This annual report covers the period from the end of the last Annual Report (Autumn 2012) to November 2013.
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The European Union Democracy Observatory (EUDO) is an independent and interdisciplinary academic organization fully integrated within the Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies (RSCAS). Its declared goals are:

- To translate scientific and academic research on the key issues of European democracy into policy-relevant and publicly-understandable outputs.
- To produce a periodic evaluation of democratic practices within the EU.
- To develop practical suggestions for improving democratic performance in the EU.
- To offer expertise, information, and policy reports on relevant EU institutions.
- To serve as a forum where research results, experiences, ideas, and good practices can be exchanged between scholars and policymakers.

The primary focus of EUDO in 2013 has been dedicated to further consolidating the work of the four observatories, whilst assuring continuity in the delivery of the main activities of the EUDO platform. Several research projects were conducted, and various conferences, seminars, workshops and other events organized.

In 2014, EUDO will play an important role regarding the European Parliamentary elections of May. Several research projects, as well as a new voting advice application platform, called “euandi”, are currently in preparation. Also, EUDO will continue to strive towards becoming one of the leading research centres for EU democracy by reinforcing its interdisciplinary approach as well as by exploring new research areas related to European Democracy.

In this annual report we will present the EUDO activities from the end of 2012 to the end of 2013 and provide an overview of the work planned for 2014. The report is structured as follows: section I will present EUDO activities from 2012/2013 and the outlook for 2014 at the general EUDO level. Section II contains a more detailed account of activities and work in the four EUDO Observatories. In section III an overview of the people involved in EUDO is given. Section IV, meanwhile, lists selected publications from 2012-2013.
At the end of 2012, EUDO organised its Dissemination Conference on the State of European Democracy and the Euro Crisis with over 120 participants coming from academia, politics, EU offices, NGOs and think tanks, and as such, demonstrated the importance of sharing academic research results with policy-makers. In 2013 EUDO has continued to build on this success and has obtained further external funding for research projects. The observatory has also submitted a number of funding applications to continue to expand future research projects. The EUDO Data Centre has been consolidated, and research data continue to be included. In addition, EUDO puts a large effort into the organisation of conferences and its presence in events all across Europe and beyond.

I.1 ACTIVITIES 2012/2013

EURO Data Centre

Relying on the “Dataverse” software developed at Harvard, the EUDO Data Centre consists of a web-based repository for the distribution and dissemination of quantitative and qualitative data and research results produced or acquired by EUDO projects. The centre, organized within observatory and project-level collections, makes studies available by providing data access and downloads – complete with accurate citation information – as well as detailed information about all the institutional subjects involved in each study. Access and use of the studies is regulated, but public access and use – upon specific and sensible terms – is possible for a significant portion of the collections: www.eui.eu/Projects/EUDO/EUDODataCentre.aspx

The advancement of the EUDO Data Centre will be of central importance throughout 2014. Not only do we want to prepare and include all “our” data, but we are already preparing several cooperation agreements with other academic projects to also include their data and research results.

EURO Working Paper Series

The EUDO working paper series is a core element of EUDO’s efforts in disseminating high-quality research. The working papers cover a broad range of issues that preoccupy the four EUDO Observatories. So far a total of 19 EUDO working papers have been published (available at the EUDO website: www.eui.eu/Projects/EUDO/Publications/EUDOWorkingPaperSeries.aspx

EURO Website Platform and Visibility

The website includes the latest news and events, EUDO publications with other relevant publications, links to the EUDO Data Centre, abstract videos, pictures and audio files of the EUDO Dissemination Conferences, and the EUDO Café including daily news on democracy in Europe with an interactive section on “Debating Democracy”. The EUDO Café has proven to be very popular as a place for discussing the challenges facing democracy in today’s Europe. It hosts periodical, invited posts inspired by current events in worldwide and European politics, groundbreaking EUDO research, as well as debates in the media. Posts are open for discussion to everyone, including scholars, politicians, journalists and citizens. As its name suggests, the EUDO Café is supposed to be a place for free-flowing, open discussion on the general issues and challenges facing democracy in Europe. Its aim is to attract academic experts, practitioners and “regular citizens” alike. EUDO has continued to publish on its website and to circulate its EUDO Newsletter among academics and practitioners worldwide, presenting the main activities carried out by EUDO and its Observatories. EUDO continues to update its Facebook group and Twitter account which has now almost 3000 followers.
EUROPEAN UNION DEMOCRACY OBSERVATORY - EUDO

EUDO General Research Project: Smaller States in EU Decision-Making: Portugal in a Comparative Perspective

Although all EU member states are equal before the law, they are unequal in population and resources. In fact, more than two-thirds of the member states are small countries. Since co-decision processes of the EU usually operate by consensus, the ability of countries to make their voice heard is of paramount importance. In order to influence the policy-making process, small countries need to be informed, in a timely and realistic way.

Funded by the Fundação Francisco Manuel dos Santos (FFMS), Lisbon, this project systematically examines the role of representatives of small countries in the European Union policy-making process, with a special focus on Portugal. This project is led by Richard Rose and Alexander H. Trechsel. Moreover, the FFMS appointed a distinguished advisory committee from the Portuguese public policy community to follow and comment on the reports produced by the research team. The first report was released in Spring 2012, this focusing on the difference a country’s size makes in a negotiating context. This report argues that in order to fulfil their goals in an EU setting, small states must rely on “smart power”. In other words, such countries should focus on identifying European issues that are important for the national interest, formulating national positions on an issue at an early stage of discussions while building alliances with countries with similar policy positions.

The second report, looking at how Portugal’s 22 MEPs can influence policy-making in a Parliament with 751 members, has been finalized in October 2012. This report includes an analysis of the votes cast by Portuguese MEPs vis-à-vis other national delegations or the European Parliament as a whole, and interviews with former and current Portuguese MEPs.

The third report has been submitted and successfully discussed in a meeting with the Steering Committee in Lisbon in February 2013. It investigates how a national government can effectively participate in EU policy-making; in particular, it analyses the role of national representatives in the EU multi-national networks in Brussels as well as the organization of policy-making institutions in the national capitals.

The fourth report is being finalized at the moment of publication of this Annual Report; it examines the role of the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) and the Committee of the Regions (CoR) and, more in general, at how interests representatives are capable to influence the decision-making in Brussels.

The fifth report is in preparation and looks at the recruitment process of personnel by the EU Institutions and, in particular, it investigates which senior posts have been held by Portuguese people over the years. Finally, the sixth report will draw together themes from the previous reports with a view of looking, in a comparative perspective, at the role of Portugal among small Countries in the EU.

A final dissemination conference of the project’s results will be held in early May 2014 in Lisbon.

1.2 EVENTS 2012/2013

EUDO Dissemination Conference: “The Euro Crisis and the State of European Democracy”

EUDO organized its Annual Dissemination Conference on the theme of “The Euro Crisis and the State of European Democracy”, on 22 and
23 November 2012 at the European University Institute in Florence. Over 120 participants attended the event.

The Conference examined the way in which the Euro crisis has affected the state of European democracy. On the first day, a systematic and accurate analysis of the institutional framework and of the legal instruments set up by the European Union to face the financial crisis was offered. On the second day, contributions focussed on the challenges and threats posed by the reformed Economic European policy on European democracy. In particular, some contributions looked at the impact on the relations between the EU institutions (for example, was there an increase of the power of the intergovernmental institutions?), the innovations in EU decision-making (such as the “invention” of reverse majority voting in the Council), the experiments with the use of soft law instruments and with greater differentiation (between the EU-27 and sub-groups such as the EURO-17), and the use of international agreements situated outside the EU legal framework, which were used to adopt the Fiscal Compact and the European Stability Mechanism. Other contributions looked specifically at the prominent but rather secretive and, democratically speaking, somewhat anomalous role played by the European Central Bank in containing the Euro crisis. Yet other contributions examined political and institutional changes that are taking place at the national level, and the way in which national elites have tried to accommodate the new demands from ‘Europe’ or to influence the decisions taken in the European arena. Finally contrasting views were presented on how the crisis has affected the significance of European citizenship and the rights attached to it, as well as the attitudes of European citizens towards the European Union and towards each other.

Overall, the Conference contributed both to clarify the variety of ways in which democratic institutions and practices have been shaken by the turmoil of the Euro crisis, and to show ways in which the crisis offers routes towards the renewal of democracy.

