EU-12 development policies at half-time

Europeanization, specialization, or both?

International conference organized by Palacký University in Olomouc, Czech Republic in cooperation with EADI Working Group on Development Aid of the Non-DAC Donors

Wednesday 15th – Friday 17th February 2012 Palacký University, Olomouc, Czech Republic

Programme chairs: Petra Krylová (Palacký University) and Ondřej Horký (Institute of International Relations, Prague)

With the accession of the ‘new’ member states to the EU in 2004 and 2007 and, for some of them, to the OECD in the preceding years, the mostly post-communist countries have begun or renewed their bilateral and multilateral cooperation programmes as well as defined their national position towards the EU development policy. At this ‘half-time’ when the bases of their development cooperation programmes are laid down, the aim of the conference is to offer a time of reflection on the outcomes of the interaction between the ‘new’ member states and the Union in a larger political and societal context. On the one hand, there is the unifying process of Europeanization that encompasses broader international commitments, and, on the other hand, the diverging specialization of the national development policies, especially in the efforts to transmit the transition and Europeanization experience of the ‘new’ member states beyond their borders. Unlike previous research, the conference will pay equal attention to the influence of the newcomers on the Union rather than vice versa only. Moreover, rather than a merely technical policy to be implemented by the member states, the development cooperation policies of the ‘new’ members states and the EU development policy will be considered as a component of their politics à part entière. Therefore, special attention will be paid to their embedment in the national and European public opinion, civil society, NGO sector, administration, political life, economy and employment. This aspect includes the use and misuse of development cooperation for other purposes than its stated objectives. Finally, the conference will encourage a critical assessment of the past ten to fifteen years of international development policies of the ‘new’ member states as well as the older heritage and current evolution EU development policy. The Commitment to Development Index which was developed by the US-based Centre for Global Development offers an interesting opportunity for assessing not only the development policies but more importantly the overall approach of the EU 12 towards the developing countries. However, considering the specificities of aid provided by the new member states many issues need to be discussed. The conference will aim to foster such debate and engage both scholars from the ‘new’ and ‘old’ member states and beyond.

This conference is co-financed by the European Social Fund and the state budget of the Czech Republic.
Accordingly, conference papers (4,000–6,000 words) devoted to individual member states, will be presented at the conference. They will share a common methodological framework and structure:
1. Introduction: a historical outlook of the post-war and pre-accession period
2. The Europeanization of national development policy: rhetoric and implementation
3. The specialization of national development policy: possible transfer of transition experience, success stories
4. The embedment of development policy in a larger context (politics, society, economy)
5. A critical assessment of the national as well as EU development policy
6. Conclusion: the vision ten years ahead

Additionally to country focused papers, specific papers oriented at EU12 development agenda will also be presented as full conference papers.

There is no conference fee.

Discussion papers of 600 to 1000 words reacting on the conference papers will be accepted. The discussants may also choose one of the mentioned aspects the ‘new’ member states and comment on them in a comparative perspective. Finally, discussants from outside the EU-12 may present a discussion paper that evaluates the development policies of the ‘new’ member states form an outsider’s perspective. University students and young scholars are especially encouraged to apply.

Selected conference and discussion papers will serve as a base for a peer-reviewed monograph, which will be published in 2012.

Deadlines
Application with a discussion paper: January 5th 2012
Application to attend the conference: January 20th 2012
First draft of discussion and conference papers: January 20th 2012
Final draft of discussion and conference papers: at the conference
Final versions of the selected conference and discussion papers 4th March 2012

For any enquiries please contact us at olomoucconference2012@gmail.com

For further information and applying (with or without a discussion paper) please visit https://docs.google.com/spreadsheet/viewform?formkey=dHpWaW9tUGY4aENmdV9BT1haWEpkRXc6MQ
List of invited keynote speakers
Dr. Simon Lightfoot, University of Leeds – Central and East European donors: reflections from the outside
Dr. Zuzana Sladkova, CONCORD Aid Watch coordinator – EU12 countries’ role in the AidWatch process
Julia Clark, Center for Global Development, Washington DC
Antonio López Peña – EC DEVCO
Daniel Hanspach – UNDP Bratislava
Simon Hartmann, Michael Obrovsky – ÖFSE
Christine Bedoya, TRIALOG - Organised civil society’s contribution to EU12 development policy - the experience of TRIALOG

EU 12 countries
Estonia – Evelin Andrespok
Latvia - Peteris Timofejevs Henriksson
Lithuania – Julius Norvila
Poland – Ela Drążkiewicz-Grodzicka
Czech Republic – Petra Krylová, Ondřej Horký
Slovakia – Jan Mihalík, Nora Benakova (tbc)
Hungary– Balázs Szent-Iványi
Slovenia– Maja Bučar
Romania– Mirella Oprea
Bulgaria– Lilia Krasteva
Malta, Cyprus ?

Accommodation
Accommodation for keynote speakers and discussants is covered by the conference organizers.

Participation support for EU12 NGDO participants:
With the kind support of TRIALOG (Development NGOs in the enlarged EU), NGDO representatives from EU12 countries may apply for reimbursement of travel and accommodation costs, following these criteria:

→ participants have to apply to TRIALOG directly using the application form (http://www.trialog.or.at/images/doku/application_for_events.doc), however application for the conference also has to be completed
→ applications for reimbursement must reach TRIALOG at least 3 weeks before the event, i.e. the latest by 24th January 2012 (send to: f.elnagashi@trialog.or.at)
→ reimbursement will be made according to the TRIALOG reimbursement scheme (http://www.trialog.or.at/images/doku/trialog_reimbursement_scheme_oct11.pdf)
→ only NGDO representatives are eligible
→ maximum 3 NGDO representatives per EU-12 country can be funded
→ maximum 1 representative per NGDO
For other conference participants:

**Hotel Arigone** offers discounted price (1592,- CZK for single, 1832,- CZK for double room - in your communication with the hotel please include “EU12 conference” as a special code to be entitled for the discounted price, [http://www.arigone.cz/hotel.php](http://www.arigone.cz/hotel.php)).

Also **NH Hotels** have agreed to offer a discounted price of 99 EUR for double room and 89 EUR for single room. In your communication with the hotel please include “EU12 conference” as a special code to be entitled for the discounted price, [http://www.nh-hotels.com](http://www.nh-hotels.com).

We have also reserved a limited number of rooms in student dormitories (cca 250,- CZK per person). In case you would be interested in booking a dormitory room, please contact us directly at [olomoucconference2012@gmail.com](mailto:olomoucconference2012@gmail.com).