

Activity Report 2009

TRANS EUROPEAN POLICY STUDIES ASSOCIATION



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Foreword

The European Parliament elections and the entry into force of the Treaty of Lisbon have in 2009 provided new impetus for European integration. Especially the arrival of the long awaited treaty reform has ended the phase of institutional uncertainty and provides now many new avenues of how to improve the functioning of the European polity, policy and politics. It will thus be the major concern for 2010 to identify the best possible solutions how to implement this new treaty framework.

However, with the elections of the European Parliament another event has equally had an important impact on the future shape and content of Brussels undertakings. Carrying forward the vicious trend of low participation of citizens in choosing their European representatives much remains to be done to create a European public sphere, identity and active citizenship. A task, which certainly also must be paid attention to when implementing the Lisbon treaty.

TEPSA in 2009 has continued to carry out its task of analysis, assessment and advice. It has enlarged its membership to include a Turkish member and there is again a Belgian member. In many activities the financial and economic crisis played a major role.

TEPSA's mission: Analysis, Assessment and Advice

TEPSA has in 2009 accompanied the developments in the European Union, stimulated debate and encouraged thinking "outside" established boxes. Dialogue between the research community, be they think tanks or universities, between policy-makers, politicians, civil society and interest representatives has therefore been at the core of TEPSA's work. Especially the two Pre-Presidency conferences in Stockholm and Madrid have consequently been able to go beyond the usual Brussels circles and to involve national actors.

Therefore it is my pleasure to thank all those who have contributed to making 2009 a successful year for TEPSA. First, these thanks have to be addressed to TEPSA's member institutes all over Europe, which have actively shaped TEPSA's orientation. Special thanks go to TEPSA's acting Secretary General Jean Victor Louis, who has left his post in December 2009 to continue his own research path. Our thanks also go to the treasurer Carlos Rubens.

TEPSA in 2010 thus starts with a new team. The General Assembly in Madrid has appointed Prof. Jean-Paul Jacqu  as new Secretary General and, in addition to the confirmation of the Board members, Mirte van den Berge has

been appointed Executive Director, to replace Yvonne Nasshoven, and together with Laura Ventura, Research Assistant, completes the Brussels Secretariat of TEPSA.

On the financial side, TEPSA can also base its work on solid structures. Also in 2009, TEPSA benefited from the multiannual framework of the European Commission's "Europe for citizens" programme. Together with its work for the European Parliament, its collaboration with other research projects such as EUCONSENT or THESEUS, and other supporters – first and foremost its member institutes – TEPSA has thus diversified its budget.

Moreover, the long-lasting cooperation between many of our partners and TEPSA shows impressively that all sides perceive it as highly beneficial to cooperate. TEPSA has therefore won the support of most of its partners also for 2010.

Drawing on this sound setup, TEPSA in 2010 will continue to take a critical stance on the developments within the European Union, to bring together different actors and to analyse, assess and advice on solutions for challenges to European integration. TEPSA thus hopes to bring about fresh ideas and new ways of thinking for issues that are of relevance for the European societies.

Brussels, 1st June 2010

W. Wessels and J.P. Jacqué

About TEPSA

TEPSA has been established in 1974 with the goal to “study or organize research on problems relating to the development of European integration, based on human rights and democracy, to propose solutions, and to promote their taking into consideration by institutions, both private and public, at national or Community level, and to diffuse the results of its work.” (Article 3 of the statutes of the Trans European Studies Association)

TEPSA is a multinational network comprising 31 members. It aims at accomplishing its goals of analysis, assessment and advice, which have been the major guidelines for the activities of the TEPSA network in the past years. Following this approach, TEPSA provides high quality research on European integration in order to stimulate discussions on policies and political options for Europe.

A bottom-up approach to European governance

The main channel for transferring ideas and results of research from the national to the European level and vice versa is TEPSA's member institutes which operate independently but in line with TEPSA's goals on the national and transnational level. The Trans European Policy Studies Association exemplifies the 'bottom-up' approach to European governance, contributes to the EU's dialogue with citizens and reaches out to an informed debate in member states and applicant countries.

The activity of the TEPSA network has been accompanied over the past decades by a broad and target-group oriented communication and dissemination strategy. This includes a regular newsletter, publications and the TEPSA website. Also TEPSA's member institutes contribute with their own communication policies to the efficient dissemination of TEPSA's work.

TEPSA especially benefits from the “Europe for Citizens” Programme and therefore puts emphasis on the creation of stronger links between the European Union, its citizens, and the contribution of research and think tanks to this process by stimulating debate.



Executive summary

- **Pre-Presidency Conferences in Stockholm and Madrid**

The TEPSA Pre-Presidency Conferences are the network's flagship activities. On these occasions, TEPSA representatives discuss together with external experts, political actors and the media the upcoming Presidency's priorities and other topics of current interest. TEPSA Pre-Presidency Conferences are organized by TEPSA's local member institutes, ensuring the best knowledge of the political and strategic environment.

- **TEPSA Training**

This newly established programme has been launched in 2008 and ran until the Swedish Pre-Presidency Conference in Stockholm. Around 15 junior researchers obtained training on presentation and media skills, writing policy briefs and EU funding.

- **TEPSA roundtable conferences**

TEPSA roundtables are aimed at enabling in-depth discussion of important scientific or policy-oriented questions. They are organised in Brussels to ensure the best possible exchange with the European institutions and intend to provide a bridge between academia and practice.

- **TEPSA Guest Lecture Series**

TEPSA Guest Lectures manifest TEPSA's aim to bring the European debate to the national capitals. They "match" speakers from TEPSA institutes with hosting members and stimulate public discussion on current topics of interest.

- **Briefings for the European Parliament**

TEPSA in 2009 has continued its work for the European Parliament's committee on foreign affairs and provided expertise on a range of topics. A large number of TEPSA experts have also been invited to present their findings at hearings of the committee.

- **THESEUS**

THESEUS is a European network of thinkers, actors and ideas whose aim is to foster an open and constructive dialogue between academia and politics about the future challenges of Europe. Emerging from a Franco-German initiative, THESEUS is striving to enhance the mutual understanding of societies in Europe.

- **TEPSA's activities within EU-CONSENT**

EU-CONSENT, a network of excellence funded by the 6th Framework Programme has in 2008 continued to be the anchor point of many of TEPSA's activities. Comprising a huge number of TEPSA's member institutes, EU-

CONSENT has provided the framework for research on deepening and widening in Europe.