All the presentations have been video-recorded and the videos are available online at following page: http://www.eui.eu/Projects/EUDO/EUDODisseminationConference/2012/Videos.aspx
In order to collect different views from different stakeholders on the topic of the Conference, EUDO also organised short interviews with two professors, one researcher, a representative of NGO and a MEP and produced the video: How the Financial Crisis Affects European Democracy. These five short statements are available at the following link:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=LjpUXGLsB1c&list=UUtt-BjPPfepbUMRI1CzL2Tg&index=9


The book is available at:

www.eui.eu/Projects/EUDO/Publications/eBookonTheEuroCrisisandtheStateofEuropeanDemocracy.aspx

EUDO Dissemination Conference 2013: “Elections of Europe in Times of Crisis”

The EUDO Dissemination Conference 2013 will take place on 28 and 29 November 2012 at the European University Institute in Florence.

The aim of the 2013 EUDO Dissemination Conference is to bring together the best experts to assess democracy in Europe and the current world crisis’ impact on the elections of 2013 and 2014. Decisions made at the European level to respond to the crisis are increasingly generating tensions between member states that are differently equipped to face and that have different approaches to the crisis. These tensions have profound implications for EU democracy and governance that are likely to be reflected in electoral dynamics at national and European level. The Conference will offer an opportunity to analyse the results of the national elections held in Europe in 2013 and to provide prospective insights on the 2014 European elections, by focusing on links between actors, strategies, and themes that characterise the elections at both levels.

The programme is available online at:

http://www.eui.eu/Projects/EUDO/EUDODisseminationConference/2013/Index.aspx

In spring EUDO invited interested academics and academically oriented practitioners to submit paper proposals related to the overall theme “Elections in Europe in Times of Crisis” devoting particular attention to topics such as Economic Voting, Populism, New Forms of Euroscepticism, Electoral Behaviour across Social Groups. The best papers were selected in summer and they will not only be presented at the 2013 EUDO Dissemination Conference, but will also be published in an eBook.
I.3 OUTLOOK 2014

In 2014, EUDO will continue to concentrate and streamline its efforts in becoming a prominent and well-known hub in EU democracy research. EUDO is becoming one of the leading sources for academics, policy-makers, and citizens for information and research on democracy in the EU, and it is our goal to make sure that this trend continues. The secretariat will, therefore, on the basis of the research output produced by the Observatories, continue to develop and enlarge the three main permanent activities of EUDO, namely communication and dissemination, training and debate, and publication and the Data Centre of EUDO.

The four EUDO Observatories benefit from having a common platform where inter-disciplinary cooperation between the Observatories and the wider EUI community is possible whilst also allowing for new synergies to develop, and for common research projects to come to fruition. This common platform additionally strengthens the value of the Observatories in obtaining external funding for research projects and helps disseminate their research output. Many of the current projects within the Observatories help ensure the sustainability of EUDO beyond 2013.

In concrete terms, EUDO general will involve all the EUDO Observatories in the production of a major project for the European Parliamentary elections coming up in May 2014, euandi, a very innovative voting advice application (for more details on euandi see the Public Opinion section).

The advancement of the EUDO Data Centre will also be of central importance in 2014. Further publications are in the pipeline, and EUDO will continue to make maximal use of new media and technologies. Audio files, videos, and other technological means to advertise and present EUDO events and research will be used increasingly as EUDO intends to become a forerunner in using new technologies for academic output.

Finally, EUDO will set as one of its goals to further expand its institutional ties to research groups and organizations in the field of democracy, in Europe and beyond.
The Observatory on Public Opinion, Political Elites, and the Media focuses on the analysis of the attitudes and preferences of publics, the media and the elites, and has the aim of measuring the extent to which these converge or diverge, in which fields and in what directions. It is managed by Mark Franklin (former EUI and currently MIT) and Alexander H. Trechsel (EUI). This Observatory continued to dedicate a large part of its attention to the two main research projects initiated at the time of the 2009 elections of the European Parliament, namely the PIREDEU (which has morphed into a new entity, CERES – see below) and EU Profiler which will be followed in 2014 by a new project on 2014 EP elections, euandi. These two projects generated possibly the largest data collection on public opinion among European voters ever gathered. In 2013, the findings of these projects were further refined and discussed in a continuous dialogue between academia and the policy making community. More importantly, these projects have morphed into new entities concerned with future research, as described below.

II.1.1 ACTIVITIES AND RESEARCH 2012/2013

CERES – Consortium for European Research with Election Studies (formerly PIREDEU - Providing an Infrastructure for Research on Electoral democracy in the European Union)

At the end of its grant-supported life, the PIREDEU infrastructure design study (funded by the European Union’s Seventh Framework Programme from 2008 to January 2011) took steps to secure the prospects for future funding of the infrastructure it had designed by organising the creation of a new entity – the Consortium for European Research with Election Studies (CERES). The design study had established the feasibility of an upgrade to the manner in which elections to the European Parliament are studied, so as to provide an infrastructure for research into citizenship, political participation, and electoral democracy in the European Union (EU), in a joint effort coordinated by the European University Institute in Florence and involving 14 institutions across Europe. The PIREDEU feasibility study has clearly established that an infrastructure to study electoral democracy in Europe cannot focus on European Parliament elections alone, but needs to address the electoral process in Europe at all its different levels and facets. Just as importantly, there is no route to EU funding of any of these election studies except in the context of a European Research Infrastructure Consortium (ERIC) which would need to be involved in the study of elections throughout the EU (and perhaps also in European countries beyond the EU).

An ERIC would be a consortium of national funding agencies, but in order to lobby for the creation of such a consortium, and to provide expertise from the academic community in founding and running such a consortium, a democratically constituted organization is needed to represent the interests of those who study elections in Europe. It was in order to serve this function that CERES was founded, on the fringes of a meeting of the European Consortium for Political Research held in Reykjavik, Iceland, in August 2011. The foundational meeting was attended by some fifty academic researchers engaged in the study of elections in Europe. Details of the consortium, whose administrative home is at the Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies at the EUI under the auspices of EUDO can be found on its interim web
site, hosted for the moment as part of the personal website of the chair of the founding CERES Board, at www.eui.eu/Personal/Franklin/CERES.html

Vindication for the objectives underlying the creation of a consortium of scholars who study elections in Europe came only the following year when the EU’s European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures (ESFRI) – the body that advises the EU’s DG Research on the formation of future infrastructures – put out a Call for consultation on future infrastructure formation, to which CERES was able to respond, making a case for the foundation of an ERIC to study electoral democracy in Europe. See the Response to ESFRI call for proposals on the CERES interim website.

CERES seeks to build upon the success of PIREDEU which, for the first time, provided central coordination for a research project covering all relevant aspects of the electoral process, which was conducted in all of the then 27 EU member-countries at the time of the 2009 European Parliament Elections. By investigating the feasibility of an infrastructure for the study of democracy in the EU, data were gathered on:

- Attitudes and behaviour of over 27,000 citizens in 27 countries.
- Campaign strategies and issue agendas for 1,350 candidates from 200 political parties across 27 countries.
- Party manifestos of 200 Political Parties contesting the European Parliament Elections.
- Campaign news coverage in the three weeks prior to the elections from 140 media outlets and almost 50,000 news stories.
- Attributes of 27 different political party, economic, and media systems.

The 2009 EES brought this information together for the first time in an integrated database that is available for use by researchers, policymakers, the media, citizens and anyone interested in electoral democracy in Europe. These data would have been lost if not captured at the time of an election.

The final conference of the project held in Brussels, entitled “Auditing Electoral Democracy in the European Union” (18-19 November 2010), engaged the academic and policy user community with a special focus on the 2009 European Elections. In addition to research papers on topics ranging from voting in European Elections to attitudes towards European integration, three special sessions introduced the integrated PIREDEU database (of voter, candidate, media, manifesto and context data) and provided hands-on training on how to use the database.


For more information on PIREDEU visit: www.piredeu.eu, and see the final results brochure at: http://www.piredeu.eu/Database/DOCS/176DP_PIREDEU-Flyer_201011.pdf.
The data collected by PIREDEU have been deposited at the GESIS archive in Cologne, Germany at http://www.gesis.org/en/services/data-analysis/survey-data/international-election-studies/european-election-studies/

The primary objective of CERES is to found the infrastructure designed by PIREDEU that could incorporate these data into a larger database of election studies throughout Europe over time, linking the PIREDEU data to past and future data on European Parliament elections and to past and future studies of national elections in Europe.

