of Public and International Affairs, George Mason University

TITLE: “Between Equity and Flexibility?: The tensions surrounding the decentralization of social policy powers”

ABSTRACT

Since the mid-1990s, many OECD countries have transferred social policy powers to subnational levels of governments and non-governmental actors. These intergovernmental and governance changes seek to increase labor market participation and inclusion by bringing labor market policies closer to local and individual circumstances. However, the enhancement of discretion might challenge the solidarity and equity goals of the welfare state given that welfare clients across the territory might be exposed to different welfare levels, benefits, and/or duties. How do states solve the tensions between unity and fragmentation?

By focusing on the new architectures of active welfare states in Italy, Germany, Spain, the United Kingdom and the United States, the first objective of the paper is to show the variety of institutional solutions adopted by these countries to tackle this dilemma. The second objective of this paper is to explain cross-national variations in nature and extent of intergovernmental and governance reforms. By paying attention to Court rulings, legal processes and political discussions, as well as interviews conducted in these countries, I identify the “notion of protecting equal welfare rights and obligations across the territory” as an important variable to understand why some countries decide to actively include central level of governments, while others prefer to provide significant powers to the subnational levels to promote flexibility.

Palina Prysmakova

PhD Candidate and Research Assistant, Florida International University

TITLE: “Testing the Public Service Motivation in Europe: Attitudes toward Work Motives”

ABSTRACT

This research is undertaken in order to operationalize public service motivation in terms of individual preferences for job rewards across different regions in Europe. The study is built on the analysis of individual surveys from 26 European countries, both from the European Union (EU) and out of it. It focuses on two dependent variables, which are (1) Importance to be rich, have money and expensive things; (2) Importance to help people and care for others' well-being. The unit of analysis is a person; a sample (N=33,000) is gathered from the respondents of the European Social Survey, round 4, 2008. A key independent variable is whether a person works for the public or private sector. The ordinal logistic regression model is used to track the causality between dependent and independent variables, controlling for gender, age, number of people in a household, and living with partner/spouse.

This study should be considered as a pilot project aimed to fill out the research gap in comparative studies of PSM across Europe, especially ones that include Central and Eastern Europe and Non-EU countries. Hypothesis 1 of the study that assumes money is less important for public employees than for private was confirmed for all groups of the EU countries as well as the EU single market group. At the same time, the results for Eastern Europe and Eastern Mediterranean were found insignificant and are left for further investigation. Hypothesis 2 that public service employees want to help other people was confirmed for all the country groups with the strongest effect in the new EU countries and Eastern Mediterranean.

Dylan Roberts

Graduate Student in International Relations, Florida International University

TITLE: “Look to the EU: Europe’s EIT and the future of innovation in South America”

ABSTRACT:

South America experienced astounding levels of economic growth in the last decade, yet its prospects for continued success remain vulnerable due to a widely recognized lag in innovation. Though many national governments are beginning to emphasize science, technology, and innovation in their countries, the region’s supranational organizations could play a more substantive role in boosting South America’s economic competitiveness. Through the Union of South American Nations (UNASUR), and its newly created South American Council of Science, Technology, and Innovation (CSCTI), there exists space to help sustain growth and increase competitiveness on the continent.

Using the European Institute of Innovation & Technology (EIT) as a model, this research draws on urban development and urban economics to identify some helpful policy initiatives that could drive innovation in the region for the next generations of South Americans. Building on the Knowledge and Innovation Community (KIC) structures employed by the EIT, the policy recommendations herein recognize the value of bringing together leaders of business, research and technology, and higher education, and advocate for metropolitan-focused policy to advance the region. Where Europe’s KICs aim to innovate through addressing some of the biggest problems facing the region (climate change, renewable energy, etc.), I recommend that the nascent CSCTI adopt a similar tack by addressing the management South America’s cities. By focusing on South America’s urban areas, I identify some ways in which the CSCTI can empower the region’s urban managers and citizens and increase competitiveness that will boost economic competitiveness and foster a culture of innovation in a region that struggles with both.

Dr. Timothy Shaw

*Research Professor; Department of Conflict Resolution, Human Security, and Global Governance
Graduate Program Director, Global Governance and Human Security
Department of Political Science, University of Massachusetts Boston*

TITLE: “Innovation for Regional Development in the Global South: theory & policy in the 21st century”

ABSTRACT

Global crises & reordering are transforming regional prospects in the global South. The combination of the rise of the BRICS/MIST with the decline of the PIIGS in the eurozone along with the stagnation of the Japanese, US & UK economies means that the South, including Africa, may generate more developmental & fewer fragile states by 2020; certainly Africa has resisted agreeing any EPAs with the EU, unlike the Caribbean. Symptomatic of such innovation is the articulation of an African Mining Vision along with the T-FTA at the inter-state level; the non-state parallels include African franchises & supply chains along with, say, Nollywood movies & African soccer stars. Enhanced prospects for African agency rather than inherited dependency means that theory as well as policy needs to change, the latter extending to innovative sources of finance reflective of varieties of capitalisms, including remittances from diasporas in the global North.