At the same time, TEPSA has engaged in disseminating its activities to the public mainly via its newsletter and its website. TEPSA has also been an active member in the Structured Dialogue organised by the Directorate General for Education and Culture of the European Commission. By these activities TEPSA has been able to contribute to the shaping of debates, and to continue its rich tradition on enhancing European integration.

TEPSA's activities in 2009

The following sections give a detailed overview of TEPSA's activities and their timeframe in 2008, according to the topics mentioned and including a presentation of TEPSA's communication strategy.

TEPSA Pre-Presidency Conferences

The two TEPSA Pre-Presidency Conferences discussed the upcoming Presidency and their priorities in order to give TEPSA's input into the half-year programme and formulate recommendations.

28-29 May 2009, Stockholm

The Swedish Pre-Presidency Conference

The Swedish Pre-Presidency Conference took place on 28 and 29 May 2009 at the Swedish Institute of International Affairs (SIIA) in Stockholm. The conference was organised by TEPSA's Swedish Member Institute, the SIIA, and the Swedish Institute for European Policy Studies (SIEPS) in cooperation with TEPSA and the EU-CONSENT network and Stockholm Forum for Security Studies (SFSS).

Entitled "Swedish Presidency 2009: Finding Solidarity in the Face of Crises" the conference brought together senior scholars and high-level practitioners from across Europe to focus on the Swedish Presidency of the EU. It examined the prospects for improving European solidarity in the face of existing and emerging challenges.

In two key notes speeches Cecilia Malmström, Swedish Minister for EU Affairs and Margot Wallström, Vice President of the European Commission, shared their reflections on the upcoming Swedish Presidency. They put stress on the Swedish Presidency's plans to overcome the economic downturn in Europe, to succeed in the negotiations on a Post-Kyoto climate agreement in Copenhagen and to manage the EU's institutional challenges.



In the afternoon 6 parallel workshops discussed the following subjects:

- ESDP at 10 Years: the EU and International Security
- The EU's Neighbourhood and Eastern Partnership
- Climate Change and the Environment
- A New Era in Transatlantic Relations?
- The Baltic Sea Strategy: A Test Case for Solidarity
- Societal Security and the Stockholm Programme

The second day saw two panels on "EU Institutions in Flux: Elections, Appointments, and Lisbon", and "Economic Crisis and European Solidarity."

Finally, the Trio-Presidency panel gave advice from the practitioners involved in running and implementing a Presidency to Gustaf Lind, State Secretary, Prime Minister's Office, Sweden and Enrique Viguera Rubio, Ambassador and former Director-General for EU Coordination at the Foreign Ministry, Spain.

As a long tradition in offering recommendations to future Presidencies, Petr Kratochvíl, Deputy Director from the Institute of International Relations, Prague, presented the following recommendations from TEPSA members to the Swedish EU Presidency:

1. Lisbon Treaty

The Swedish Presidency certainly prepares a strategy for the reaction of the European Council to the possible outcomes of the Irish referendum likely to be held on the Lisbon Treaty in autumn of this year. Even if the Swedish Presidency believes that the Irish electorate will, in this second referendum, endorse the Treaty, it would be particularly damaging to the Union if a negative Irish vote seemed to take the Presidency by surprise. The Swedish Presidency should also be prepared to deal with the contingency of another country or other countries failing to quickly complete their ratification procedures even after a positive vote in Ireland.

2. Economic and Financial Crisis

The Swedish Presidency, while recognizing that the great bulk of political and economic choices in this sphere are made by the member states, should encourage the European Council to speak about and act towards the current economic and financial crisis in as united a fashion as possible. Criticisms exchanged between the member states on their apparently differing economic policies can only create an appearance of European disunity. Under the Swedish Presidency, the European Council should lose no opportunity to stress the similarity of analysis and policies that underlies national macroeconomic programmes in the member states; the contribution made toward a recovery by the European Union's Economic Recovery Plan; and the central role of the euro in enhancing the economic stability of Europe over the past twelve months.

3. Financial Regulation

The Swedish Presidency should ensure that the recommendations of the de Larosière report on

financial regulation are fully discussed and that necessary decisions are taken as soon as possible. The consolidation of European banking over the past decade has, in any case, reinforced the case for a more effective system of European regulation. The present financial crisis has rendered this need even more acute. The Union must demonstrate under the Swedish Presidency that it has a coherent strategy for preventing the recurrence of those elements in the present financial crisis which stemmed from lax or poorly implemented regulation and that this strategy is one with global as well as European validity. The Union's strategy in this field must strike a balance between the need to protect the stability of the banking system together with the legitimate interests of depositors and savers, and the need to encourage innovation and flexibility in financial markets.

4. Copenhagen Climate Summit

The Swedish Presidency should prepare with the member states an ambitious contribution from the European Union to the Copenhagen Climate Summit in December. This should involve the elaboration of and first steps towards the implementation of a comprehensive European approach to climate change, an approach based on binding commitments and realizable timetables for intermediate goals. On all environmental questions, the European Union now finds itself exposed to greater political pressure to deliver tangible results than it was in the time of the Bush administration. It is vital that the Union avoid the twin tendencies to which it has sometimes succumbed in the past: that of setting distant targets, while action to their accomplishment is indefinitely postponed, and the tendency to lecture others on their environmental shortcomings while having itself an often modest record in these matters. In particular, the Union should work with developing countries to ensure that they are not penalized for their failings in this area of the developed world.

5. EU and Russia

The Swedish Presidency should see as its most urgent priority in external relations the establishment of a clear and predictable relationship between the European Union and Russia that would be well understood by both sides. This relationship is vital for political stability on the European Union's borders and to the security of European energy supplies. Legitimate differences of opinion exist between the European Union's member states on this issue, differences which in the past have led to the adoption by the European Council of generalized declarations allowing the member states to pursue contradictory approaches. The Swedish Presidency should use its well established expertise in Russian questions not merely to encourage constructive discussion between Russia and the European Union, but also, and more importantly, to encourage constructive discussion within the European Union on the question of relations between Russia and the European Union. This structured discussion should take place at the ministerial, official and academic level, and should continue beyond the Swedish Presidency. The Russian awareness of European disunity is a powerfully destabilizing element of the relationship between Russia and the European Union.