Other CERES activities

In order to serve as a basis for the eventual foundation of an ERIC, it is necessary for CERES to be a functioning association whose members are used to working together. With this in mind, funds were acquired for a meeting held at the Netherlands Institute for Advanced Studies (NIAS) in February 2013 of the Principal Investigators of as many as possible of Europe's national election studies, along with the PIs of the European (Parliament) Election Studies. Funding was obtained mainly from NIAS but with some co-funding from the RSCAS and from national election studies whose PIs attended the workshop. The purpose was to hold wide-ranging discussions about ways in which these election studies might collaborate with each other to mutual advantage in coming years. On the sidelines of this event a CERES Board meeting was also held over from 2012 in order to take advantage of the opportunity for a meeting in conjunction with the NIAS workshop. That Board Meeting built on the successes of the workshop by creating a number of task forces to move forward on the various initiatives identified during the Workshop (see Workshop held at NIAS), especially a group tasked with organizing a follow-up workshop to design a module of questions, intended for inclusion in all national and European election studies in coming years, that would study what at the workshop was seen as a "critical juncture" in representative democracy in Europe following the financial and associated Eurozone crises of recent years. Funding was obtained from the Swedish Riksbankens Jubileumsfond for such a conference, with co-funding from national election studies whose PIs are attending the workshop, which will be held in Gothenburg 5-6 December, 2013. It will be attended by a smaller group of Election Study PIs than came to NIAS, along with scholars deemed particularly expert on contemporary problems of democratic governance.

Between the NIAS meeting and the meeting in Gothenburg, a meeting of the CERES membership was held, as required by its statutes, on the fringe of the ECPR General Conference held in 2013 at Bordeaux in France. At that meeting, Board Members who had completed their first term in office were replaced or re-elected and a report was made of CERES activities. See Report from the Chair, 2013.

European Election Studies Association

Apart from establishing a path to future funding for European (Parliament) Election Studies as part of a Europe-wide ERIC, the end of the PIREDEU project also gave rise to the need to create an association uniquely dedicated to planning, funding and conducting studies of elections to the European Parliament, the next of which will be held in May 2014. By then there is no chance that an electoral democracy ERIC will be in place, but even if it were there would still be need for an association to represent scholars who work on European Parliament election studies. Such an association, the European Election Studies Association (EES-A) was founded at the fringes of the same ECPR
meeting as saw the founding of CERES. The EES-A is now chaired by Hermann Schmitt, who holds joint appointments at the University of Mannheim and University of Manchester and has funding to field questions in a voter survey to be conducted following the 2014 EP elections. Unfortunately this funding is not adequate to also cover a candidate study and media study, so PIs involved in those studies are still seeking funding to replicate the studies conducted in 2009 under the auspices of PIREDEU. A meeting of the EES-A Board will take place in conjunction with the EUDO dissemination conference to be held at the EUI in November 2013.

ELECDEM
The ELECDEM (Initial Training Network in Electoral Democracy) is a project financed by the seventh Framework Program within the Marie Curie Initial Training Network (ITN) until 2013. It brings together eleven expert teams from nine European countries to provide substantive and methodological training in elections research to a cohort of early stage and experienced researchers. ELECDEM takes a comprehensive approach to the study of electoral democracy using cross-nationally comparative databases, content analysis, and experiments, in order to examine the impact of globalization, technological developments in communication, and institutional change on representation and accountability.

As partner of the ELECDEM Project the EUI was in charge of the “Work Package 11” on European Elections and Democratic Legitimacy. It has employed data from CSES and EES to address research questions related to the role of information and political communication on democratic representation. Its tasks can be summarized in five macro areas: 1. To develop literature reviews, research questions and design; 2. Analyse available data using advanced quantitative techniques (e.g. multi-level modelling); 3. Contributing to the final report; 4. Producing research publications; 5. Undertaking training in key methodologies and complementary skills.

Until August 2011, Danilo Di Mauro was the beneficiary of the Marie Curie Fellowship within the ELECDEM framework. He was housed within the Public Opinion Observatory of EUDO, where he contributed to the work of the Observatory along with his own research. In particular he was responsible for several of the Spotlight publications produced by the Observatory (see below).

The ELECDEM grant terminates at the end of 2013, and a final meeting of the ELECDEM Board was held on the fringes of the ECPR General Conference
in Bordeaux in September. The Final Report on ELECDEM activities is currently in preparation and will be available by the end of 2013 at http://www.elecadem.eu

EU Profiler & euandi

In 2009 EUDO produced the voting advice application EU Profiler www.euprofiler.eu for the European Parliament elections of June 2009. EU Profiler was the first Europe-wide tool of its kind.

The research project was developed under the auspices of EUDO, in a consortium with the Amsterdam-based company Kieskompas and the NCCR Democracy (University of Zurich/Zentrum für Demokratie Aarau)/Politools network. It also involved the active participation of the Observatory on Political Parties and Representation (OPPR – see below). More than 120 academic collaborators contributed to the project, and currently the large quantity of data that was generated by coding the parties, and by users filling in the questionnaire, is being analysed by the research team. During the period in which the EU Profiler tool was online (from 23 April 2009 until the elections in June) it attracted more than 2.5 million users. It was a huge success in terms of user numbers, press coverage, and the general publicity it attracted. In October 2009 the EU Profiler won the prestigious “World e-Democracy Forum Award” during a ceremony at the French Parliamentary Assembly.

With the European Parliamentary elections coming up in May 2014, EUDO is producing a new online voting advice application: euandi. The main goal of the tool is to allow its users to match their policy positions with those of the political parties running for the 2014 EP elections in the 28 Member States. The main target group are European citizens, though the device will be open to any internet user. This application is a pioneer in several respects. The most important novelty is the possibility for voters to compare themselves not only “vertically”, with political parties, but also with other individual users, all at the same time, across an entire continent, through “horizontal matching”. The data generated by the tool will enable like-minded citizens to connect and act together on a continent-wide level. This feature has never been implemented in any VAA and marks a bold step forward for a technology that has been previously limited to situating voters in a party space.

Studies on Internet voting in Estonia

In October 2005 Estonia became the first country in the world to conduct nationwide legally binding Internet elections. This world premiere was successfully followed by three additional elections, one in 2007 and two in 2009, where the number of Internet voters rapidly increased to nearly 10% of the electorate in the 2009 local elections and to 15% in the 2011 national elections. A EUDO team of international scholars (including collaborators from Caltech, the University of Utah and the Ifo Munich) led by Alexander H. Trechsel has closely observed these events and conducted five consecutive surveys in order to explore the patterns of Internet voting and its effects on political behaviour. The project was co-financed by the Council of Europe and the Estonian Electoral Committee. Following the 2011 national elections in Estonia, in which almost a quarter of all voters voted over the internet, a survey was fielded by the Observatory, financed by the Estonian Electoral Committee. The report was compiled by Kristjan Vassil and Alexander H. Trechsel using results from all five surveys, making it one of the most comprehensible studies on internet voting ever conducted. The most recent research output based on this data is a paper co-authored by Kristjan Vassil, Ane Realu and Alexander H. Trechsel, nominated
for the Robert H. Durr award for best paper applying quantitative methods to a substantive problem at the 2012 MPSA conference in Chicago. During the 2013 elections in Estonia, Kristjan Vassil was strongly involved in the gathering of novel survey data that will be inserted into the overall data collection in internet voting in Estonia, started in 2005.

**Project Puzzled by Policy**

*Puzzled by Policy* ran from October 2010 until September 2013, with three additional months added until December 2013 so as to facilitate the completion of extra sustainability activities. The aim of the project was to inform, consult, and empower citizens in immigration policy-making in the EU by providing high-quality information on policy developments that is easy and fun to understand, and by bringing together citizens and key policy actors to exchange ideas and policy proposals. With its expertise in designing and operating the EU Profiler, its research on e-democracy, and the provision of long-standing expertise in immigration policy analysis, the Observatory constituted the scientific backbone of the project and an important partner within the larger Puzzled by Policy consortium.

The “Puzzled by Policy Profiler”, conceptualised and designed by the Observatory, attracted more than six thousand users from all over the EU and proved to be by far the most popular tool of the Puzzled by Policy Platform. The experiences gained from the design and implementation of the EU Profiler and the long-standing, inter-disciplinary expertise in immigration policy issues at the RSCAS and the EUI more generally, were key to this success. In-depth immigration policy research, and detailed documentation of policy positions and proposals of key policy stakeholders at the EU and national levels, had been undertaken at the Observatory prior to the construction of the Profiler and resulted in it being a highly relevant, informative, and balanced tool. The Profiler thus covered the most important on-going debates on immigration in Europe, attracted the attention of citizens and stakeholders, and significantly enhanced user participation on the Puzzled by Policy Platform during the entire period of its operation (February 2012 - September 2013). The Profiler continues to be a valuable tool for policy-makers to use, especially those interested in citizens’ opinions on the entry and rights of highly-skilled workers and students in the EU, family reunification, immigrant integration, temporary and seasonal migration, and irregular migration.

