



University of Luxembourg - Robert Schuman Initiative for European Affairs

The Robert Schuman Initiative for European Affairs (RSI) researches into matters regarding European Integration and the European Union, and functions as a source of ideas and concepts for the development of policies of relevance to Luxembourgish and broader European societies. The RSI focuses on inter-disciplinary matters such as economic integration, constitutional and institutional evolution, the conceptual understanding of historical processes, the national and international dimensions of integration and the interaction of the various public and private actors involved in shaping the integration process.

Background

During its initial 15 years of existence as the country's first and only research university, the University of Luxembourg has developed a strong presence in European Union and integration studies and research in various academic disciplines, and notably in law, history and political science / political economy. European Union and integration topics are widely taught by the various University departments in teaching activities at the bachelor, master and PhD levels. Several master programmes exist which deal with aspects of the European Union and integration, and notably the Master in European law, European economic law, the Master in European Governance and the Master in Contemporary European history. European Union and integration matters are also central to many fields of research and publications. Senior scholars of the University are all well recognised and highly regarded and the University has been able to attract and develop junior talent who are destined to become impressive scholars in their respective (sub)disciplines. The objective of creating an interdisciplinary structure as a Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence (JMCE) was to reinforce this identity and to enhance the quality of research and teaching by allowing for further cooperation between the disciplines. In 2015, the University of Luxembourg has been awarded a grant under the Erasmus+ programme to establish the RSI. The funding has been renewed for an additional three-year period in 2018.

Objectives, Activities, Main Outputs

The primary focus of the work of the RSI is on identifying challenges facing the European Union and developing solutions on the basis of research into legal, political, economic, historical and other conditions and consequences of European integration.

The RSI functions also as a source of ideas for the development of EU policies of relevance to Luxembourgish and broader European society. It focuses on cross-cutting issues linking matters such as economic integration, the EU's constitutional and institutional evolution, the conceptual understanding of historical processes, the national and international dimensions of integration and the

interaction of the various public and private actors involved in shaping the integration process. The RSI aims contributing to continued efforts to initiate and advance policy debates that bridge disciplinary divides with the aim of developing policy relevant ideas to shape the development of the EU. It ensures the ongoing development of a vibrant academic community to conduct critical research and scholarly discourse at the highest level, with the publication of results in leading peer-reviewed publications and the maintenance of a strong on-line presence. The RSI intends to reinforce its position as an important and internationally recognised research community engaged in the ongoing exploration of the possibilities of and challenges to the future of European integration.

A distinctive feature of the RSI is the mobilisation of the wealth of 'know how' in the EU institutions based in Luxembourg. The RSI aims tapping into this source and bringing the knowledge and good will of officials in these institutions into the academic debate. Key to this is the ongoing development of a fellows programme. The RSI seeks to reinforce the existing academic community with the continued expansion of both internal members and external fellows. The idea is to ensure the ongoing development of policy approaches and ideas, which are based on sound research and methodology.

The RSI, with the help of its internal and the external members, will engage in scholarly projects and PhD education. To this end, it will support the existing 'Doctoral Training Unit' in Multi-level Regulatory Regimes financed by the Luxembourg *Fonds National de Recherche* of Luxembourg. The objective is to allow for and foster inter-disciplinary research also at the doctoral level.

Representing these elements, the RSI functions as a combination of a research centre and a laboratory of innovative ideas for society.

Research projects

The RSI supports and gives an institutional framework to research projects conducted by its members and its fellows. Projects include matters of more theoretic as well as applied research – all of which are infused with the contextual understanding, which a multi-disciplinary centre with members from a diverse background can offer. Projects are developed under the leadership of individual members of the RSI acting alone or in cooperation with each other. In many instances, additional colleagues from within the University or beyond are involved in the organisation of events. All activities of the RSI seek to include the widest possible input from within the diverse membership of the Centre and are integrated in international networks. Where possible the outreach to international centres and networks will be sought. The fellows of the RSI are actively integrated into the development of knowledge to the following topics to which the Centre undertakes to disseminate knowledge as widely as possible within civil society.