6. Review of the Lisbon Strategy

The Swedish Presidency should use the forthcoming review of the Lisbon Strategy to encourage member states to pursue more effectively the shared goals of the strategy. In particular, the Presidency should recall to member states that the Lisbon Strategy is primarily a blueprint for intergovernmental action rather than a legislative programme of the European Union comparable to the Internal Market programme. If member states do not wish to fulfil their role in the strategy, they cannot legally be compelled to do so. While recalling to the member states their self-imposed undertakings under the Lisbon Strategy, the Presidency should at the same time avoid in its public utterances unrealistic hopes or aspirations for the Strategy. Such unrealism can only lead to disappointment and disillusion.

7. Five year programme in the field of Justice, Freedom and Security

The Swedish Presidency should work energetically towards the adoption of the next five year programme in the field of Justice, Freedom and Security. This programme should be designed to reassure citizens that action by the European Union can help to protect their physical safety while at the same time respecting their human rights and those of others. Both the Presidency and the Union in general should regard these two aspects of the Justice, Freedom and Security agenda as complementary and not as in any sense contradictory. The Union's citizens are at the same time concerned that open borders may help the activities of criminals operating across frontiers and that pan-European co-operation between security forces may work to the disadvantage of legal certainty and transparency. Unless both of these legitimate concerns are met, the area of Justice, Freedom and Security will not be a means of bringing the European Union closer to its citizens. The areas of migration and asylum in particular require balanced political consideration if the Union is to simultaneously remain true to its values and pursue its shared economic and social goals.

8. Enlargement of the European Union, especially Croatia

As a demonstration of good faith towards all its negotiating partners, the Swedish Presidency should seek to conclude the accession negotiations with Croatia this year. This accession should not be dependent upon the ratification or otherwise of the Lisbon Treaty, although the precise terms of the instrument of accession might be affected by the fate of the Treaty. The negotiations for the other accession candidates to the European Union should be continued in the manner and at the pace appropriate to the circumstances of the applicant country. Building upon the Swedish-Polish initiative leading to the establishment of the Eastern Partnership, the Presidency should continue the European Union's multilateral dialogue with its eastern partners. This dialogue should concentrate upon proposals and initiatives which can be implemented in the short or medium term and which will reinforce the range of economic,

social and political contacts between the European Union and its eastern neighbours.

26-27 November 2009, Madrid

The Spanish Pre - Presidency Conference

The beginning of the end of the serious, twin crisis – institutional and economic – that Europe has endured for more than a year, will dominate the 6-month Spanish presidency of the European Union and the term of the new team presidency – comprising the trio of Spain, Belgium and Hungary – starting 1st January, 2010. Before this period, the seemingly endless process of ratifying the new Treaty which will govern the future workings of the EU must conclude, and a lasting economic recovery must start. As there is not much room left for special measures, the new productive model for growth and job-creation must be achieved through structural reforms based on the competitiveness of innovation and on sustainability, both social and environmental.

It is against this backdrop that the new post-Lisbon (post-Lisbon Treaty and post-Lisbon Strategy) period begins. With the proper political leadership, it could lead to a European Union that is more efficient and transparent in the political realm and more competitive and solidarity-minded in terms of economics, and therefore more secure and better adapted to the multi-polar, globalized world that is taking shape.

This conference was organised just five weeks before the Spanish presidency begins, and provided an excellent opportunity to debate the key issues and priorities that will make up the presidency's agenda. It was organized with a multidisciplinary, trans-European approach, and featured renowned experts from the academic world, specialized analysts and important policymakers from all over the continent.

The Conference was co-organised by TEPESA and Real Instituto Elcano, with the support of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, the Office of the European Commission in Spain, and the Senate where the Conference took place.

The following recommendations were presented to the Spanish Presidency:

1. Effective institutional implementation of the Lisbon Treaty

The Spanish Presidency should facilitate the functioning of the newly established EU institutional architecture, including the new bodies of the President of the European Council, the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and the European External Action Service. With the new political leadership, the European Union should seek to become more efficient and transparent, more visible for external partners, more

competitive and solidarity-minded, more secure and better adapted to the multi-polar, globalized world and contribute to implementing an effective multilateral governance.

2. Energy and climate change

Energy-related issues and environmental sustainability should play essential roles in the Spanish Presidency. The Presidency should seek to ensure follow up of the agenda that will be agreed at the Copenhagen Climate Summit, leading to efficient energy security and sustainable development. It should try to integrate energy issues with climate change policies; promote the energy corridors in Southern Europe as well as the plan for the Mediterranean gas and electricity ring. It should make strong efforts to avoid the recurrent winter shut-off of gas supplies as a result of disputes between Russia and Ukraine, helping the latter especially with the modernisation of its pipelines.

3. Justice and Home Affairs

In order to meet the common threats the EU needs to deepen its policy and cooperation according to the terms of the Stockholm Programme, which most probably will be adopted shortly by the European Council. The Presidency should seek to strengthen police and customs cooperation in order to meet the organized crime and terrorist threats. Dealing with issues of migration and asylum, the EU should implement a system in which labour immigration (without brain drain of poor countries), the acceptance of refugees and means against illegal immigration, are implemented in a fair, humane and transparent way, including burden sharing among EU countries.

4. Overcoming the economic crisis and paving the way for recovery

The Presidency should seek to strengthen new financial supervision mechanisms agreed on at EU and G20 level. It should take steps towards promoting a European supervision framework that would further regulate high-risk funds, fiscal zones and create alert banking crisis resolution mechanisms. It should also contribute to developing an institutional set-up to control the banking, real estate and insurance sectors as well as increased economic governability, transparency and oversight over the financial sector.

5. Strengthening the Post-Lisbon Strategy

The Presidency should embark on a sustainable development- and outward-oriented strategy focused on increasing EU competitiveness. This would focus on (1) green growth, embracing sustainable infrastructure investments (mainly transport and energy), (2) lasting jobs, aiming at further adaptation of the labour market to current challenges including training of the labour force with special emphasis on transfer of entrepreneurial skills and (3) innovation, strengthening intellectual synergies across Europe coupled with a genuine European patent system. The EU budgetary framework starting 2014 should also be structured according to these main priorities.

6. European Year for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion

The EU declared 2010 the European Year for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion. In this framework the Presidency should act towards combating homelessness in urban areas, eliminate malnutrition and extremely poor living conditions. As a first step coordination should take place among the 27 Member States exchanging best practices. Also, a special tranche of the European Social Fund could be targeted to finance such projects in the least developed regions of the Union.