During the third and final year of the project, the Observatory concentrated its activity on providing the Puzzled by Policy consortium with regular, high-quality internal updates on EU immigration policy developments and policy-making processes; exploring possibilities for integrating the activity on the Puzzled by Policy Platform into wider citizen participation opportunities in the EU (such as the open consultation processes and synergies with the involvement of civil society organisations in EU policy-making); feeding the on-line debate tool on the Puzzled by Policy Platform with relevant information on immigration policy developments; and providing feedback and support to the rest of the consortium partners on their dissemination and sustainability activities aimed at citizens, immigrant communities and policy-makers. These activities took place both in situ (such as at regular meetings and workshops in Italy (Turin), Greece (Athens) and Belgium (Brussels)) and in everyday project co-ordination and co-operation.

The Observatory also embraced the policy of the Puzzled by Policy consortium to release all Profiler and debate-related data as open-source data, in a joined effort to support policy-makers, civil society
organisations, and academic research in taking into account the views of Europe's citizens in such a highly salient policy area. Currently, the Observatory takes an active part in the preparation of the sustainability toolkit that will be provided by the Puzzled by Policy Platform to national and European civil society associations and organisations, which are interested in adopting and adapting the Platform to other policy areas and their corresponding needs for citizen participation. In this context, the Observatory has provided the consortium with guidelines for the construction and adaptation of Profiler tools and with case-studies based on the data collected by the Profiler.

In its current form and content, the Platform is operational on http://join.puzzledbypolicy.eu/ and will continue being accessible until after the end of the project.

**EUDO Spotlight on ...**

**Spotlight on ...** is a periodic publication of the EUDO Observatory on Public Opinion, Political Elites, and the Media. It focuses on public attitudes towards the most recent issues at stake in the European political agenda, showing how they affect European democracy. Political issues such as the economic crisis, migration, or climate change – just to quote a few – are well-known and current issues – represent new challenges for the European institutions both in terms of policy making and public opinion demands. How are these issues perceived by European citizens? To what extent do they influence their attitudes towards the European Union, its decision-making capacity and its legitimacy? These questions are at the core of the Spotlight on ... publications. They target two main audiences: 1) a wide category of people interested in politics, including stakeholders, journalists, politicians, public officials, students and, in general, all citizens interested in public opinion; 2) social scientists who study public opinion and European democracy. A succinct (usually 4-5 pages) and clear writing style is preferred to technical language, using immediately understandable graphical tools and tables to illustrate results. By the autumn of 2013 EUDO had published six editions of the Spotlight on..., mainly focused on the political implications of the current economic and financial crisis (though Spotlight #6 focuses on effects of European Parliament elections). They concern effects on support for EU integration, European identity, European citizenship, attitudes towards enlargement, as well as the Europeanization of political attitudes about the wider economy. The collaboration with TNS Public Opinion has been crucial in order to provide reports on the most up-to-date Eurobarometer survey. In this brief experience the Spotlight on ... series has proved able to address highly debated current political issues by using sophisticated analytical tools explained in a clear and non-technical format. In order to privilege a non-technical format, EUDO decided also to invest in transcoding “heavy” academic concepts into citizen-friendly graphics by using new techniques of “visual advocacy”. In the last Spotlight edition EUDO, in fact, produced not only a report but also a video. The main purpose was to translate complex concepts in images that allow a non-academic audience to understand rapidly the core results of the research.

The video is available at the following link: http://www.eui.eu/Projects/EUDO-PublicOpinion/EUDOSpotlight/EUDOSpotlightn5.aspx
The current editorial team is formed by professors from the Robert Shuman Centre for Advanced Studies, the EUI, external researchers, and the RSCAS publications unit.

The future plans of the Spotlight on ... series include a wider focus on the most salient issues for European public opinion, an increase in publication frequency, and the implementation of an editorial board. Spotlight on... reports are available at the web-page http://www.eui.eu/Projects/EUDO-PublicOpinion/EUDOSpotlight.aspx

**Media Profiler**

The EUDO Observatory on public opinion, within the CMPF project, developed a clear theoretical framework of the Media Profiler. This will serve as the basis for the creation of a web-based platform on which citizens can freely profile themselves within the European media landscape. The novelty of the project lies in that it seeks to measure media pluralism not only from the supply- but also from the demand-side. As a result of digital technologies that have created an environment of communicative abundance and afford the citizens the opportunity to actively participate in public discourse, it is not enough to determine the levels of ownership and content diversity. Exposure diversity, that is, the media content and sources to which citizens are exposed and engage with, becomes extremely relevant for measuring media pluralism. This being the starting point of the study, the analysis goes on to identify the dimensions of pluralism on the basis of which both offer and consumption will be measured. Subsequently, the report explores how to operationalize the project. Following innovative approaches to data gathering, the team defined methods that it considers as most appropriate to achieve the project’s objective, that is, to create a methodologically rigorous and attractive instrument to measure media pluralism in Europe. Finally, the report proposes a layout for the Media profiler.

**Assessing the impact of new technologies in democratic governance**

Participation has become a core feature of democratic governance, and ICT mediated citizen engagement (e-participation) has become a constant of the political landscape. Yet, despite the almost twenty years of practice and research, there is still little evidence of how the use of new technologies has actually influenced the quality of governance, and little is known about the impact of e-participation on citizens, policymakers and policy, especially so in developing countries.

In order to shed light on these complex issues, EUDO, in cooperation with UNDP and in partnership with the World Bank, undertook a research to critically examine the effective role that ICTs could play in supporting democratic governance processes.

The research, first, contributes to the setting of standards for good and systematic practice in the field of e-participation, and, second; assists UNDP and WB in the development of a framework to monitor and evaluate e-participation initiatives in the future. The report provides a summary analysis of the state of the art in the field of e-participation basing on the review of the relevant academic and data resources. It also includes a critical assessment of the validity of claims regarding the impact of ICTs on democratic governance. And most importantly, it provides an analytical basis for future research and the development of an evaluation framework in the field of e-participation. The assessment report will be published in 2014.

**II.1.2 OUTLOOK FOR 2014**

In 2014 the Observatory will continue to focus on the refinement and discussion of data analysis in a continuous dialogue between academia and the policy-making community. The output mainly will concern the enormous amount of data gathered by PIREDEU and EU Profiler. In addition to ongoing activities, several additional research activities will be undertaken in order to further analyse the obtained data in concrete terms, to compare it to other existing data sets and to work together with similar projects focusing on European public opinion. Here, the EUDO Data Centre plays a crucial role by offering academics and citizens alike access and the possibility of using data in an innovative way. Besides, consultations and cooperation projects with official EU bodies focusing on public opinion will be taken further in 2014. The two conferences about the internet
and politics organized by the Observatory in collaboration with the Centre for the Study of Democracy at the University of California, Irvine (one in Florence in 2010 and one in California in 2011) have led to a book now in press on the subject that includes as chapters a number of papers presented at the two conferences. Finally, funding has been obtained by the EES-A (see above) for studying the European Parliament (EP) elections of 2014. Several meetings have been or will soon be held of the Consortium for European Research on Elections (CERES – see above).

euandi will be a major, EUDO level project for the EP elections with a very strong involvement of both the Public Opinion Observatory and OPPR. EUDO will deliver by the end of March 2014, an online tool that aims to attract over 10 million users, allowing these users to match not only political parties running in their respective national contexts, but also similarly-minded citizens. euandi will not only contribute to increasing the understanding of the European political landscape. It will also offer the opportunity of developing a European civic sphere. euandi will, in fact, allow users to create their own groups of like-minded citizens, that is citizens who find themselves in the same area of the political spectrum. In this way euandi will not only be an information-giver, but also, for the first time in the history of voting advice applications, an enabler. Finally, the data gathered will remain at the disposal of the academic community and will be analysed in the coming years.

With the arrival of Prof. Hanspeter Kriesi at the EUI an important research agenda concerning the measurement of citizens’ attitudes towards democracy in Europe has become a key asset to EUDO in general and to its Observatory on Public Opinion, Political Elites and the Media as well as to the Observatory on Political Parties and Representation. An initial coordination meeting, bringing together the experts engaged in the European Social Survey battery of questions on democracy, that were to be fielded in 2012, took place in Florence in December 2010. A follow-up meeting was held in Florence in June 2013 to plan an edited volume reporting the findings and a third meeting is planned for March 2014.
The Observatory was jointly founded by Prof. Peter Mair (Professor of Comparative Politics at the EUI and former Head of the Department of Political and Social Sciences), and Prof. Luciano Bardi (Professor of Political Science at the University of Pisa and Part-time Professor at the RSCAS-EUI). Following the tragic passing of Peter Mair in 2011, the observatory is now jointly directed by Luciano Bardi and Prof. Hanspeter Kriesi (EUI).

