



A New Chapter of EU's Enlargement?



18 September 2025, h. 9:30 A.M.



University of Salerno, Building C1, 'C. Pecoraro' Hall

9:30 A.M. – Registration

9:45 A.M. – Institutional Greetings

Francesco Fasolino

Director of the Dpt. of Legal Sciences,
University of Salerno

Giuseppe D'Angelo

President of the Didactic Council,
Dpt. of Legal Sciences,
University of Salerno

10:00 A.M. – Introduction

Teresa Russo

Associate Professor of EU Law,
Dpt. of Legal Sciences,
University of Salerno,
Holder of the JM Chair EUVALWEB

10:15 A.M. – Panel I

Chair

Sara Poli

Full Professor of EU Law,
Dpt. of Political Science, University of Pisa

Speakers

Christophe Hillion

Full Professor of EU Law,
Dpt. of Public and International Law,
University of Oslo

*Making a Success of Enlargement – Some Candid
Considerations*

Marco Evola

Associate Professor of EU Law and EU Media Law,
Dpt. of Law, Economics and Communication,
LUMSA University, Palermo
*Enlargement in Time of War Between Change and
Continuity*

Alessandro Petti

Assistant Professor in EU Law,
Bocconi University Milan
Wider Europe as an Analytical Concept

11:15 A.M. – Panel II

Chair

Maria Eugenia Bartoloni

Full Professor of EU Law, Dpt. of Legal and
Economic Studies, University of Rome 'La Sapienza'

Speakers

Cristina Contartese

Assistant Professor in EU Law,
Dpt. of Law, University of Campania 'Luigi
Vanvitelli'
*La nozione di identità nazionale (art. 4, par. 2 TUE)
nel contesto dell'allargamento*

Anna Pau

Post-Doc Research Fellow in EU Law,
Alma Mater Studiorum – University of Bologna
*Profili di statualità e riconoscimento quale ostacolo
all'allargamento dell'UE: il caso del Kosovo come
candidato potenziale*

This event organised with the support of AISDUE and is part of the activities of the Forum 'La proiezione internazionale dell'UE' (PIUE) and of the EUVALWEB Legal Observatory's activities.

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12:00 P.M. – DSG UNISA students' debate

1. Integration and Enlargement of the European Union

Sara Gallo, Giuseppe Omero, Michela Somma

Dpt. of Legal Sciences, University of Salerno

2. The International, European and National Dimension of EU Enlargement

Nicoletta Carbone, Luigi D'Alessio, Roberta Rinaldi, Daniela Tortora

Dpt. of Legal Sciences, University of Salerno

3. The Union's Values in Enlargement

Antonio Daniele D'Ursi, Vincenzo Fariello, Carolina Giorgio, Carmen Guadagno, Martina Sellitti, Rossella Trezza

Dpt. of Legal Sciences, University of Salerno

4. What Prospects for the Enlargement of the Union?

Celeste Ciafrone, Kevin De Maria, Fernanda Mancino, Oemia Picariello, Assunta Trotta, Martina Zarrella

Dpt. of Legal Sciences, University of Salerno

12:30 P.M. – Reporting on the EUVALWEB Legal Observatory's findings by the Young Observers

1. Cross Border Security, Migration and Asylum

Silvia Diana

Dpt. of Legal Sciences, University of Salerno

Marco Fontanella

Dpt. of Legal Sciences, University of Salerno

Ornella Gianquitto

Dpt. of Legal Sciences, University of Salerno

Celeste Lembo

Dpt. of Legal Sciences, University of Salerno

Mara Propato

Dpt. of Legal Sciences, University of Salerno

2. Judicial and Police Cooperation

Claudia Annunziata

Dpt. of Legal Sciences, University of Salerno

Carmen Castaldo

Dpt. of Legal Sciences, University of Salerno

Elena D'Ambrosio

Dpt. of Legal Sciences, University of Salerno

Giada De Franco

Dpt. of Legal Sciences, University of Salerno

Maria Chiara Grimaldi

Dpt. of Legal Sciences, University of Salerno

3. Transnational Crimes

Ilaria Apicella

Dpt. of Legal Sciences, University of Salerno

Alberta Cicalese

Dpt. of Legal Sciences, University of Salerno

Malika El Karkoub

Dpt. of Legal Sciences, University of Salerno

4. EU Values and Fundamental Rights

Angelica Tomai

Dpt. of Legal Sciences, University of Salerno

Working Languages: English Italian

Organising Committee:

Drs. Stefano Busillo, Elisabetta Lambiase, Emanuele Vannata

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Guests' Biographies & Abstracts

Introduction, h. 10:00 AM

Keynote Speaker

Teresa Russo, Associate Professor of EU Law, Dpt. of Legal Sciences, University of Salerno, Holder of the JM Chair EUVALWEB

Biography

TERESA RUSSO is Associate Professor of European Union Law, Lecturer of International Organizations, EU Values Migration and Integration Law, International Law and Cyber Security (University of Salerno); Chair Holder of the 2022-2025 Jean Monnet Chair "Promoting Public Awareness on Enlargement Policy, EU Values and Western Balkans" Accession (EUVALWEB); Scientific Coordinator of the 2019-2022 Jean Monnet Module "EU-Western Balkans Cooperation on Justice and Home Affairs" (EUWEB), University of Salerno; Lecturer bestowed of the Jubilee Diploma by the Rector, the Presidents of Senate and Board of Directors at the University "Titu Maiorescu" of Bucharest in occasion of the 25th anniversary of the University's foundation, 23 April 2015; Founder and Director-in-Chief of the online Journal EUWEB Legal Essays. Global & International Perspectives; Scientific Coordinator of the International Credit Mobility project with Albanian Universities, co-funded by the European Commission's Erasmus+ Programme – Key Action 1 with Partner States since 2017; Editorial Board's Member of the review *La Comunità internazionale* (The International Community) of the Italian Society for international Organization (SIOI), Rome, Italy; Member of the Referee Committee of the online Journal Freedom, Security and Justice: European Legal Studies; Scientific Board's Member of the Review OPTIME of the Albanian University of Tirana, Albania; Member of the Conference Programme Committee of the International Scientific Conference "Archibald Reiss Days", at The University of Criminal Investigation and Police Studies, Belgrade, Serbia; Delegate to Communication, Department of Legal Sciences (School of Law), University of Salerno; Lawyer. She has been a visiting professor in several European Universities and speaker in several conferences in Italy and abroad. Her research activities and publications (books, book chapters, articles, etc.) focus on current issues of EU law with specific reference to the constitutional evolution of the EU integration process, enlargement, EU external action and cooperation on justice and home affairs.



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Panel I, h. 10:15 AM

Chair

Sara Poli, Full Professor of EU Law, Dpt. of Political Science, University of Pisa

Biography

SARA POLI is Full Professor of European Union Law at the Department of Political Science of the University of Pisa; she has been visiting professor at LUISS Carli in 2024-2025. Previously, she has worked as researcher at the Faculty of Law of the University of Rome Tor Vergata and as Adjunct Professor at the Faculty of Law of the University of Trieste. She was awarded a Jean Monnet Chair by the European Commission in 2013-2016 and one on the enlargement of the Union and the rule of law (2025-2028). She has been a Marie Curie fellow at the Department of law of the European University Institute in Fiesole (2008-2009) where she has also been visiting professor in 2023; in the same institution she has been a Jean Monnet Fellow (2002-2003). Professor Poli has worked as a lecturer in European Union Law at the Department of Law of the University of Southampton (United Kingdom) and as an assistant in the Department of Law of the College of Europe in Bruges (Belgium) from 1999 to 2001. From the same College he received a diploma in European Legal Studies (1998-1999). She completed her postgraduate degree at the Scuola Superiore di Studi Universitari e Perfezionamento S. Anna (SSSA) in Pisa in 2000 where she also did her undergraduate studies. She has published several books including one on restrictive measures (2019) and one on the External Action of the European Union (2021), written with M.E Bartoloni and numerous essays and articles in renowned journals of EU law. She has recently co-edited a book with S Marini on the EU on the international arena. Internal and external challenges and transformations. A co-authored book on the the EU's response to the war in Ukraine and its impact on the EU legal order is forthcoming.