7. Enlargement

The Presidency should pursue current negotiations, not least for the sake of the Union's credibility and with a view to uniting and thereby strengthening Europe. In particular, its ambition should be to conclude negotiations with Croatia in 2010, to pursue negotiations with Turkey and open them with Iceland, subject to the countries' own progress in making reforms. By the same token the gradual integration of the whole Western Balkan region into the EU should be put on a visible track, leading to these states' full membership in the foreseeable future – once conditions are met. At the same time the Union's enlargement policy must be adequately and timely communicated to the citizens.

8. External Relations

The Presidency should continue the EU's work within the ENP and the Eastern Partnership with a view to fostering increased integration and stability. EU engagement with Eastern countries is particularly important, since the economic and financial crisis has hit these countries severely. The EU, furthermore, needs to find agreement on a united policy towards Russia characterized by openness and the possibility of frank discussions but also cooperation in meeting common threats. The EU should invite Russia to participate in selected projects within the Eastern Partnership framework, but should make it clear that this does not mean that Moscow has a right of veto on the EU policy towards Eastern neighbours.

The strengthening of the Eastern dimension of the ENP should be accompanied by an equal strengthening of its Mediterranean dimension. The Union for the Mediterranean must be credible and the EU policy towards the Mediterranean and the Middle East should become more ambitious and effective, not limited to economic and financial cooperation. Continued transatlantic cooperation is of

vital importance, again in the effort of finding solutions to the acute common global problems, such as Afghanistan, Iran and the Middle East.

Citizen's Europe, the Future of the European Union and enlargement

Conferences organized by TEPSA

19 January 2009, Brussels

"Towards a new momentum in the transatlantic relationship"



TEPSA lunch debate with Günter Burghardt

TEPSA, in cooperation with the Fondation Universitaire organised a lunch debate with Dr Günter Burghardt, former ambassador of the EU to the USA on the topic of "Towards a new momentum in the transatlantic relations". The speaker reflected on the impact of the election of the new US administration on the transatlantic relations.

23 January 2009, Turin

How to better involve citizens in the European integration process. Evaluations and proposals in view of the upcoming EP elections

TEPSA, in cooperation with the Istituto Affari Internazionali, Rome, Institut fuer Europaeische Poilitik, Berlin, Federal Trust, London, Notre Europe, Paris; organized a project aiming at developing an analysis and proposals to strengthen European democracy and renew the approach of citizens to EU institutions in view of the June 2009 European Parliament elections. It addressed four main topics: the powers of the European Parliament; the role of European parties; the priorities of the next European legislature's agenda; and the involvement of EU citizens in selecting the new President of the EU Commission.

19 March 2009

"The 2009 EP Elections: Discussing Ways of Enhancing Democracy, Legitimacy and Institutional Balance" .

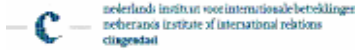
EU-CONSENT (Network of Excellence) and the Trans European Policy Studies Association (TEPSA) organized a conference on "The 2009 EP Elections: Discussing Ways of Enhancing Democracy, Legitimacy and Institutional Balance" .

The conference was divided into two sections: The morning panels targeted the discussion of the role of the European Parliament within the institutional architecture of the EU and the question of how European European elections are. In the afternoon Tommaso Padoa-Schioppa (Notre Europe) presented to and discussed with representatives from European Political Parties and the EP "The call on Political Parties, EU candidates and future MEPs". This declaration is a result from a joint workshop of different think tanks (IEP, Berlin; the IAI, Rome; Notre Europe, Paris; The Federal Trust London and TEPSA, Brussels) and is being signed by eminent political persons.

6/7 May 2009, Brussels

“Normative Power’ and External Policies - The European Union in a New Global Order”

TEPSA Roundtable Conference



TEPSA and its Dutch member, the Netherlands Institute of International Relations Clingendael, The Hague, organized a roundtable conference on "Normative Power' and External Policies - The European Union in a New Global Order" in Brussels on 6-7 May 2009.

The conference brought together representatives from the academic and the policy-making communities, combining a scholarly perspective, which discusses the concept of normative power in international relations theory and practice, with a policy-relevant perspective, which focuses on the (future) relevance of normative power in international relations, with a special emphasis on the EU.

The first panel entitled **“The position of the European Union in a changing international system: Effective or symbolic ‘Normative Power’?”** gave the theoretical, academic introduction to the conference debate. The key note speech was given by Ian Manners, Head of Research Unit on EU's internal dynamics, Danish Institute for International Studies. Chaired by André Gerrits, Senior Research Fellow, Clingendael Institute, the commentators Lisbeth Aggestam, Teaching Fellow, University of Bath, and Asle Toje, Norwegian School of Management, Oslo, the session debated the diverging views and assessments of the role and relevance of the European Union in the current international order, with a special focus on the normative dimension of the Union's policies and identity.

In the evening the dinner speaker Robert Cooper, Director-General for External and Politico-Military Affairs, General Secretariat of the Council of the EU, gave an introduction to a dinner debate on **“The Changing Global Order and the Role of the European Union”**.

Chaired by Jan Rood, Head of European Studies Programme, Clingendael Institute, the second panel changed the perspective and discussed **“The European Union as an International Actor: The Perception of ‘Others’”** with presentations from China by Yiwei Wang, Associate Professor on leave of Fudan University, Scholar-in-residence at Chinese Mission to EU, from Russia by Tatiana Romanova, School of International Relations, St Petersburg State University, and from New Zealand by Martin Holland, Director, National Centre for Research on Europe, University of Canterbury.

A final panel, chaired by Gianni Bonvicini, Executive Vice President, Istituto Affari Internazionali, Rome, complemented the debate with the involvement of practitioners from the EU Institutions and NATO on the topic **“The EU from Soft to Hard Power? Practical Implications”**. Based on the introductions of the speakers Giovanni Grevi, Research Fellow, EU Institute for Security Studies, Paris, Richard Wright, Director in charge of Crisis Platform, Policy Coordination (CFSP), DG RELEX, European Commission, Mika-Markus Leinonen, Director of DG E9, Directorate Civilian Crisis Management, General Secretariat of the Council of the EU, Thierry Legendre, Policy Advisor at the Private Office of the Secretary General, Policy Planning Unit, NATO, the practical relevance and effectiveness of the EU’s normative power was discussed.

15 – 16 May 2009, Berlin Fall of the Berlin Wall



The Cologne Monnet Association for EU Studies e.V. has the goal to provide a platform for the exchange of views between academics and practitioners from the European and German level.

Together with them, TEPSA held a conference on the “20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall: The German reunification” from 15-16 May 2009 in Berlin. The conference addressed around 35 participants of all ages and looked at the circumstances and different perspectives surrounding the fall of the Berlin Wall and its consequences for the European integration process.