The aim of the Observatory on Political Parties and Representation (OPPR) is to study European parties in all their dimensions, analysing their evolving organisation and patterns of competition at an EU level, as well as their changing role and their representative capacity at national and sub-national levels.

The creation of Europarties, and the development of a full-blown EU party system, has been widely regarded as a necessary step toward the creation of a fully democratic and accountable EU political system.

The importance of European parties has been sanctioned by the Statute for Political Parties at the European Level (approved by the European Parliament in November 2003), a document that defines their role as well as the requirements needed for their EU financing, and has been confirmed by Regulation (EC) No 1524/2007.

Europarties could provide a much stronger link between European civil society and supranational EU institutions, allowing a more effective transfer of preferences and policy priorities from citizens to the EU legislative system. Political Foundations at the European Level have been designed in 2007 to help Europarties in performing this role.

The creation of effective mechanisms for multi-level coordination between national parties and their Europarty counterparts is all the more important in view of the great potential of party groups in the European Parliament, as demonstrated by their growing voting cohesiveness and their increasing inclusiveness.

As several empirical analyses have shown, plenary votes in the European Parliament occur along party lines on a left-right axis, while national party delegations have aggregated into fewer and progressively larger groups, significantly reducing parliamentary fragmentation. In addition, the new powers attributed to the European Parliament with the Lisbon Treaty should further increase the incentives for national parties to develop even greater voting cohesion and stronger organisational structures at European level. For the first time, the informal role played by Europarties in the appointment of the President of the European Council and of the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy has the potential to establish a strong partisan link between the EU’s supranational legislature and its inter-governmental institutions.

Scholars from a variety of disciplines (political science, law and history) have produced a large amount of research and empirical data on political parties and representation in Europe, both at the national and at the supra-national level. Thanks to a number of insightful works in this area, and to the wealth of empirical evidence they have produced, we now have a substantive understanding of the internal organization of European political parties, of their patterns of interaction at the national and EU level, and of their changing representative capacity in contemporary democracies.
All of these research efforts, however, have been, generally speaking, uncoordinated, resulting in a dispersal of datasets and electronic repositories across a number of different research institutions, which are sometimes difficult to access (e.g. non-digitalized data, or data whose access is restricted due to copyright issues or to specific access policies of the hosting institution). This has made the work of comparative researchers difficult to say the least.

Apart from the production and dissemination of data on European parties, the Observatory promotes the development of research projects in new and emerging dimensions of political representation in Europe, such as the Europeanisation of party organisations and the challenge of multi-level politics, the use of new media in electoral campaigns and the declining importance of party membership; the legalisation and constitutionalisation of political parties in European democracies, the weakening ties between parties and civil society, and the status and standing of party government, including the importance of party patronage and public appointments.

OPPR activities are coordinated by a research assistant (Enrico Calossi) and several academic collaborators, both internal and external to the EUI, have been involved in the research activities of the OPPR. In 2013 Edoardo Bressanelli (King's College London), Wojciech Gagatek (University of Warsaw), Eugenio Pizzimenti (University of Pisa) have been taken part in such activities.

OPPR has also an Advisory Committee. Its members are all international experts on European party politics: Ingrid van Biezen (Leiden University), Zsolt Enyedi (Central European University), David Farrell (University College Dublin), Simon Hix (London School of Economics), Laura Morales (University of Leicester), Thomas Poguntke (University of Düsseldorf), Tapio Raunio (Tampere University), and Aleks Szczerbiak (University of Sussex).

The Observatory aims to become the principal online repository for key datasets and primary sources on the development of Europarties and party groups in the European Parliament, as well as large cross-national research projects on party politics. OPPR will also continue its regular engagement with EU policy-makers, through a series of Guest Lectures by practitioners at the EUI, as well as the organisation of a conference with the representatives of the Eurofoundations.

II.2.1 ACTIVITIES AND RESEARCH 2013

For the first time in history, OPPR has been able to gather together representatives of mostly all the Political Foundations at the European Level in a Conference hosted by the AFCO committee of the European Parliament, 26 February 2013, in Brussels. The conference “Political Foundations at the European Level. Five years in Promoting Democratic Political Culture in the European Union” successfully combined academics and Foundations officers to discuss about Eurofoundations’ role in the EU political system.

A follow-up of the study that in 2010 led to the publication “How to create a transnational party system in Europe?” has been funded and assigned by the AFCO Committee of the European Parliament to OPPR. Results will be presented at the EP in March 2014. Themes to be researched are: the role of Eurofoundations, the funding of Europarties at the light of new proposed regulations, programmatic coherence of Europarties and voting behaviour of EP party groups during the current financial and economic crisis.

OPPR members have been included in a joint project led by the Universities of Pisa, Rome and Bologna and financed by the Italian Minister of University

Members of OPPR participate in the project “Political Parties Database”, funded by the F. Thyssen Stiftung and directed by Susan Scarrow and Paul Webb.

Moreover OPPR members participated in the following other conferences:

Luciano Bardi and Eugenio Pizzimenti participated in the conference “Parties, Society & Democracy” a Conference of the Political Party Database Project, at Dusseldorf (Germany), 10-12 October 2013. Enrico Calossi and Eugenio Pizzimenti participated in the conference XVII SISP Conference and presented the paper “The Degree of Centralization of Candidate Selection Procedures: the Italian Case”, at Florence (Italy), on 13 September 2013. At the 7th ECPR General Conference in Bordeaux (France), on 4-7 September 2013, Wojciech Gagatek chaired the panel “Long-term Trends and Recent Changes in Party Politics at EU Level” where Luciano Bardi presented the paper “Normal Versus European Party Democracy: Some Theoretical Reflections” written jointly with Enrico Calossi. Eugenio Pizzimenti participated in the conference “Denaro e partiti, come cambiare? Idee per l’Italia” organised by Collegio Carlo Alberto, at Moncalieri (Italy), on 22 May 2013. The “Workshop in Honour of Peter Mair by his Former Ph.D. Supervisees”, organised at the Theatre of Badia Fiesolana in Florence (Italy), 26-27 February by Ferdinand Müller-Rommel (EUI) and Fernando Casal Bértola (Univ. Leiden) received the help of OPPR.

Moreover OPPR members released the following speeches or held the following lectures:


Publications have been another way to disseminate the results of the observatory.

The proceedings of the conference “Responsive or Responsible? Parties, Democracy and Global Markets”, held at the EUI, 26 to 28 September, in honor of Peter Mair, will be soon published in two special issues of the journals “Party Politics” and “West European Politics”.

ai partiti e il finanziamento de Partiti Europei” in Polis, n. 3/2013; (with Eugenio Pizzimenti) “Old logics for new games: The appointment of the EU’s High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy”, in Contemporary Italian Politics, n. 1.


OPPR also hosts a working paper series jointly with EUDO. For 2012-2013 we recall the papers: “National parties, political processes and the EU democratic deficit: The problem of europarties institutionalization” by Fabio Sozzi and “The Role of Europarties in Framing the European Union Foreign and Security Policy”, by Enrico Calossi and Fabrizio Coticchia

Other relevant publications on political parties and representation by EUI scholars have been the following: McDonnell Duncan, and Mazzoleni Oscar “Directly Elected Mayors and their Parties: The Cases of Genoa and Lausanne” in Government and Opposition, Volume 48 - Special Issue 03; by McDonnell D., “Silvio Berlusconi’s Personal Parties: From Forza Italia to the Popolo Della Libertà”, in Political Studies, Volume 61; Bartlett J., Froio C., Littler M., McDonnell D., “Social media is changing politics across Europe… New Political Actors in Europe: Beppe Grillo and the M5S”, DEMOS.

Moreover, it is possible to find listed below a selection of publications of 2012-2013 by members of the OPPR Scientific Board which are relevant to the topic of the Observatory.


II.2.2 OUTLOOK FOR 2014

OPPR will go on with its activity and being a hub for research of Political Parties, it will host working papers by the most prominent, but also by younger, researchers. The Observatory will continue its series of guest lectures by European policy-makers in 2014, inviting leading representatives from Europarties and political groups in the European Parliament. The Observatory intends to exploit its unique capabilities to make further funding applications, in full collaboration with its fellow EUDO Observatories and the Robert Schuman Centre.

OPPR is actively seeking ways to make the archives of Europarties and their parliamentary groups more easily accessible to the academic and policy community, and it is contacting European policy-makers to envisage ways in which this goal could be realised and connected to the on-going work of the Historical Archives of the EU, also situated in the EUI. The Observatory will continue its efforts to negotiate with the European Political Parties about the possibility of transferring (or even copying) their archives to the EUI.

