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 International and European Studies



  

**Programme**

**Workshop**

**Europe in an Uncertain World: Openness, Resilience and Vulnerabilities of Small States and Middle Powers**

**14-15-16 September 2023**

**Athens, Greece**

**Venue: 16, Panepistimiou St. (El.Venizelou), 2nd floor**

The workshop is organised by the **Institute of International Economic Relations (IIER) (Research Programme on the Theory and Practice of International Relations)** in collaboration with the following institutions:

* Neapolis University Pafos, Cyprus
* Institute for European Studies, University of Malta
* Department of Political Science and International Relations,

University of the Peloponnese, Greece

* Department of International and European Studies,

University of Macedonia, Greece

**Thursday, 14 September 2023**

**Venue: Institute of International Economic Relations (IIER),**

 **16 Panepistimiou St., 2nd Floor, Athens, 106 72.**

**11:30-12:00:**  Arrival and Registration

**12:00-12:30:**  Welcome Remarks

**12:30- 14:30: OPENING SESSION: Europe at a Crossroads**

Chair: Prof.**Charalampos Tsardanidis**, Director of the Institute of International Economic Relations (IIER), Athens.

*Keynote Speech 1:*

* Prof. **Frank Barry,** MRIA, Chair of the International Business and Economic Development Department of the Trinity Business School, Trinity College Dublin, Dublin: *Reflections on Ireland's Journey from Agricultural Satellite of the UK to Modern European Economy.*

*Keynote Speech 2:*

* Prof.**Alfred Tovias**, Emeritus, Department of International Relations of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Jerusalem, *EU Foreign Policy on the Israeli- Palestinian Conflict: A Re-evaluation.*

Keynote Speech 2:

* Mr. **Dimitrios Kourkoulas**, Former Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Greece, Responsible for European Affairs and Economic Diplomacy. *The Role of Small and Micro States in the EU: Resilience and Vulnerabilities.*

**14:30-16:00:** Buffet Lunch

**16:00-18:00:**  **PANEL 1: The New Security Architecture in the European Landscape**

Chair: Ms. **Effie Charalampaki**, Head of the Research Program on the Theory and Practice of

 International Relations (IIER), Athens.

* Prof. **Spyridon L. Litsas**, Department of International and European Studies, University of Macedonia, Thessaloniki: *Quo Vadis Europa? New Role and an Upgraded Mission for the New Era Ahead.*
* Assoc. Prof. **Konstantinas Andrijauskas**, Institute of International Relations & Political Science, Vilnius University, Vilnius: *The Shifting Continental Security Architecture: Ukraine-Centered Multilateral Security Alignments in Europe.*
* Asst. Prof. **Kyriakos Mikelis**, Department of International and European Studies, University of Macedonia,Thessaloniki: *Oscillating Between Security-Seeking and Status-Seeking? Turkey’s Power Activism.*

**Friday, 15 September 2023**

**10:30-12:00: PANEL 2: Shelter-Seeking Strategy of Small States**

Chair: Asst. Prof. **Hillary Briffa**, Asst. Director of Center for Defense Studies, King’s College, London

* Prof**. Baldur Thόrhallsson**, Research Director, Centre for Small State Studies, University of Iceland,Reykjavik & **Thomas Stube**, Researcher, Faculty of Political Science &Centre for Small State Studies, University of Iceland,Reykjavik: *Shelter-Seeking Strategy of Sweden and Finland: From the Beginning of the Cold War to NATO Membership.*
* Prof. **Charalampos Tsardanidis,** Director, Institute of International Economic Relations, Athens,: *The* 2008  *Economic Crisis in Cyprus: A (De)Europeanization or a Shelter-Seeking Strategy?*
* Ms**.Effie Charalampaki &** Mr.**Kostas Pechynakis &** Ms.**Nefeli Athanasaki &** Mr**.Giorgos Fragkos &** Mr.**Valasis Simitsis,** Research Program on the Theory and Practice of International Relations, Institute of IEER, Athens: *Small States as Agents of Change and Innovation in the European Space: The Cases of Ireland, Greece, Cyprus and Iceland.*

**12:00-12:30:** Coffee Break

**12:30-14:00: PANEL 3: The Parliamentary Diplomacy of Small States and Microstates**

Chair: Mr.**Stelios Stavridis,** ARAID Senior Research Fellow, University of Zaragoza, Zaragoza.

* Prof. **Roderick Pace,** Institute for European Studies, University of Malta, Valletta: *The Parliamentary Diplomacy of Small European States: Ordained to Remained Peripheral?*
* Adj. Prof. **Jordi Xuclà,** Department of Communications and International Relations, University Ramon Llull, Barcelona: *A Panoramic View of the Parliamentary Diplomacy of European Microstates: The Cases of Andorra, Monaco and San Marino.*
* Ms.**Laura Gil-Besada,** Doctoral Researcher, Chair of Legislative Studies, University of Luxembourg, Luxembourg: *The Parliamentary Diplomacy of a Small State in the Context of the Russian Invasion of Ukraine: The Case of Luxembourg.*