In a first panel the German dimension of the reunification process was discussed. Chaired by Prof. Wolfgang Wessels, University of Cologne, the speaker Prof. Wolfgang Bergsdorf, from 1982-1993 Head of the Internal Policies Department at the press and information bureau of the German Federal Government, outlined the chronology of events before and after 1989, filled with insight views on chancellor Helmut Kohl’s policy management at that time. In his commentary Dr. Jürgen Mittag, University Bochum, presented the current state of the art of the research on the German reunification process and thus an idea about the different interpretations and theories about its key decisive factors.

In the second panel the European dimension of the German reunification was debated. Chaired by Birke Jantz, COMOS, the speaker Prof. Hartmut Marhold, COMOS/CIFE, and Prof. Wolfgang Wessels highlighted the mutual interdependence between the German and European reunification processes. Both the commentator Frieder Wolf, City Cologne, and Prof. Wessels furthermore stressed that neither politics nor academia were prepared for the events around the year 1989.

In a concluding panel, chaired by Anne Schmidt, TEPSA, the debate of the first two panels was continued and complemented by further aspects such as the perspective and role of the European Institutions at that time (Yvonne Nasshoven, TEPSA), a discussion on the model character of the German experience and if it was the accomplishment of an already existing trend or a rupture in history (Dr. Barbara Lippert, SWP), and the Polish perspective on the events around 1989 (Dr. Holger Münch).

21 October 2009, Brussels
TEPSA Consultation meeting with the EU's Reflection Group



TEPSA had initiated the organisation of a consultation meeting with the EU's Reflection Group which took place in Brussels on the 21 October 2009. Under the auspices of one of its members, Prof Kalypso Nicolaidis, TEPSA researchers provided input on the following topics relevant to the group's work:

- Background and general context for the EU at horizon 2020-2030,
- Union legitimacy and the citizens,
- Identity, Values, Norms and Citizenship,
- European social and economic model,
- Demography and migration,
- Energy, climate change and environment,
- Internal and external security, and
- Europe's role in the world.

4/5 November 2009, Brussels
"How to improve the European Neighbourhood Policy? Concepts, perceptions and policy recommendations for its Eastern dimension"



TEPSA Roundtable Conference

The Trans European Policy Studies Association (TEPSA), Brussels, and the Institut für Europäische Politik, Berlin, organised a roundtable conference on "How to improve the European Neighbourhood Policy? Concepts, perceptions and policy recommendations for its Eastern dimension" which took place in Brussels on 4/5 November 2009.

The conference brought together 40 representatives from the academic and the policy-making communities, combining scholarly and policy-relevant perspectives. In the context of a changing policy environment the conference aimed at analysing the current state of the art of the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) and its most recent policy initiative for the Eastern dimension, the Eastern Partnership, in order to formulate policy recommendations for its improvement.

Therefore a first panel discussed the concepts of ownership and conditionality as the key guiding principles of the ENP and the Eastern Partnership and

examined how useful these concepts are and how they can successfully be implemented. In the second session the focus shifted towards the Eastern partner countries' perception of the ENP and the Eastern Partnership, their evaluation of the ENP, how it could be improved and what they expect from the European Union in this respect. The ENP and the Eastern Partnership were discussed from Ukrainian, Moldovan and Belarusian perspectives. During the concluding session the previous discussion on the usefulness and effectiveness of ENP policy concepts and instruments and the perceptions of the partner countries was summarised and synthesised in the form of concrete policy recommendations and discussed with practitioners from the European Institutions working on ENP and Eastern Partnership.

23/24 November 2009

"Japan-Europe Partnership. Facing Global and Regional Challenges"

12th EU-Japan Conference

The 12th EU-Japan Conference, in which TEPSA was a co-organising partner, took place on 23/24 November 2009 at the Fondation Universitaire. The annual conference on Euro-Japanese relations has become a regular milestone in the debates surrounding the EU-Japan strategic Partnership. Accordingly, this event provided a unique opportunity for debate on both the latest research, as well as current policy trends. It brought together academics, experts, and policy-makers from Japan and Europe.

The theme selected for this year's conference was "Japan-Europe Partnership. Facing Global and Regional Challenges". The conference analysed some of the common and global challenges facing Japan and Europe: international migration, regulatory reform, security challenges and the renewal of their decades-old partnership.

The core intellectual goal of the conference was to both assess these common challenges and interpret the behavior and responses of these two leading actors. How have Japan and Europe faced these challenges? How could their responses involve partnership? What could they learn from their respective experiences?



Impact of policies on societies and people's well-being

10 February 2009, Brussels

"Europe, Quo Vadis"

TEPSA lunch debate with Lunch-debate with Anne van Lancker, MEP of the Socialist Party

TEPSA, in cooperation with the Fondation Universitaire organised a lunch debate with Anne van Lancker, MEP of the Socialist Party, on the topic of "Europe, quo vadis".



11 February 2009, Brussels

"Security vs. Privacy"

TEPSA Conference



On 11 February 2009 this conference brought together and discussed with representatives of more restrictive and more liberal approaches towards the area of conflict between security demands and the protection of individual data. TEPSA organized this conference in cooperation with its Greek member EKEME.

16 March 2009

Lunch-debate with Annemie Neyts, President of the European Liberals, on "Europe, Quo Vadis"



TEPSA, in cooperation with the Fondation Universitaire organised a lunch debate with Annemie Neyts, President of the European Liberals, on the topic of "Europe, quo vadis".

5 May 2009

Lunch-debate with Philippe Lamberts, Vice-President and spokes-person of the European Greens, on "Europe, Quo Vadis"



TEPSA, in cooperation with the Fondation Universitaire organised a lunch debate with Philippe Lamberts, Vice-President and spokesperson of the European Greens on the topic of "Europe, quo vadis".

12 November 2009

Lunchtime debate with Luc Van den Brande, President of the Committee of the Regions, on "Multilevel Governance. Building Europe in Partnership"



TEPSA and the Office of the Centre International de Formation Européenne (CIFE), in co-operation with the Fondation Universitaire, organised a lunchtime debate on "Multilevel Governance. For building Europe in Partnership" with Luc Van den Brande, President of the Committee of the Regions. The speaker gave insight views on the CoR's White Paper on Multilevel Governance.