The European Union on the International Scene

The starting interdisciplinary question of this research activity is whether the European Union can be considered as an international actor in the context of global governance, according to the objectives set out in the Treaty of Lisbon, despite the widespread perception of its institutional weaknesses and the fragmented expression of its external policies. The specific research projects linked to this research activity covers both institutional and substantive questions stemming from the EU's international role.

- Agencies, regulatory cooperation standardisation and the use of information for achieving policy goals.
- The EU as a Human Rights actor.

- International regulatory cooperation and the trade agreements TTIP, TISA. What are the regulatory consequences and the influence of international regulatory cooperation on EU regulation?
- External action objectives and the autonomy of the EU legal order: competences, dispute settlement, participation in international organisations, enforcement of international agreements.
- External dimension of the Area of Freedom, Security and Justice: the EU in international migration governance.

The Law and Politics of Multi-level Governance

The Law and Politics of Multi-Level Governance covers the follow broad research themes:

- Third country nationals, immigration policy and fundamental rights.
- Enforcement of norms, principles and values (CJEU litigation and Ombudsman review).
- Union law in the international context — transformations of multi-level legal orders.
- The transformations of the rights-based Union — a change of identities?
- Evolution of the modes of governance — soft law, Open Method of Coordination, agency cooperation and networks, inter-governmental private law and others.
- The evolution of the institutional system of the Union and its multiple dimensions — general and policy specific approaches.
- The changing nature of parliamentary representation in Europe

Re-thinking the Internal Market

This research activity seeks to analyse the interaction of different principles and concepts linked to the operation of the European internal market in order to verify their continuity or their fragmentation and renewal. The three specific research projects undertaken under this activity examine three areas of the internal market of particular interest to Luxembourg: financial market integration, information and communication technology (ICT) in the area of Finance (Fintech) and the Internet. The study of each of these areas requires an interdisciplinary approach, bringing together political scientists, political economists, economists, historians and legal scholars. These three research projects are:

- A re-evaluation of principles and the development of new approaches in internal market regulation.
- Services as the key to society in a post-industrial age (especially financial services) – what contribution of the single market to the development and innovation in these fields?
- The construction of the EU's digital economy.

Building Successful European Economic Governance

This research activity addresses the institutional design, operation and output of European economic governance since the outbreak of the euro area sovereign debt crisis, drawing on insights from legal, political science, public policy, political economy, historical and economics scholarship. Specifically, this research activity is structured around an analysis of the two broad areas of institutional and policy development designed to stimulate a successful and sustainable European economy: 1) fiscal and monetary policies (Economic and Monetary Union); and 2) banking governance (specifically Banking Union). Professor Howarth will examine the political economic and public policy of these areas, with the assistance of Professor Herwig's expertise on the EU's economic constitution. Dr. Högenauer will examine ongoing efforts to increase the role of the European Parliament in EU economic governance

and specifically with regard to the new bodies and policies created in Banking Union. Specific research projects thus include:

- New approaches to understanding EU economic governance
- Parliamentary control of Economic Governance / Banking Union
- The Governance of Banking Union
- Convergence Pressures in European Banking Supervision

Team

The team of the RSI is composed of three former Jean Monnet Chairs from Law and Political Science. Three additional professors — one each from History, Law and Political Science also participate. The team consists of experienced and internationally recognised senior researchers who are all active in fostering careers of young doctoral and post-doctoral researchers, several of whom actively support the work of the RSI. The team is both interdisciplinary and multi-lingual, with each of the professors having pursued a distinguished career path in several EU member states and third countries. This combination of expertise, know-how, experience, cooperation and networks is unique and serves to create the specific force of innovation and creative thinking the RSI will be established to foster. One of previous JMCE members, and a Jean Monnet Chair in History, retired in 2017 and left Luxembourg.