**14:00-15:30:** Buffet Lunch

**15:30-16:30: PANEL 4: The Relationship of Small and Middle European Powers with China**

Chair: Prof. **Roderick Pace,** Institute for European Studies, University of Malta, Valletta

Adj.Lecturer **Thrassy N. Marketos,** Research Associate/Eurasia Energy Geopolitics, Department of Economics and Technology, University of the Peloponnese, Tripoli: *Turkey’s Middle Power Pendulum: “Middle Corridor’s” Project Coupling with China’s “One Belt-One Road” Initiative in Eurasia.*

* Mr**.Edoardo Lavezzo,** Ph.D. Candidate, Department of Politics, Derwent College, University of York, York/ [Heslington](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Heslington): *Turkey’s Behavior as a Middle Power: Navigating in the EU-China Competition through Transactionalism.*

**16:30-17:00:** Coffee Break

**17:00-18:30: PANEL 5: Uncertainty, Innovation and Vulnerabilities: The Challenges for**

 **Small States**

Chair: Ms. **Effie Charalampaki**, Head of the Research Program on the Theory and Practice of

 International Relations, IIER), Athens.

* Mr. **Georgios Alexopoulos,** Ph.D. Candidate, Department of Social and Educational Policy, University of the Peloponnese, Corinth: *Uncertainty Development Models in the Insecurity Period of the Eurozone.*
* Ms. **Korina Asteriou,** Ph.D. Candidate, Department of International and European Studies, University of Macedonia, Thessaloniki: *Small States and the EU Policy-Making Process: The Case of the 2015 Refugee Crisis.*
* Mr**. Georgios K. Papadimitriou,** Ph.D. Candidate, Department of International and European Studies, University of Macedonia, Thessaloniki:  *At the Crossroads of Realism and Idealism: The States of the Scandinavian Peninsula and the Inevitable End of a Journey on Two Boats.*

**Saturday, 16 September 2023**

**10:00-11:30: PANEL 6: Small States and Middle Powers in the Baltics**

Chair: Prof**. Baldur Thόrhallsson**, Research Director, Centre for Small State Studies, University of Iceland,Reykjavik

* Asst. Prof. **Hillary Briffa**, Asst. Director of Center for Defense Studies, King’s College, London: *Confronting the Future: Cultivating Small State Resilience Through Strategic Foresight.*
* Asst. Prof. **Mariusz Antonowicz,** Institute of International Relations and Political Science, Vilnius University, Vilnius: *Small State and Middle Power Cooperation? The Comparative Analysis of Latvia’s, Lithuania’s and Poland’s Policies Towards Belarus After 2020.*
* Ms. **Andreea-Amalia Stănică,** Ph.D. Candidate,National University of Political Studies and Public Administration (SNSPA), Bucharest: The Evolution of Society’s Perception of the Concept of Security in the Period 2013-2022 and the Influence of the Three Seas Initiative: The Case Studies of Romania, Poland and the Baltic States.

**11:30-12:00:** Coffee Break

**12:00-13:30: PANEL 7: The Diplomacy of Middle Powers**

**Chair**: Mr.**Antonis Deriziotis**, Lecturer, Department of Turkish and Modern Asian Studies, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Athens

* Asst. Prof. **Karolina Gawron-Tabor** & Asst. Prof. **Joanna Piechwiak-Lamparska,** Department of Political and Security Sciences, Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń, Toruń: *Minilateral Defense Cooperation in Europe as a Tool for Small States.*
* **Nikolaos Vlahakis,** Minister Plenipotentiary for Public Diplomacy, Embassy of Greece in Bucharest, Bucharest: *The Soft-Power Strategy as the Optimal Choice for Small States and Middle Powers in the New Phase of Globalization: The Role of a New Public Diplomacy.*
* Ms. **Eleni Maria Kalafati,** Instructor of Economics and Negotiations, City Unity College & Researcher in the Research Program on the Theory and Practice of International Relations, IIER,: *Middle Powers and Inter-regionalism: The Case of MIKTA.*

**13:30:14:30:** Buffet Lunch

**14:30-16:30: PANEL 8: New Directions in the Diplomacy of Small Sates and Middle Powers**

Chair: Prof. **PanayiotisTsakonas**, Department of Political Science and Public Administration, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Athens

* Associate Prof. **Fotini Bellou,** Department of International and European Studies, University of Macedonia, Thessaloniki: *Greece’s Foreign Policy Response Towards the Blue Homeland Narrative: A Response from a Medium Power Facing Regional Revisionism.*
* Adj. Prof. **Jordi Xuclà**, Department of Communications and International Relations, University Ramon Llull, Barcelona: *Parliamentary Diplomacy as a Key Factor to Conclude the Monitoring Process of the Council of Europe in Andorra and Monaco.*
* Ms. **Georgia Manolopoulou,** Ph.D. Candidate, Department of Political Science and International Relations, University of the Peloponnese, Corinth: *From Identity to Prosperity: Revealing the Power of Cultural Diplomacy in Small States and Middle States. The Case Study of Greece and Italy.*
* Ms. **Aikaterini Patrikiou,** MSc. International Negotiations,Athens University of Economics and Business, Athens: *Navigating an Uncertain World: The Role of Diplomacy and Foreign Policy in Small States and Middle Powers.*