Speeches of TEPSA representatives at conferences (selection)

18 June 2009

"Europe at work in Brussels"

On 18 June 2009 Anne Schmidt gave a speech to students of the University of Cologne and the Middle East Technical University, Ankara on "The role of think tanks in Brussels".

Participation of TEPSA representatives in other conferences (selection)

TEPSA Guest Lecture Series

The «TEPSA Guest Lecture Series» is an initiative, encouraging TEPSA member institutes (“hosts”) to invite other TEPSA members (“guests”) to give lectures on European topics to researchers and the wider public, and therefore contributing not only to reinforce the research community, but also to disseminate reflection and information on key issues of European policies.

13 July 2009

TEPSA Guest Lecture: “Slovenia's EU membership experiences - dilemmas and challenges” by Marjan Svetlicic, Institute of International Relations (IMO), Zagreb

On July 13 2009, the Institute for International Relations (IMO), Zagreb, organised a TEPSA Guest Lecture on the topic of Slovenian EU membership experiences. The lecture was submitted by Prof Marjan Svetlicic, director of the Centre for International Relations (CIR), Ljubljana, and organised in cooperation with the Hanns Seidel Stiftung.



Reflecting upon dilemmas faced by Slovenia in the EU accession process Prof. Svetlicic stressed that the key question is whether the will exists to join the EU or not. Once established that accession represents the best possible alternative, the acceding country then gets confronted by a number of other challenges. These include: establishing best possible speed of accession, differentiating between transition-imposed changes and those produced by EU membership, and determining the best possible accession strategies. The lecture has been followed by a very fruitful debate which underlined some similar economic and political challenges facing Slovenia and Croatia in the current period of global financial and economic crisis.

The TEPSA Guest Lecture was attended by researchers, students and the media.

TEPSA Training

TEPSA Training is a special programme for a small group of early stage researchers, primarily from the member institutes of the TEPSA network. Its objective is to prepare and train young professionals in think-tanks and academic institutions to improve their skills for work in the transnational

environment. The focus lies especially on developing capacities for analysing, assessing, advising and administering EU related issues and projects. TEPSA Training offers added value to the training provided by the home institutes of the researchers by familiarizing them with working methods that are of importance in the Brussels arena. Priorities in professional skills are communication with and advice to policy makers (briefings), communication with the media (both electronic and paper) and fundraising for research activities. A focus on selected European policies will serve as a platform for applying and practising the skills learnt. The programme follows an interactive scheme where participants will contribute their own experiences and backgrounds.

18-20 February 2009, Brussels

2nd TEPSA Training Workshop 'Media Training and Applying for EU funding'

From 18 – 20 February 2009 the second TEPSA Training workshop on “Media Training and Applying for EU Funding” took place in Brussels.

The 14 participants from different European research institutes or think tanks were offered a media training in front of a camera and sessions on how to apply for EU Funding including project management.



27-29 May 2009, Stockholm

3rd and concluding TEPSA Training Workshop

The 3rd and concluding workshop of the TEPSA Training Programme was organised at the Swedish Institute of International Affairs (SIIA), Stockholm in the framework of TEPSA's Pre-Presidency Conference. After a last training seminar the participants were at the conference dinner awarded their certificates by Hanna Ojanen, Programme Director, Finnish Institute of International Affairs and TEPSA Board member, for successfully completing a training course on providing policy advice to policy makers, improving communication skills, and EU funding and project management.



Cooperation with other projects and networks of excellence

THESEUS



01.02. THESEUS Board Meeting

The Steering Group met to discuss the framework of the first THESEUS Summer School for Young Leaders 2009, organised jointly by TEPSA and THESEUS.

5/6 February, Paris

"The French Presidency – a transformative moment for the EU"

The conference addressed the question in how far the crucial developments during the French Presidency constituted a transforming moment for the European Union: The "no" in the Irish Referendum, the Caucasus crisis and the financial crises have changed the context of European policies considerably. Still, the priorities already set out need to be continued: Climate, energy, agriculture and Foreign and Security Policy are only some of the topics addressed.

The conference followed an interdisciplinary approach and involved economists, political scientists, lawyers and historians.

29 November - 4 December 2009, Berlin

THESEUS Seminar

The third THESEUS Seminar analysed what 'crisis` means, what definitions of `crisis" are through different disciplines and academic perspectives and what these mean for the concrete situations, assessed different types of crises and asked what they trigger as consequences for the EU evolution and what we can learn from them for the EU's governance capabilities, advised for future EU crisis management.

The seminar featured high-level experts from international organisations, business, politics, NGOs and research.

3/4 December 2009

THESEUS Conference

The THESEUS Conference on "T(w)ogether for Europe? The Franco-German couple and EU governance in times of crisis took place on 3. and 4. December 2009 in Berlin. It brought together prominent representatives of the academia and central decision-makers for a deepened exchange.

Decision-makers on European and national level provided their evaluation of the most urgent crises the European Union is confronted with. Researchers and academics tried to take "one step back" and to ask how to define the term 'crisis' and which role crises have for European integration. Considering the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin wall, the debates of the conference also discussed the role of the Franco-German couple in this

setting. The participants of the THESEUS Seminar contributed jointly to the conference through a policy paper. During the event the THESEUS Award for Promising Research on European Integration 2009 was presented.

The event was organised by the partners of the THESEUS programme in cooperation with the Institut für Europäische Politik (IEP) Berlin. The conference was open to the interested public.

EU-CONSENT

9/13 February, Brussels

**“New challenges for old dilemmas: re-invented union or status quo?”
EU CONSENT PhD School**

The first SInAN PhD School brought together 20 young researchers from Turkey and EU member states. During an intensive week EU institutional challenges in view of past, present and future enlargements were addressed by asking what impact enlargement did have, has and will have on the institutions of the European Union, hereby focusing especially on the case of the Turkish accession process. The week of the PhD school featured leading scholars in the field of EU institutional analysis and in the study of the process of enlargement as well as high-level experts from within the EU administration. At the same time, the participants had the chance to present and discuss their own research.

26/27 March 2009

EU-CONSENT Plenary

One of the main aims of this concluding plenary conference was to re-visit EU-CONSENT's network activities and research results as well as to discuss and kick-off the implementation of EU-CONSENT's sustainability strategy.