Speakers

Christophe Hillion, Full Professor of EU Law, Dpt. of Public and International Law, University of Oslo

Biography

CHRISTOPHE HILLION is Professor of European law at the University of Oslo and Visiting Professor at the College of Europe. His research focuses on EU constitutional law and external action. He currently coordinates a project on the Enforcement of the Rule of Law in the EU (ENROL) financed by the Norwegian Research Council.

Abstract

Making a Success of Enlargement – Some Candid Considerations

In the years preceding Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine, the prospect of additional states joining the EU had faded. The EU's deliberate downgrading of its enlargement policy after the 2004–2007 admissions, and its increased capture by some Member States' domestic interests, contributed to slowing down the applicants' already sluggish membership preparations. The EU capacity to transform candidates into full-fledged members thereby weakened, in turn deepening the scepticism within the Union towards further expansion. To break the vicious circle and make a success of an enlargement which they now frame as a 'geo-strategic investment in peace, security, stability and prosperity', the EU and its Member States ought to engage at three levels. First, the fundamentals of membership must be restored and consistently defended. Second, persistent impediments to the effective implementation of the enlargement policy must be addressed. Third, able candidates must be firmly anchored in the EU governance, *prior* to their accession.



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Marco Evola, Associate Professor of EU Law and EU Media Law, Dpt. of Law, Economics and Communication, LUMSA University, Palermo

Biography

MARCO EVOLA is an Associate Professor of European Union Law and EU Media Law LUMSA Department of Law, Economics and Communication, Palermo. He has been teaching European Union Law, European Union Private International Law, EU Media Law, Human Rights, European Migration Law. He was a member of different research groups within the framework of projects of research of national and international interest. He is professor in Master and post-lauream courses. He is a member of the Editorial Board of the review *Diritti umani e diritto internazionale* and Member of the Scientific Committee of the reviews *La Magistratura* and *International Journal of Law and Society*. He is a member of the Committee of Referees of the Review *Unione europea e diritti*. Member of the Doctoral Programme Committee "Mediterranean Studies. History. Law and Economics". His scientific research focuses on human rights, migration, accession to and withdrawal from the EU, Rule of law, gender discrimination.



Abstract

Enlargement in Time of War Between Change and Continuity

The decisions of the European Union to confer upon Ukraine the status of candidate to membership and the following choice to open the negotiations for accession are a turning point in the history of the process of European integration. For the first time since the setting up of the European Communities enlargement covers a state that is waging war as a consequence of the invasion of its territory. A series of challenges are embedded in this scenario affecting the policy on enlargement and the admission proceeding. The analysis aims at understanding the impact of war on the EU policy towards states aspiring to join the club and the way in which the Union is shaping enlargement to face the challenges flowing from this new situation. The fast advancement of Ukraine in the path towards admission originates from the watering down of the criteria the EU makes use of in assessing third-countries compliance with the accession conditions. However, a more profound change seems to take place within the framework of the proceeding as a consequence of the substantial removal of some of those conditions. But the process of reform is not so straightforward as it might appear at first sight because changes are taking place within a general framework which seems to be marked by continuity with the previous rounds of admissions thus giving rise to a series of problems on the relationship between war and enlargement that will be assessed.

Alessandro Petti, Assistant Professor in EU Law, Bocconi University Milan

Biography

ALESSANDRO PETTI is a legal scholar with an interdisciplinary background. His work is devoted to the study of the European Union and its laws. He is interested in investigating how the substantive development of EU law shapes the constitutional underpinnings of the Union and its posture as an international legal actor. He has significant expertise in the law of the EU's proximity policies. Alessandro has been Fellow at the Scuola Superiore Meridionale in Naples, at the Centre for European Law at the University of Oslo, and Max Weber Fellow at the European University Institute in Florence, where he completed his LLM in Comparative, European and International Laws. He holds a PhD in Law from Sciences Po Paris and an MA from the College of Europe in Bruges. He has been Blue Book Trainee at the European Commission in Brussels. He has designed and taught courses on EU law, EU



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law and diplomacy, the law of the European Neighbourhood Policy, and EU external relations law.

