****

**Department of Politics and International Studies**

**\*\*\* CALL FOR PAPERS \*\*\***

**‘Europe and its crises’ workshop**

**Thursday June 30th-Friday July 1st, University of Cambridge, UK**

**The workshop will include a roundtable discussion on the implications of the UK referendum on membership of the EU.**

We are convening a two-day workshop at the Department of Politics and international Studies at the University of Cambridge. The theme of the workshop is **'Europe and its crises'.** Participation at the workshop is aimed at PhD candidates and early career academics and practitioners.

**Papers and Panels**

We are seeking papers on topics relating to any aspect of the many crises facing the European Union in 2016, including:

I)                     Populism and political parties,

II)                    Industrial relations and social policy,

III)                  EMU and new economic governance,

IV)                 Security, development & migration (EU's external dimension)

V)                   The European Court of Justice and questions of law,

VI)                 Theories of European integration and democracy, and

VII)                The implications of the ‘Brexit’ debate.

We also warmly welcome any further suggestions for topics which fit inside the overall theme of the workshop.

**Rationale**

From its earliest days, crises have been part and parcel of the life of the European project ([McCormick, 2012](http://www.cicerofoundation.org/lectures/JohnMcCormick_Crisis_Europe.pdf)). Indeed, Jean Monnet said that ‘Europe will be forged in crises, and will be the sum of the solutions adopted for those crises’. The arrival of hundreds of thousands of refugees from Afghanistan, Iraq, and Syria on Europe’s shores has tested the union’s single-border. The ongoing financial crises in Greece and the European periphery have shaken the foundations of the single currency to its core. In June the UK will hold a referendum on whether or not to leave the EU. Yet despite these enormous challenges, the EU’s border, its currency and its membership and institutions have, to date, survived relatively intact.

Running counter to the dominant narrative of the EU ‘having lost its way’ (e.g. [Jensen and Miszlivetz, 2015](https://books.google.co.uk/books?id=SIiQBAAAQBAJ&printsec=frontcover&dq=the+eu+failure&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwirg8TtotPLAhULmBoKHUpiCCYQ6AEIODAF#v=onepage&q=the%20eu%20failure&f=false), [Lee, 2013](https://hbr.org/2013/06/the-european-union-a-failed-ex), [Woods, 2016](https://www.foreignaffairs.com/reviews/2015-12-14/european-disunion)) the workshop will seek to investigate the extent to which the survival of the EU and its institutions throughout these crisis years can be seen as a success for the European project. Bedeviled by challenges, can the EU and its institutions be seen as resilient and responsive, having hammered out hard-fought solutions and remedies to these crises, or are we indeed witnessing the slow-motion demise and disintegration of the European project?

As such, the workshop will seek to shed light on:

a) the nature, origins and implications of Europe’s many challenges,

b) the extent to which the EU can be seen to be in crisis, having itself survived each round of crisis to date, and

c) how these challenges have changed the EU, what it does, and what it stands for.

**Roundtable discussion on UK referendum on EU membership**

The timing and location of the workshop also afford us a unique and exciting opportunity to organise **a roundtable discussion about the implications of the UK referendum on EU membership** which is scheduled to take place on June 23rd (one week before the workshop). The panel will be composed of experts and practitioners from the worlds of politics, journalism and academia.

**Fee and logistics**

A fee of £20 for students and £30 for staff will apply to attend the workshop to cover the cost of catering. There is also limited funding available for travel and accommodation bursaries. Please contact Barry Colfer at bc348@cam.ac.uk with any questions regarding funding and logistics.

Please express your interest in attending the workshop by responding to bc348@cam.ac.uk by **Friday April 29th**. The deadline for the submission of papers will be Friday June 24th.

Further details, including regarding speakers who will be participating at the roundtable event on the UK referendum, to follow.