SInAN

“Promotion of the Civil Society Dialogue between the EU and Turkey”

Within the framework of Universities Grant Scheme “Promotion of the Civil Society Dialogue between the EU and Turkey” TEPSA's Turkish member, the Center for European Studies – Middle East Technical University, Ankara, and the Jean Monnet Chair of Political Science at the University of Cologne, have implemented from June 2008 to November 2009 the project “Strengthening and Integrating

SInAN
**Strengthening
and
Integrating
Academic
Networks**

**Akademik
Ağların
Güçlendirilmesi
ve
Entegrasyonu**

Academic Networks - SInAN" funded by the European Commission. It aimed:

- To create synergies between academic networks in Turkey and the EU through strengthening their collaboration and integration,
- To question the 'myths' that characterise the debate on Turkey's EU accession process by engaging academic communities in constructive dialogue and extensive research, and
- To ensure better knowledge and understanding of Turkey within the EU, and of the EU within Turkey.

TEPSA has in 2009 once again been involved in this project by organizing the SInAN PhD School which took place in Brussels on 9-13 February 2009:

Entitled "The EU's Institutional Architecture and the Impact of Enlargement – Past, Present and Future" the first SInAN PhD School brought together 20 young researchers from Turkey and EU member states. During an intensive week EU institutional challenges in view of past, present and future enlargements were addressed by asking what impact enlargement did have, has and will have on the institutions of the European Union, hereby focusing especially on the case of the Turkish accession process. The week of the PhD school featured leading scholars in the field of EU institutional analysis and in the study of the process of enlargement as well as high-level experts from within the EU administration. At the same time, the participants had the chance to present and discuss their own research.



ACCESS-TR



access-tr
Mobilizing Local Networks for a
Better Informed Dialogue on
Turkey's Accession to the EU

"Mobilizing Local Networks for a Better Informed Dialogue on Turkey's Accession to the EU" (ACCESS-TR) was awarded to the Center for European Studies of the Middle East Technical University (CES-METU) by the European Commission under the IPA Information and Communication Programme: Support for actions promoting a better informed public debate about EU Enlargement. The Project was being implemented under the coordination of CES-METU for a 12-month period from November 2008 to November 2009, in partnership with TEPSA. The Project has three associate universities from different cities of Turkey, namely, the Universities of Akdeniz (Antalya), Gaziantep and Ondokuz Mayıs (Samsun).

The overall objectives of the Project are:

- To encourage researchers in academia and/or think tanks to promote the dissemination of research results about the benefits and challenges of the preparation for membership, and
- To better equip media professionals in enlargement countries to inform about EU policies, as well as subjects related to the reform process on the way to EU membership, in a user-friendly language and form accessible to the general public or relevant specific audiences.

3/4 March 2009, Brussels

“From Istanbul to Brussels: Dialogue on Turkey’s accession to the EU”

ACCESS-TR Kick-Off Conference

On 3 and 4 March 2009 TEPSA, in co-operation with the Centre for European Studies (CES) of the Middle East Technical University (METU) in Ankara, organised at the Fondation Universitaire in Brussels the Kick-Off Conference of the project “Mobilizing Local Networks for a better informed Dialogue on Turkey’s Accession to the EU” (ACCESS-TR) which aims to promote the active participation



of local and regional stakeholders in the process of Turkey’s accession to the EU.

3-5 June 2009, Antalya; 9-11 June 2009, Gaziantep; 25/26 June 2009, Samsun

ACCESS-TR Regional Workshops

After the successful Kick-Off conference of the ACCESS-TR project in Brussels in March 2009 the CES-METU, together with TEPSA, organised three regional workshops which took place in Antalya (South Turkey), Gaziantep (East) and Samsun (North). The ACCESS-TR project, implemented by TEPSA and CES/METU, aims to promote the active participation of local and regional stakeholders in the process of Turkey’s accession to the EU.

Thematically, beside an own regional focus of the hosting universities in the 3 cities, the following 4 topics have been central:

- 1) Single Market (sectoral approaches, consumer protection),
- 2) Gender issues across social protection, education policies and regional development strategies,
- 3) Notions of inclusive citizenship linked to the debates on European citizenship,
- 4) Ways of conducting foreign policy in the European Union.

10 October 2009, Istanbul

“From Brussels to Istanbul: Dialogue on Turkey’s Accession to the EU”

ACCESS-TR Concluding Conference

In the framework of the project “Mobilizing Local Networks for a Better Informed Dialogue on Turkey’s Accession to the EU” (ACCESS-TR) which TEPSA is implementing together with the Center for European Studies of the Middle East Technical University (CES-METU) in Ankara the concluding conference took place in Istanbul on the 10th of October 2009.

After key note speeches by representatives from the European Commission and the Turkish Government on visions for a common future for the EU and Turkey two panels discussed the positions within EU member states on Turkey’s accession to the EU and gave insights into the regional perspectives on the topic.

At this occasion TEPSA and the CES-METU looked back on this very fruitful project which proved to be successful in its aims to contribute to a better informed dialogue on Turkey’s accession to the EU, to involve local stakeholders and to address apart from high politics also topics such as gender equality.

Project ending

With the end of the project “**Mobilizing Local Networks for a better Informed Dialogue on Turkey’s Accession to the EU**” (ACCESS-TR) which TEPSA implemented together with its Turkish member Center for European Studies of the Middle East Technical University (CES-METU), Ankara, TEPSA looks back on one year successful partnership in the framework of this project. With its activities TEPSA contributed to the implementation of the main project objectives:

- To bring research institutions in the EU and in Turkey together with the main stakeholders including local and regional actors with a view to establishing a platform for dialogue,
- To boost the informed debate on political, economic, social and cultural issues characterising the relations between the EU and Turkey,
- To facilitate better knowledge of the EU within Turkey, to enhance the understanding of Turkey within the EU,
- To increase the public awareness of the opportunities and challenges of the Turkish accession to the EU, and
- To develop ownership of the accession process on the part of regional and local actors.

Specifically, TEPSA and CES-METU organised a Kick-Off Conference in Brussels, 3 regional workshops in Antalya, Gaziantep and Samsun, and a concluding conference in Istanbul.

Thematically, all project events, beside an own regional focus of the hosting universities in the 3 cities, dealt especially with the following 4 topics:

- 1) Single Market (sectoral approaches, consumer protection),
- 2) Gender issues across social protection, education policies and regional

- development strategies,
- 3) Notions of inclusive citizenship linked to the debates on European citizenship, and
- 4) Ways of conducting foreign policy in the European Union.

For the dissemination of the project output six policy briefs were written and a project website was established.

At all occasions TEPSA and CES-METU succeeded in bringing together the project stakeholders with multipliers and representatives of the European Institutions, and of EU and Turkish academia, civil society, media and interest groups.