Abstract

Wider Europe as an Analytical Concept

The current geopolitical turmoil urges a reappraisal of the law of the EU's proximity policies. In that light, *Wider Europe* can be turned into an analytical concept to capture the legal and political facets of the extension of the EU's legal space in the Union's neighbourhood. The presentation introduces three lines of inquiry. Firstly, it reflects on the similarities and differences between internal and external integration, drawing a distinction between EU membership law and EU neighbourhood law. Secondly, it unravels the techniques for the extension of the EU's legal space across different partnerships in the Union's neighbourhood. Thirdly, it sheds light on the political covenants underlying the variety of institutional arrangements of the extended EU's legal space. The presentation discusses how EU neighbourhood law entails a reconfiguration of how sovereignty is exercised both in the EU and in third countries participating in the *Wider Europe*.

Panel II, h. 11:15 AM

Chair

Maria Eugenia Bartoloni, Full Professor of EU Law, Dpt. of Legal and Economic Studies, University of Rome 'La Sapienza'

Biography

MARIA EUGENIA BARTOLONI is a full Professor of European Union Law at the Faculty of Law, Sapienza University of Rome, where she teaches *European Union Law* and *Internal Market Law*. She is also Member of the Doctoral Board in "Public Law" (Department of Legal and Economic Studies, Faculty of Law, Sapienza University of Rome). She has been the Principal Investigator of the Research Project Unit "Rediscovering European Integration through Legal Storytelling (REILS)" - PRIN 2022; the Principal Investigator of the European Project *SELECT – StrEnghten Lay and honorary judges European CompeTencies* (JUST-JTRA-EJTR-AG-2020, Type of action: JUST-AG) and the Principal Investigator of the Research Project Unit *PIONEER -The Production of Law in Epidemiological Emergencies. Process Innovations to Increase Adherence to the Rule of Law and Performance*, FISR 2020 "Risposta all'emergenza, sviluppando soluzioni relative alla fase di espansione della pandemia". She has been a Visiting Professor at the East China University of Political Science and Law – Shanghai, China, (1-15 December 2019), (15-31 January 2023); Marie Curie Fellow at the East China University of Political Science and Law – Shanghai, China (27/04 2015– 11/05/2015); a Visiting Professor at the Uniwersytet Wrocławski under the Erasmus+ International Credit Mobility (March 2015); a Visiting Professor at the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona under the Erasmus+ International Credit Mobility (November 2014); a Visiting Researcher at the Université Saint-Louis- Bruxelles (01-08-1998/31-03-1999). She is also Co-Editor of the Book Series "*Studi di Diritto internazionale e dell'Unione europea – Studies in International and EU Law*" – Wolters Kluwer, Scientific Committee Member of "*Rassegna di Diritto pubblico europeo*" and of "*Jus*", Referees Committee Member of "*Studi sull'integrazione europea*" and Co-director of the Editorial Board of "*Il Diritto dell'Unione europea*". She has been a speaker at several conferences in Italy and abroad and author of over ninety publications (monographs, co-edited works, book chapters, academic journal articles (class A)).



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Speakers

Cristina Contartese, Assistant Professor in EU Law, Dpt. of Law, University of Campania 'Luigi Vanvitelli'

Biography

CRISTINA CONTARTESE (MA University of Birmingham; PhD University of Bologna-University of Strasbourg) is an Assistant Professor in EU Law at the University of Campania, Luigi Vanvitelli. Previously, she was Lecturer in EU Law at the Hague University of Applied Sciences, and Lecturer in EU and International Law at the European Law and Governance School/European Public Law Organization (Athens). She held positions as a Postdoctoral researcher at the University of Bologna, where she taught International Law, and at the University of Luxembourg (Marie Curie fellow/FNR-Luxembourg), where she researched on dispute settlement mechanisms from EU and International Law perspectives. She was a visiting researcher at the Max Planck Institute–Luxembourg, and at the iCourts Centre (University of Copenhagen). Her main research interests include: EU Constitutional Law, EU External Relations, International Dispute Settlement, International Water Law, and the European Convention on Human Rights. She published on these subjects in edited books and peer-reviewed journals, such as *Common Market Law Review*, *Rivista di Diritto Internazionale* and *Legal Working Papers of the European Central Bank*. She is an analyst for 'EU Law Live Blog', and a member of the editorial board of *La Comunità internazionale*, *European Papers*, and *International Journal of Human Rights and Constitutional Studies* (IJHRCS).