GEDİZ UNIVERSITY PANEL

Dr. Gaye Güngör

Assistant Professor

Department of International Relations - Gediz University, Izmir

TITLE: “The institutional basis of the research based innovation: Industry, government and university”

ABSTRACT

Can we export innovation? This question has sparked much debate among economists, economic historians and political scientists alike. Writing as early as the year 1983, Perez emphasized the centrality of the social and institutional framework in which new technologies flourish. That is, while some environments are better hosts for certain technologies, others are certainly not. For instance, developing countries are at the receiving end and can only improve what has already been done by more advanced nations. But this rhetoric does not resonate well in today’s knowledge based economies. A great number of developing countries have now given priority to developing their knowledge base through higher education, research and innovation, and to devote all their capacity and necessary resources to this objective. Success stories from across different regions of the world prove the potential of investment in research and higher education. In this regard, Turkey stands out for its commitment to build institutions to make and implement policies of innovation. This paper builds on the research on the innovation systems concept.

Dr. Çiğdem Üstün and Dr. Sait Akşit – Co-Authors

Department of Political Science and Public Administration; and Department of International Trade and Marketing - Gediz University, Izmir

TITLE: “The Politics of Innovation: A case study on EU’s H2020 and Turkey’s Vision 2023”

ABSTRACT

The aim of this paper is to analyse Turkey’s policies within the framework of innovation and research with reference to the EU and demonstrate the developments undertaken on the way to EU membership. Within this context, EU’s Horizon 2020 and Turkey’s strategy document Vision 2023 present similarities on programme priorities and parallel developments since the beginning of 2000s. This paper will first evaluate the EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation which aims to increase financial aid for research and development activities, create jobs and increase growth. Under the Horizon 2020, the framework programme specifies priority areas such as climate change, developing sustainable transport and mobility, making renewable energy more affordable, ensuring food safety and security, or coping with the challenge of an ageing population. The approach -market oriented in nature- incorporates international cooperation targeting EFTA, enlargement and ENP countries together with industrialized economies and developing countries. Turkey, as both a candidate and a developing country, has been a target country within the EU’s research and innovation strategy. Thus, the second part of the paper will outline Turkey’s attempts and focus on innovation, science and technology issues since the beginning of 2000s. Turkey’s strategy document Vision 2023, for which the studies started in 2001, focusses on technological provision, national research and development infrastructure and technological capabilities with an aim to increase growth and sustainable development. Vision 2023 presents priorities which coincide with H2020 such as sectors of agriculture and food, health, energy, and defense, space industry, research on natural resources and preservation of environment. With these similarities in mind, the paper will analyse Turkey’s accession negotiations with the EU by focusing on those chapters related to the research and development framework and clarify the issues and challenges that Turkey has to tackle and overcome during the accession negotiations.

Dr. Nursel Aydiner Avşar and Dr. Muharrem Burak Önemli

Assistant Professors

Department of Economics - Gediz University, Izmir

TITLE: “Drivers of Innovation in An Emerging Market Context: Evidence From Turkey”

ABSTRACT

Innovation has a crucial role in development process. However, innovation activities in developing countries usually lag behind developed countries. Therefore these countries need to develop policies to foster innovation activities. It is important to understand what set of factors influence firms’ willingness and ability to innovate in developing countries. This paper aims to analyze the determinants of innovation activities in an emerging country context for the case of Turkey. The analysis is based on firm-level data from the Turkish Innovation Survey. Using a microeconomic framework, we investigate the role of firm characteristics such as firm size, trade facilities, profits, foreign ownership structure, taxes and sector-specific characteristics including public sector financial support and market structure as potential factors influencing a firm’s innovation propensity. We also present a descriptive picture of firm’s characteristics with respect to different forms of innovation activities in Turkey to complement the econometric analysis.

Dr. Funda Yercan

Professor

Department of Management - Gediz University, Izmir

TITLE: “Innovative and Energy Saving Tools: Sustainable Green Buildings”

ABSTRACT

The green building industry has exponentially been expanding since the last two decades both in the USA and Europe. Involvement of structural engineering and architecture fields have been prominent as well as considering the environmental and energy saving issues in this area. Market research have been focused on real-time operating costs of building structures, where energy consumption, water use, occupant comfort, landscape management and construction material have been at the forefront of sustainability to develop green and innovative technologies.

This study is mainly focused on structurally-oriented green buildings to highlight recent and innovative developments aiming sustainability in saving energy. Furthermore, insulated concrete form (ICF) solutions with poured-in-place concrete walls surrounded by expandable polystyrofoam (EPS) panels are summarised with advantages over traditional constructions in terms of energy efficiency, thermal comfort and construction costs. In addition, it is also considered that new developments are easily taking place in dynamic markets in Turkey with the effects of having the most rapidly growing economy in Europe. Stemming from this fact, although ICF green buildings have very recently been introduced in the Turkish market, applications of ICF green buildings in both Europe and Turkey are reviewed in this study in terms of drawing attentions to sustainability and energy saving in these markets.