Briefings for the European Parliament

Under its framework contract with the European Parliament, TEPSA with the support of its member institutes delivers briefings and studies to the EP's Foreign Affairs Committee. They can be consulted at our website www.tepsa.eu or the [website of the European Parliament's AFET committee](#).



The following briefings concerning Economic studies were submitted in 2009 to the European Parliament:

- **“Labour Market issues in the EEA”**
Author: Dr. Nick Parsons,
Cardiff University, Great Britain
- **“Regional Cooperation and the EEA”**
Author: Dr. Mindaugas Jurkynas,
Institute of Political Science and International Relations at Vilnius
University, Lithuania
- **“The EEA and the international financial crisis”**
Authors: Dr. Andreas Maurer/ Bettina Richter,
Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik
Berlin, Germany

Meetings of TEPSA's constitutive bodies

TEPSA Board

- 4 March 2009 Meeting of the TEPSA Board
- 29 September 2009 Meeting of the TEPSA Board

Board members of TEPSA:

Chairman of the Board**Prof. Wolfgang WESSELS**

Professor at the University of Köln and at the College of Europe, Bruges and former Chairman of the Institut für Europäische Politik, Bonn

Acting Secretary General**Jean-Victor LOUIS**

Honorary Professor at the Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB)

Treasurer**Carlos RUBENS**

Legal Advisor, National Bank of Belgium

Prof. Iain BEGG

Visiting Professor at the London School of Economics, London

Prof. Gianni BONVICINI

Executive Vice President, Istituto Affari Internazionali, Rome

Dr. Andrew DUFF

MEP, Former Director of the Federal Trust for Education and Research, London

Dr. Gunilla HEROLF

Senior Research Fellow at the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, Stockholm

Dr. Nikos FRANGAKIS

President/Director of the Greek Centre of European Studies and Research (EKEME), Athens

Dr. Hanna OJANEN

Programme Director at the Finnish Institute of International Affairs - FIIA (UPI), Helsinki

Prof. Jacek SARYUSZ-WOLSKI

MEP, Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committees of the European Parliament

The General Assembly of TEPSA has met in May 2009 in Stockholm, and in November 2009 in Madrid at the occasion of the TEPSA Pre-Presidency Conferences.

Communication Strategy

In 2009, five newsletters have been disseminated to TEPSA members:

- January 2009
- March 2009
- May 2009
Interview with Gil Carlos Rodriguez Iglesias, Director of Elcano, Madrid
- July 2009
Special: First comments on the decision of the German Constitutional Court (BVerfG) of 30 June 2009, by Jean-Victor Louis, Acting Secretary General, TEPSA
- September/October 2009
Interview with Petr Kratochvíl, Deputy Director of IIR, Prague
- November 2009

TEPSA Brief

TEPSA Brief is a monthly policy brief, which informs concisely about current and ongoing policies and developments in the European Union.

- TEPSA Brief N° 1 summarizes the main findings and positions regarding the Eastern Partnership.
- The second issue is dedicated to the proposal for the establishment of an Agency for Cooperation on Energy Regulators.
- TEPSA Brief No. 3 summarizes the conclusions of the summit of 15/16 October 2008.
- TEPSA has a long tradition in offering recommendations to future Presidencies. TEPSA Brief No. 4 thus presents the recommendations from TEPSA Board members Iain Begg (LSE, London), Nikos Frangakis (EKEME, Athens), Gunilla Herolf (SIPRI, Stockholm) and Hanna Ojanen (UPI-FIIA, Helsinki) to the Czech Presidency.

TEPSA Lisbon Treaty Ratification Monitor

The TEPSA Series "Lisbon Treaty Ratification Monitor" pursued the goal to regularly inform about the Lisbon Treaty ratification process and the bigger debate around it, and make it more transparent. By Anne Schmidt (anne.schmidt@tepsa.be)

- TEPSA Lisbon Ratification Monitor – 1st issue: The EU at stake? Challenges for the Lisbon Treaty ratification process – moving the eyes from Ireland to the Czech Republic.

- TEPSA Lisbon Ratification Monitor – 2nd issue: The *raison d'être* of the EU? Judgement of the German Constitutional Court poses fundamental questions to the *finalité* of the EU.

Other TEPSA publications

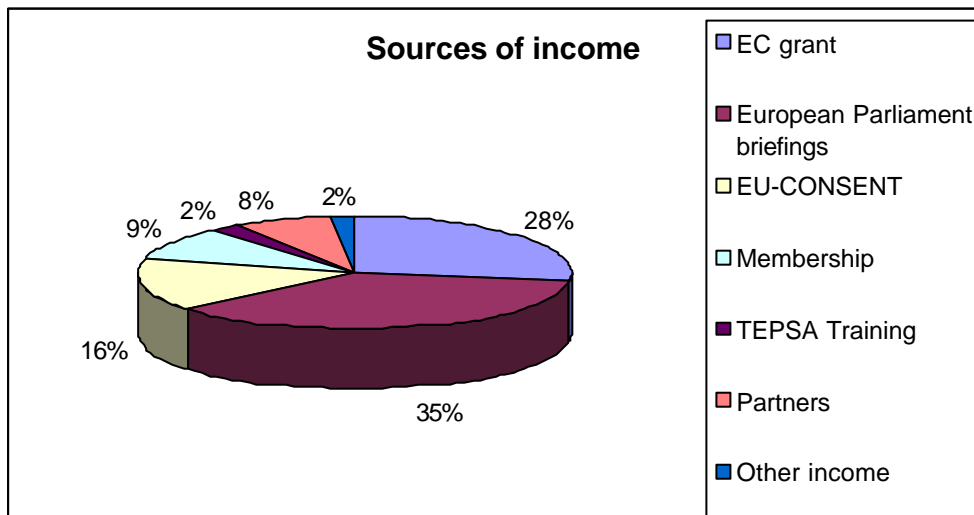
August 2009

TEPSA Publication “Enlarging the European Union: Effects on the new member states and on the EU”

The publication represents a collection of contributions from TEPSA's conference on "Effects of EU enlargement".

Financial information

Overall, TEPSA has had a sound financial development during the year of 2008. Besides its work within the "Europe for Citizens" Programme of the European Commission, and its expertise for the European Parliament especially TEPSA's member institutes were of key importance. The long-lasting cooperation with the project "THESEUS", as well as TEPSA's activities within the EU-CONSENT Network of Excellence were also relevant pillars of stability for TEPSA's finances.



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