Abstract

La nozione di identità nazionale (art. 4, par. 2 TUE) nel contesto dell'allargamento

Under EU Treaties, the protection of national identity of EU Member States is established in Art. 4, para. 2 TEU, which reads as follows 'the Union shall respect...their national identity, inherent in their fundamental structures, political and constitutional'. The notion of national identity, however, is not well settled. The CJEU's case-law, albeit abundant on this issue, appears fragmented, whereas in the academic debate different meanings are attributed to this notion. According to some legal scholars, national identity of Member States would refer to *institutional* elements of national orders, established in their Constitutions and on which Constitutional Courts possess exclusive competence. Other authors state that national identity would be a broader notion than merely institutional elements, that should be jointly read with Art. 2 TEU. From this perspective, the limits of the notion of national identity would be defined by the Union's common values. The question that this contribution raises concerns the consequences of the notion of national identity in the context of EU Enlargement. In a scenario where national identity under Art. 4, par. 2 TEU meets its limits in Art. 2 TEU, one could be tempted to conclude that the Union's values are adequately protected from the very moment the accession process starts, thanks to references to EU values under Art. 49 TEU and conditionality mechanisms. However, this contribution will outline that what is uncertain is not only the content of the notion of national identity, but also, albeit a few exceptions, the same values of the EU.

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Anna Pau, Post-Doc Research Fellow in EU Law, Alma Mater Studiorum – University of Bologna

Biography

Anna Pau currently holds a position of postdoctoral research fellow in EU law at the Department of Legal Studies of the University of Bologna. She obtained her PhD in EU law in July 2023 from the University of Pisa. The focus of her research is in the external relations law of the European Union, in particular the consistency of the EU external action with international law in selected case studies. In her thesis, she has focused on the EU treaty practice with some of its neighbours and on the related implications for contested territories, with particular regard to peoples' self-determination. She has also conducted research on topics such as EU disaster law, energy security, restrictive measures, solidarity in the CFSP, EU diplomacy, as well as on the EU case law on counter-terrorism; on the effective judicial protection of individuals subject to EU restrictive measures; on the promotion of values and principles in the EU external relations. The above is supported by her participation as a speaker in international conferences and workshops, as well as by the publication of contributions in peer reviewed journals and scientific volumes. She has also been member of the Jean Monnet networks EUDIPO (The European Union in International Diplomatic Relations) and EUCTER (Research-led Excellence Network on EU Counter-Terrorism), as part of the team of the University of Pisa.



Abstract

Profili di statualità e riconoscimento quale ostacolo all'allargamento dell'UE: il caso del Kosovo come candidato potenziale (EN: Aspects of Statehood and Recognition as an Obstacle to EU Enlargement: The Case of Kosovo as a Potential Candidate)

Kosovo submitted an application for EU membership in December 2022. This third country is considered a potential candidate, but not a full candidate like other European countries: the lack of recognition by five EU member states poses a significant obstacle to its accession. Despite this, the EU engages with Kosovo in several ways, including granting it a "European perspective", in open contrast to the position of its members which do not recognise Kosovo as a sovereign State. Although the Union enjoys full international legal personality, its status as an international organisation prevents it from recognising new States. Its action may nevertheless consist of defining criteria that its members are invited to follow in the recognition process and/or promoting a common position on a particular case of recognition. This paper examines whether the EU acts consistently with international law and EU law in engaging with Kosovo statehood, and to what extent EU law may influence bilateral relations between Member States and third States, considering the principle of sincere cooperation. The relationship between Kosovo and the EU may redefine the latter's ability to actively contribute in solving territorial disputes in the context of the EU enlargement policy. This implies a strict respect for international law in accordance with Articles 3(5) and 21(1) TEU. Ultimately, despite State recognition being a prerogative of the Member States, the unity and consistency of the EU external action are potentially at stake.

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