In 2013 some research projects have already been or will be soon submitted to certain institutions and research centres; in particular:

1. Parties as multi-level campaign organizations
This might be described as the infrastructural project of the OPPR. For many years European Elections have been considered in the literature as second order elections but this hypothesis has never been tested. The project promises to generate the data for such a test.
This project aims to build an infrastructure for the continuous monitoring of the degree of Europeanisation of the elections to the European Parliament and national parliaments across a complete five-year cycle. Through a set of specific indicators, this study will explore the dynamics of political campaigning at both national and European levels in order to better understand the degree to which distinctly European themes are advanced by political parties as they enter the two sets (European and national) of electoral contests. As the first step, the OPPR will prepare a detailed report on electoral campaigns at the EU level. This will form the background for the work of an international research team, comprising of national experts in the field, who will then observe and report on the parties’ campaigns in elections across a five year period (2013-2017). We think the best way to achieve our research interests would be to cover all 28 EU member states and current applicants. However, concentrating only on some two-thirds of the EU member states could also be profitable.

Specifically this work of research will seek to answer several questions: i) What are the themes developed by the parties in national and European campaigns, and to what extent are these Europeanised? ii) Do parties develop different styles of campaign in European and national elections, and, if so, what is the impact of these differences? iii) How do parties organize the different campaigns? What kind of means and techniques do they employ in national contests and in European contests, and how does this impact the status of the European elections in particular? iv) How are the candidates selected in both contests? v) Who and what is being targeted by the different campaigns? vi) What is the role of European political parties in the elections to the EP, and what, if any, role is given to European party affiliations in elections to the national parliaments?

2. Trans-nationalisation of EU politics
This research project will be launched with the aim of receiving some preliminary feedback during the EU Foundations conference. In particular the project will be divided into two parts. The first one will be devoted to the plausibility of Duff's draft on the possible standardization of the national electoral systems for the European elections; this can be considered as a first step towards the concrete trans-nationalization of EU politics. The second part of the project will be devoted to identifying the current relevant social and political cleavages for each member state. The rationale for this is that only common and shared cleavages can make trans-nationalisation really possible.

3. Relations between Political Parties at the European Level and National Parties of Associate Countries
Associate countries have always received particular attention from European national governments and also from non-governmental organizations. In particular, as happened in the past, European national parties have helped, with resources and legitimization, sister parties in neighbouring countries. Nowadays, taking into consideration the increasing institutionalization and resources of PELs, such a role is also played by Europarties. This project targets the exploration of the current relations between PELs and sister parties in the associate countries.

4. Relations between Political Parties at the European Level and Turkish Parties
This can be considered as an extension of the previous project. We have already established links with the Ege University (Turkey), with the aim of preparing a joint project for submission to the Turkish Education Minister.

5. Party leadership selection in national parties
In our 2010 report “How to Create a Transnational Party System” we devoted an entire chapter to European elections candidate selection procedures. We discovered huge variations amongst national parties even of the same spiritual and political family. We assume that for the party leadership selection procedures it will be possible to find the same differences and similarities. Naturally the OPPR is interested in any research project that focuses on its institutional aims, and it will be opened to any research centre or individual researcher who may consider the partnership of the OPPR as relevant, and wish to submit his research proposal to the observatory.
II.3 EUDO OBSERVATORY ON INSTITUTIONAL CHANGE AND REFORMS

The Observatory on Institutional Change and Reforms is devoted to the analysis of institutional reforms and adaptations in the current institutional design of the EU and aims at assessing whether and to what extent these institutional reforms and adaptations are likely to foster the prospects for an increased popular acceptance and legitimacy within the Union. The Observatory is co-directed by Adrienne Héritier (Joint Chair of Comparative and European Public Policy at the EUI/RSCAS) and Bruno de Witte (Professor of European Law at Maastricht University and part-time Professor at the EUI/RSCAS). The main aim of the Observatory is to systematically describe institutional democratic reforms below the Treaty level. Given that, since the entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty, there have been and there will be no Treaty amendments for the foreseeable future, it is all the more important to observe the reforms and changes in decision-making rules that have, in part, been designed at the sub-treaty level. But it is also important to track changes in institutional democratic rules that have emerged in the course of the application of existing treaty rules, and which constitute a change in institutional democratic rules.

The Observatory intends to describe such changes between and among the European Parliament, the national Parliaments, the Commission, and the Council of Ministers. The Observatory also intends to describe reform and changes in the institutional procedural rules of the above mentioned European Institutions and national Parliaments with respect to European legislation.

Moreover, this Observatory will assess changes in democratic decision-making procedures from individual policy areas in order to discover whether changes occur and whether they are of importance for other policy areas.

The Observatory aims at systematically documenting and describing such changes in order to get a complete picture of on-going reforms and changes in democratic decision-making rules at the sub-treaty level. The documentation will then be made available on the website.

II.3.1 ACTIVITIES AND RESEARCH

Adrienne Héritier published together with Catherine Moury, Carina Bischoff and Carl Fredrik Bergstroem a monograph on Changing Rules of Delegation – A Contest for Power in Comitology with Oxford University Press 2013. She also published an article in the Journal of European Public Policy 2013 analyzing 10 years of codecision practice. A further article was published in the Electronic Version of the results of the EUDO dissemination conference on the Euro Crisis and the State of European Democracy. With Yannis Karagiannis she contributed an article on important institutional changes occurring under the impact of the Eurozone crisis in particular in the Commission and in delegated legislation.

Jointly with Paolo Ponzano and Bruno de Witte she organized a workshop with practitioners of the European Parliament, Commission and Council of Ministers on the application of delegated legislation under the Lisbon Treaty in April 2013. Another workshop with practitioners and scholars on Revising the European Treaties co-organized with
Paolo Ponzano and Bruno de Witte will take place in November 2013. She will also participate in a panel of a conference organized by the General Secretariat of the European Parliament on 10 years of codecision in November 2013.

Bruno De Witte gave a paper at the ARENA institute in Oslo in April 2013, on the use of international treaties in the context of the Euro crisis; this paper was subsequently published in ARENA’s Working Paper series. A revised and updated version of the paper will be published in a special issue of the Journal of European Public Policy in 2014. On a related matter, he wrote a commentary of the Pringle judgment of the European Court of Justice which approved the creation of the European Stability mechanism as being in accordance with EU constitutional law. The social rights dimension of the economic crisis measures forms the object of a workshop which he co-organizes in December 2013 (see below). On that same subject of the protection of fundamental social rights in EU law in light of the current economic crisis, he gave lectures at Koc University (Istanbul) in December 2012, at the University of Granada (March 2013), and at a workshop of the University of Maastricht (September 2013).

He published, as co-editor, two collective volumes that present the results of EUDO workshops that were held in previous years: one volume, called Lawyering Europe proposes an interdisciplinary approach to the role of law and lawyers in the development of the European integration process since its inception; the other volume, called Judicial Activism at the European Court of Justice, discusses the current relation and interaction between the European Court and the political institutions (those at the European and at the national level) from a number of different perspectives, taking as a guiding question whether the Court of Justice should be considered to be unduly activist or not.

On 30-31 May 2013, he organized at the University of Maastricht an international conference ‘Between Flexibility and Disintegration: The State of EU law Today’, in which the speakers gave critical assessments of the various mechanisms of flexibility that are currently practiced in the European Union, namely: enhanced cooperation, opt-outs, country-specific derogations and separate international agreements between groups of member states. The papers will be published in 2014 in the form of an edited volume.

II.3.2 EVENTS

Workshop on National Courts vis-a-vis EU Law: New Issues, Theories and Methods

The workshop, organised by EUDO and the Centre for Judicial Cooperation, followed and developed a new research agenda and reviewed some old aspects on how and why courts are involved in the process of EU legal integration by raising new questions and discussing different empirical aspects concerning the relevance of national judges’ knowledge, experiences and judicial networks for the application of EU law or the impact of national courts on the implementation of EU rights, policies and treaty ratification, among others. The workshop was held at the European University Institute on 29-30 November 2012. The detailed programme of the event is available online at:

http://www.eui.eu/Projects/EUDO/WorkshopsSeminars/NationalCourtsvis-a-visEULawWorkshop.aspx
Workshop on Implementation of Delegated and Implementing Acts (Art. 290 and 291 of Lisbon Treaty)

The Observatory organised a workshop on the implementation of delegated and implementing acts. The workshop took place in Florence at the European University Institute, 18 April 2013. The workshop aimed to check the practical implementation of articles 290 and 291 of the Lisbon Treaty in order to evaluate the institutional changes provided for by the treaty to rules on comitology and legislative delegation.