David Howarth has been Professor in European Political Economy since September 2012. Previously, he was a Jean Monnet Chair and head of the Centre of Excellence at the University of Edinburgh (where he remains an Honorary Fellow). Howarth has authored or co-authored four books and over eighty journal articles and book chapters focused on specific aspects of European integration — and specifically on the political economy of integration, Economic and Monetary Union, EU financial regulation and French and British policies on integration. He has co-edited three volumes and eleven journal special editions on EU-related topics. Howarth is one of the three co-editors of the UACES-Routledge Contemporary European Studies series, one of the world's leading book series focused on EU studies. He has participated in a range of collaborative research projects funded by the EU, the British Academy and the Luxembourg Fonds National de Recherché (FNR). Howarth was co-chair of the Political Economy interest section of EUSA (the US-based ECSA) and a member of the UACES Committee (the UK-based ECSA). He has been a visiting scholar at several institutions including CEVIPOF (Paris) and New York University.

Eleftheria Neframi joined the University of Luxembourg in 2012 and was a Jean Monnet Chair from 2013-2016. She is a director of the Master 2 programme in European Litigation. She had held a post as professor at Paris 13 University as 'agrégée' of the faculties of law in France, from 2004 to 2012. Before that, she has been lecturer at Paris 13 University and a teaching and research assistant at Paris Ouest Nanterre La Défence University, Paris 13 University and Paris Sud University. She has held visiting positions at the Université Catholique de Louvain, at the University of Athens, at the Chuo University and at Paris 2 University. She graduated in law from the University of Athens and holds a PhD in European Law (University Paris 2), an advanced Master's degree in European Law (University Paris 2,) and an advanced Master's degree in International Economic Law (University Paris 1). She has written widely on European External Relations, European Litigation and General and Substantive European Law.

Joana Mendes is Professor of Comparative Administrative Law since 2016, where she teaches courses in EU Law, administrative law and constitutional law. Previously, she was Associate Professor at the University of Amsterdam (the Department of International and EU Law), senior researcher at the Amsterdam Centre for European Law and Governance and PhD Dean of the Law Faculty. She has been a Fulbright Visiting Scholar at Yale Law School (2014) and has taught EU public law and EU environmental law, as a guest lecturer, at the University of Coimbra, the European University Institute, the LUISS Carlo Guidi School of Government (summer school), and the Legal and Judicial Training Centre of Macao. She is a graduate of the University of Coimbra (master's degree) and of the European University Institute (PhD). Joana Mendes has published extensively on EU public law (specifically on EU administrative law), inter alia, in Oxford University Press, European Law Journal, Common Market Law Review, International Journal of Constitutional Law and Modern Law Review. She has been awarded an individual research grant by the Netherlands Foundation for Scientific Research (Veni Grant). Joana Mendes is member of the Steering Committee of ReNEUAL (Research Network of European Administrative Law) and an elected member of the General Council of the International Society of Public Law (ICON.S).

Herwig C. H. Hofmann is Professor of European and Transnational Public Law at the University of Luxembourg and founding director of its interdisciplinary Robert Schuman Institute of European Affairs. His research interests are in the field of European and comparative public law as well as international economic law focussing on modes of accountability in networked, multi-level legal structures. He teaches PhD, master and bachelor students in EU public law related subjects in Luxembourg and abroad. He is member of numerous international and national scientific organisations, is founder and coordinator of the Research Network on European Administrative Law (ReNEUAL) and is one of the founders of the European Law Institute (ELI, Vienna). Professor Hofmann has received numerous research grants and has been principle investigator in a long list of research projects. Professor Hofmann has consulted public institutions including inter alia the European Parliament's legal and constitutional affairs committees, the French Prime Minister's legislative service, as well as governmental bodies in Germany and Luxembourg. Qualified to practice, he also argues cases before the CJEU, especially in the fields of protection of fundamental rights and access to justice (more recently in C-462/14 Schrems v DPC and C-498/16 Schrems v Facebook). Amongst his article and book publications in these fields of the past years is 'Administrative Law and Politics of the European Union' (1st ed. OUP 2011), 'State Aid Law of the European Union' (OUP 2016) and the 'ReNEUAL Model Rules on EU Administrative Procedure' (OUP 2017 (first on-line version of 2014 at www.reneual.eu)). Next to publishing in English, French and German, parts of his work have also been translated into Italian, Polish, Romanian and Spanish. Professor Hofmann had visiting positions at institutions in Europe (including at Sciences Po in Paris and the EUI in Florence), in the US (including at Columbia Law School in New York and the University of San Francisco Law School) and in Asia (at Chuo University in Tokyo). He has a Master's degree from the University of Oxford and a Doctorate from the University of Hamburg. Prior to joining the University of Luxembourg as the first professor in law in 2004, he was full time lecturer in law at Trinity College Law School in Dublin, Ireland.

Andreas Fickers is the director of the Luxembourg Centre for Contemporary and Digital History (C²DH) and head of the DH-Lab. He studied history, philosophy and sociology and is currently Professor for Contemporary and Digital History. He took his PhD in 2002 at RTWH Aachen University and worked as Assistant Professor for television history at Utrecht University (2003-2007) and Associate Professor for comparative media history at Maastricht University (2007-2013). With an interdisciplinary scholarly

profile, he focused his main research interests on topics including: Theory and Methods of Historiography (digital history; audiovisual historiography); Cultural History of Media (press, film, especially radio and television); History of Technology (especially communication and information technologies); Transnational and European history (of technology and media); Material and Cultural Studies (museology, biographies of artefacts); Regional history (Euregio, especially German speaking part of Belgium). He is member of the Management Committee of the Tensions of Europe research network and co-founder of the European Television History Network. He is national representative of Luxembourg in the HERA network and in DARIAH-EU. He is actually visiting professor at Paris-Sorbonne University within the LABEX EHNE (“Ecrire une nouvelle histoire de l’Europe”).

Anna-Lena Högenauer has been Adjoint de Recherche (Senior Researcher) at the University of Luxembourg since 2014. She was previously a postdoctoral researcher at the University of Maastricht. She holds a BA in European Studies with French from King’s College London, an MA in European Political and Administrative Studies from the College of Europe in Bruges and a PhD in Political Science from the University of Edinburgh. Anna-Lena Högenauer’s research focuses on multi-level governance and multi-level parliamentarism in the European Union. Her most recent publications include a special issue with *The Journal of Legislative Studies* and an edited volume with Routledge on the role of regional parliaments in EU policy-making, as well as a monograph with Palgrave on the role of parliamentary administrations in EU affairs scrutiny (which won the 2016 Pademia Research Prize). She has also published 14 journal articles and 9 book chapters on these issues. Anna-Lena Högenauer was a member of the NWO-DFG-ESRC-AFR funded OPAL project on the role of parliament after the Lisbon Treaty (2011-2014) and a steering group member and work package leader of the Pademia network (EU-funded, 2013-2016). She is currently a member of the Jean Monnet Network VIADUCT on EU-Turkey relations and the ‘Negotiating Brexit’ project (ESRC-funded).

Robert Harmsen has been a professor of Political Science at the University of Luxembourg since 2008. He is also the founding director of the University’s Master’s programme in European Governance (since 2010). Previously, he was a senior lecturer in European Studies at Queen’s University Belfast. At Queen’s University, Robert Harmsen was similarly the founding director of the Master’s degree in European Integration and Public Policy (1994-2008), while also serving as the Acting Director of the Institute of European Studies (2003) and the Director of the European Governance and Gender Research Group (2005-2008). Professor Harmsen has been a visiting professor at the Universities of Amsterdam (2005), British Columbia (2015-16), and Strasbourg (recurring, 1998-2010). An editor of the Brill *European Studies* series, he further serves on a number of other journal editorial boards and was a member of the committee (trustee) of the University Association for Contemporary European Studies from 2012 to 2015. His current research focuses primarily on European and international higher education policy and on the politics of the European human rights regime. He has also worked extensively on the themes of Euroscepticism and Europeanisation.

More information on the RSI: <http://rsiblog.blogactiv.eu/>