The workshop brought together scholars who work in the area of comitology and legislative delegation (Bruno de Witte, Adrienne Héritier, Paolo Ponzano and Katarzyna Granat) and representatives from the European Commission (Beata Dziechciarz), European Parliament (Ioanna Anagnostopoulou) and the Council of Ministers (Giuliano Castellani).

The event was audio-recorded and the audios are now available online: www.eui.eu/Projects/EUDO/WorkshopsSeminars/ImplementationofDelegatedandImplementingActs(Art290and291ofLisbonTreaty).aspx

Workshop on Revising European Treaties

The aim of this workshop, convened by Adrienne Héritier, Bruno de Witte and Paolo Ponzano, is to explore the possibility of modifying current European treaties. In particular, the participants will explore the possible scenarios of the project of Andrew Duff, Liberal Democrat Member of the European Parliament for the East of England, for a “Fundamental Law” or a constitutionalisation of the Eurozone. Andrew Duff, Jean-Paul Jacqué, Steve Peers, Lucia Serena Rossi, Antonio Padoa Schioppa, Thomas Beukers, Jacques Ziller and Wolfgang Wessels, will take part in the workshop. The workshop will take place, 11 November, in Florence at the European University Institute.
Workshop on Social Rights in Crisis in the Eurozone: The Role of Fundamental Rights Challenges

Although often neglected by legal and policy analysis of the Eurozone crisis, an increasingly central dimension of that crisis and its management is dramatic changes to a very broad range of social rights and entitlements. These include rights relating to work as well as rights relating to a wide range of welfare entitlements such as rights to housing, health, food and social assistance. The aim of this workshop is two-fold. It analyses, firstly, what has happened to social rights in a number of the Eurozone Member States most affected by the crisis. Secondly, it looks at the content, location and background of any fundamental rights’ challenges made to crisis-imposed changes to work and welfare rights. This workshop, convened by Bruno De Witte (for EUDO) together with Professor Claire Kilpatrick (EUI Law department) will take place on 6 and 7 December 2013.

II.3.3 OUTLOOK FOR 2014

In 2014, Bruno De Witte intends to conduct further research activities on the legal dimension of the institutional evolution of the EU, in particular: the constitutional questions raised by the economic governance reforms of the EU, the protection of fundamental rights after the coming into force of the EU Charter of Rights, and the division of competencies between the EU and its member states. Adrienne Héritier is planning to investigate the role of inter-institutional agreements in the specification of formal changes of decision-making rules in the European Union. Inter-institutional agreements reflect the way that the Commission, Council and Parliament plan to interact in areas of joint decision-making in all areas. They are important indicators of how the Treaty rules are substantiated and implemented. Based on the results of the research project, the publication of various working papers and articles is planned. In addition, the organisation of a number of seminars and workshops is underway.
The EUDO Observatory on Citizenship provides the most comprehensive source of information on the acquisition and loss of citizenship in Europe for policy makers, NGOs and academic researchers. It identifies major trends and problems in citizenship policies as a basis for informed action at EU level. Its website hosts a number of databases on domestic and international legal norms, naturalisation statistics, citizenship indicators, a comprehensive bibliography and glossary, a forum with scholarly debates on current citizenship trends, media news on matters of citizenship policy and various other resources for research and policy-making.

EUDO CITIZENSHIP is built on a network of academic experts for each of the countries covered (currently 48 countries), and is co-directed by Rainer Bauböck (EUI, Department of Political and Social Sciences), Jo Shaw (University of Edinburgh Law School) and Maarten Peter Vink (Maastricht University). The Observatory’s research projects have been coordinated by consortia involving five partner institutions: the European University Institute (Florence, Italy), University College Dublin (Ireland), the University of Edinburgh (Scotland), Maastricht University (Netherlands) and the Migration Policy Group (Brussels, Belgium).

The EUDO CITIZENSHIP mission is to contribute to the understanding of current trends in citizenship policies in the European Union and neighbouring countries. Although the Observatory does not promote specific policy reforms, it intends to stimulate debates about shared principles and minimum standards among countries whose citizenship laws and policies are linked to each other through the common citizenship of the European Union or through migration flows. EUDO CITIZENSHIP aims to collect documentation and data, to provide basic and applied research reports for EU institutions, and to foster dialogue between policy-makers, academics, NGOs and citizens.

For the period 2012-2013, EUDO-CITIZENSHIP has received funding from a variety of institutions, including the European Commission and the European Parliament. The ACIT project on Access to citizenship and its impact on immigrant integration, co-financed by the European Fund for the Integration of Non-EU Immigrants, started in October 2011 and ended in June 2013. The FRACIT project on Access to Electoral Rights in the EU and Beyond, co-financed by the European Parliament Committee on Constitutional Affairs (AFCO), was successfully conducted between June 2012 and June 2013. In 2014, EUDO-CITIZENSHIP will be partly funded through its participation in the ILEC project on Involuntary Loss of European Citizenship, directed by the Centre for European Public Policy and co-financed by the European Commission’s Directorate-General for Justice.

Until June 2010 core financing for EUDO CITIZENSHIP was provided by the European Commission’s European Fund for the Integration of Third Country Nationals through the Access to Citizenship in Europe (EUCITAC) project. EUCITAC funding covered comprehensive analyses of citizenship in 33 countries. These are the 28 Member States of the EU and 5 accession states or EEA countries (Turkey, Moldova, Switzerland, Norway and Iceland). Apart from the EUI Research Council’s funding for the larger
EUDO project, EUDO CITIZENSHIP has also mobilized various other sources of funding that have been used for a gradual geographic expansion of the observatory to cover other countries in the EU neighbourhood. These funds come from the British Academy project CITMODES (Citizenship in modern European states), which is co-directed by Jo Shaw and Rainer Bauböck, the CITSEE project on the Europeanisation of Citizenship in the Successor States of the Former Yugoslavia, funded by an Advanced Researchers Grant of the European Research Council for Jo Shaw, and the 2006 Latsis Prize of the European Science Foundation awarded to Rainer Bauböck. The Observatory has also been supported by the IMISCOE Research Network on International Migration, Integration and Cohesion in Europe, and has been involved in several meetings of the network.

II.4.1 ACTIVITIES AND RESEARCH

EUDO CITIZENSHIP incorporates and updates the analyses of earlier comparative projects on citizenship in the 15 pre-2004 EU member states (the NATAC project) and in 12 new and accession countries (the CPNEU project), both coordinated by Rainer Bauböck. EUDO CITIZENSHIP Country Reports are published in the Robert Schuman Centre/EUDO Citizenship Observatory Working Papers Series, both in printed and electronic form. In 2013, our country profiles and reports on citizenship laws were revised and updated by our ever-expanding network of experts in order to account for the latest legislative developments in a field of public policy that is subject to ongoing changes. The geographic scope of the observatory has been expanded through the addition of new country profiles for Georgia, Lebanon Morocco and Russia, which will be followed in 2014 by Azerbaijan and Egypt. Besides our country profiles have been successively enriched by the publication of two new country reports series on Naturalisation Procedures (CITIMP) and Access to Electoral Rights (FRACIT) as well as handbooks on Access to Citizenship and its Impact on Immigrant Integration for 10 selected countries.

EUDO CITIZENSHIP also commissioned specific comparative research carried out by experts within the network and published on the Observatory’s website. The comparative studies which were published on the website in 2013 addressed the following topics: the comparative analysis of statelessness, the relationship between naturalisation and integration policies in Europe and the systematic comparison of naturalisation procedures and their implementation in EU Member States.
Access to Citizenship and its Impact on Immigrant Integration (ACIT)

In 2011, EUDO CITIZENSHIP was selected by the European Fund for the Integration of Non-EU Immigrants (administered by DG Home Affairs) for financing of the research project Access to Citizenship and its Impact on Immigrant Integration (ACIT). The ACIT project was carried out between October 2012 and June 2013.

The five consortium partners who carried out the project jointly are: the European University Institute, the Migration Policy Group (Brussels), University College Dublin, University of Edinburgh and Maastricht University. The main goals of ACIT were to explore the links between acquisition of nationality and the integration processes and to encourage effective measures for facilitating immigrants’ access to citizenship in the EU.

ACIT developed four sets of citizenship indicators on citizenship laws (CITLAW), their implementation (CITIMP), and their impact on acquisition rates (CITACQ) and integration outcomes (CITINT) in all 27 EU Member States and accession candidate and EEA countries (Croatia, Iceland, FYROM Macedonia, Norway, Switzerland, and Turkey). 10 EU Member States (Austria, Estonia, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Portugal, Spain, the United Kingdom) were selected for in-depth case studies because of their large immigrant and foreign populations, diverse citizenship laws and high or low acquisition rates. National stakeholder dialogues were organised by NGO/think-tank partners in these 10 countries (in Vienna, Tallinn, Paris, Berlin, Budapest, Dublin, Rome, Lisbon, Barcelona and London).

ACIT collected and compared available national and international evidence on how acquiring citizenship enhances immigrants’ participation in society. It analysed a series of indicators to reveal the hidden links between citizenship and integration policies within EU competence, including anti-discrimination, family reunion and long-term residence.

ACIT made the first-ever impact assessment of citizenship law in each country and across Europe. The findings show the effects of recent reforms and compare the impact of legal rules with that of societal factors such as origin, residence duration, gender, age and social status. Research results are disseminated in 10 national handbooks, 4 comparative reports based on the indicators and a final European-level report. ACIT also highlights changes in citizenship laws and implementation that have improved integration in practice and it provides policy recommendations to reinforce EU indicators on active citizenship and to develop an EU module on “Citizenship and Integration.”
Academic researchers, government and civil society now have access to comprehensive data, comparative analyses and practical guidelines on how to evaluate policy outcomes, set targets and good governance standards, and assess the prospective impact of policy changes. ACIT contributes to more effective policies and practices for integration and citizenship acquisition by creating authoritative, comprehensive and easy-to-use databases which foster European information exchange and cooperation.

**The Protection against Statelessness Database**

In 2013, EUDO CITIZENSHIP, represented by Maastricht University, developed in cooperation with the UNHCR Statelessness Unit a database which assesses the extent to which citizenship laws in 36 European states provide sufficient protection against statelessness, in light of the most important international standards. The database is organised around a comprehensive typology of modes of protection against statelessness which outlines, in a systematic way, 17 categories of persons that are at risk of being or becoming stateless.

The Protection against statelessness database was officially launched on 13 December 2012 at the symposium “International developments in the field of statelessness and the situation in the Netherlands”, jointly organised by Tilburg University, Leiden University, Maastricht University and UNHCR Netherlands.

The Protection against statelessness database is developed and maintained by Maastricht University as core partner of EUDO CITIZENSHIP. The comparative report 'Protection Against Statelessness: Trends and Regulations in Europe', by project team members Olivier Vonk, Maarten Vink and Gérard-René de Groot, is now available on our website.

**FRACIT**

In 2012, EUDO CITIZENSHIP was selected by the Committee on Constitutional Affairs of the European Parliament to conduct research and write a report on the franchise and electoral participation of third country citizens residing in the European Union, and of European citizens in third countries. The resultant FRACIT project, which started in June 2012 and ended in June 2013, was jointly carried out by the European University Institute, University of Edinburgh, University College Dublin, University of Sussex and our network of Country Experts. The findings were presented at one-day event held at the European Parliament, 23 February 2013. The comparative study, published in May 2013 by the European Parliament, Policy Department of Citizens’ rights and Constitutional Affairs, is available for download on our website.

At the time of the 2009 European Parliament elections it was estimated that 11.6% of the electorate were EU citizens living in another EU member state, while 4% of the total EU population in 2010 were non-EU citizens. Moreover, significant numbers of EU citizens live outside the EU altogether. FRACIT examined and compared the electoral rights and participation of these latter two categories in the current 28 Member States, and in 10 selected non-EU states (Brazil, Canada, India, New-Zealand, Morocco, Serbia, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine and USA).

While local voting rights for third country nationals in Europe have been studied extensively since the 1980s, external voting has only recently been
discovered as a global trend and topic for academic research. By broadening the thematic coverage of the observatory from citizenship status to voting rights, the FRACIT project provides a systematic comparison in both areas that is still missing.

In its one-year project, FRACIT collected and compared electoral laws and legislations, levels of registration and turnout in each of the selected countries for third country nationals resident in EU member states and EU citizens resident outside the EU. It covered electoral rights and participation in three types of elections (legislative, presidential, referendum) and at four levels (European, national, regional, and local). Original legal documents are presented in an online legal database on national electoral laws, similar to our database on national citizenship laws. Based on a comparative analysis of legal regulations, the project will also build an interactive typology with summary information on electoral rights for each country, category of voters and type of election, which will complement existing databases on modes of loss and acquisition of citizenship.

Lastly, EUDO-CITIZENSHIP also published a new series of country reports on “Access to Electoral rights” written by our country experts and covering all EU Member States. All reports and databases can be consulted online in the newly created Electoral Rights section of our website.

ILEC

European citizenship is the fundamental status of EU Member State nationals. What, then, are the implications when a state deprives a European citizen of his or her nationality? A new project funded by the European Commission’s DG Justice and coordinated by the Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS) in collaboration with the University of Maastricht and EUDO CITIZENSHIP aims to investigate this under-researched field. ILEC (Involuntary Loss of European Citizenship: Exchanging Knowledge and Identifying Guidelines for Europe) will carry out a comparative study of the law and practices governing loss of nationality across the 28 Member States. A key question it seeks to answer is what
impact the development of European citizenship is having on national competences covering the acquisition and loss of nationality in light of increasing jurisprudence from the Court of Justice and European Court of Human Rights. The project held its kick-off meeting, 11 March 2013, at CEPS, bringing together the ILEC project partners, including in addition to CEPS and the University of Maastricht, the European University Institute (Florence), the University of Liege, the Danish Institute of Human Rights, the University of Leon and the Interdisciplinary Centre for Comparative Research in the Social Sciences (Budapest). In 2014, a new country report series and comparative database on Involuntary Loss of Citizenship will be made available on our website.

II.4.2 EVENTS AND DISSEMINATION ACTIVITIES

Research carried out at the EUDO CITIZENSHIP Observatory has been presented at several international expert meetings and conferences through plenary lectures, papers or special panels, including the seminar “Political Rights in the Age of Globalisation” in St. Gallen (17 September 2013), the workshop “voting in a Migration context” at Sussex University (4-5 September 2013), the IMISCOE Annual conference in Malmö (25-27 August 2013), the Council for European Studies Conference in Amsterdam (25-27 June 2013) and the ESA Political Sociology Research Network Conference in Milan (30 Nov – 1 Dec 2012).


A few days later, the results of the FRACIT project were presented at the European Parliament in
Brussels, 26 February, 2013. The conference on “Access to Electoral Rights: Citizenship, Residence and the Franchise in Local, Regional, National and European election” was organised and hosted by the European Parliament Committee on Constitutional Affairs (AFCO). The resultant study on Franchise and Electoral Participation of Third Country Citizens Residing in the EU and EU Citizens Residing in Third Countries was published by AFCO in May 2013. The FRACIT team also participated in the conference “Minorities and Migrants”, co-organised by the OSCE High commissioner on National Minorities and EUDO CITIZENSHIP, which took place at the EUI on 2-3 May 2013.

II.4.3 OUTLOOK FOR 2014

In 2014, EUDO CITIZENSHIP will continue to update as well as to expand its databases and country reports and publish news and working papers. In addition, the comparative aspect will be strengthened, as more comparative analyses and forum debates will be made available online.

In November 2013, EUDO-CITIZENSHIP will launch a new forum debate on “Citizenship for sale”, in which prominent academics and experts will discuss the growing trend throughout Europe and beyond of offering facilitated access to citizenship to foreign investors. In 2014, additional forums debating some of the most topical citizenship related issues such as the initial determination of the citizenry in newly independent states or the involuntary loss of citizenship to persons whose conduct is prejudicial to the vital interests of the state will be organized. Contributions to these forums will be made available online on our website and published as RSCAS working papers.

In December 2013, EUDO-CITIZENSHIP will also launch a new database on access to electoral rights, complementing existing databases on modes of acquisition and loss of citizenship. The database, elaborated on the basis of the original legislations collected within the framework of the FRACIT project, will provide detailed comparative information on the scope of the electoral franchise in European, national, regional and local elections for each of the 28 EU Member States.

The first half of 2014 will predominantly focus on the ILEC project, conducted in collaboration with the Brussels-based Centre of European Policy Studies (CEPS). A new report series by our country experts examining the issue of involuntary loss of citizenship in 10 selected countries will be published online, thus broadening the thematic coverage of our country profiles.

EUDO CITIZENSHIP dissemination activities will be a major task for the coming months. Keep visiting our website at www.eudo-citizenship.eu for more information on past and current research activities conducted by the observatory.
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IV. SELECTED PUBLICATIONS


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