



TEPSA

the Trans European
Policy Studies Association



NEWSLETTER

JULY 2009

Where to head with the European integration project? Ruling of German Constitutional Court poses substantial questions to the future of the European integration process

Dear Friends of TEPSA,

After the first relief that the German Federal Constitutional Court on 30th of June 2009 declared the Act Approving the Treaty of Lisbon compatible with the German Basic Law the implications of its judgment are becoming clearer now. Apart from the fact that the Accompanying Law was declared unconstitutional and must be adapted, the considerations on which the decision is based raise several important questions related to the essence of the European integration project with regard to democracy, the division of competences and subsidiarity but especially to the finalité of the European integration process.

This ruling is highly relevant for the future of the European integration process and for the work of TEPSA who will further analyse it and develop conclusions for future policy making.

Please see for more comments on the Court's ruling the "Special" section below.

Wolfgang Wessels and Jean-Victor Louis

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Special: First comments on the decision of the German Constitutional Court (BVerfG) of 30 June 2009.

By Jean-Victor Louis

As it is now well-known, the main result of the decision is that the law approving the Lisbon Treaty in Germany is compatible with the *Grundgesetz* but it pertains to the legislator to insert in an accompanying law the need for legislative acts in case of application of the bridge clauses and article 352 TFEU (former 308 ECT). These legislative provisions are a pre-condition for the ratification of the Lisbon treaty by the head of state.

Many elements of the doctrine of the Court are in line with its earlier case law. The central place of democracy (article 38.1 GG) was already affirmed in the Maastricht *Beschluss*, and the responsibility of the *BVerfG* to ensure the respect of the core principles of the Constitution as embedded in article 79.3 (the eternity clause) is not new. The case law on fundamental rights is well known. The *BVerfG* recognises the final character of the decisions of the Court of justice, but “only in principle” (point 337). The *BVerfG* has also traditionally affirmed its competence as the ultimate guardian of the exercise of competences (“*ultra vires*”).

There are also at first sight new elements and new accents.

On the positive side, it has already been noticed by commentators that article 23 GG (the ‘Europa Artikel’) includes an obligation for Germany to participate in the integration process; there is a constitutional mandate to realise a united Europe, which follows from Article 23.1 GG and its Preamble (point 225). The principle of openness of the Constitution to the Community (“*Gemeinschaftsfreundlichkeit*”) as well as to international law is affirmed. “The Basic law wants European integration and an international peaceful order”.

One of the new accents is perhaps the one on the role of the *BVerfG* to ensure the respect of the constitutional identity of the State. For the Court, this mission is recognised by the new TEU in Article 4.2, 1st sentence. For the *BVerfG* it is unquestionable that it is for itself to provide the respect of this principle.

But there are also new elements as far as democracy is concerned. Generously, the Court rejects the application of the principle of “structural convergence” to the institutional framework of the Union which was at the centre of the debate in the German legal literature in the 50/60s. The same is true for the requirement of parallelism of the institutional structure. Congruence and parallelism are not necessary and, for the Court, they are

also impossible to realise due to the nature of democracy (representative government, etc), the inexistence of a European “Volk”, the composition (non proportional and based on nationality) of the EP, the specificity of the decision-making process and the representation of interests within the Union. Hence, the necessity of the State to provide mechanisms that allow for the existence of the necessary democratic intervention and for the Court to assure its control. Democratic elements at the level of the Union, short of the transformation in an unthinkable federal state, whatever their importance and evolution, would never be sufficient in order to compensate the democratic deficit. This has to be compensated at national level. Provisions on the role of national parliaments in the procedures of subsidiarity control are not sufficient.

The Court develops the necessary fields where the State has to remain competent in order to keep its statehood. It gives a kind of so-called negative list of the EU competences, although it excludes the existence of “reserved fields” for the State in favour of EMU and political union (see point 248). The list of “sensitive fields” is as follows: decisions on substantive and formal criminal laws, disposition of police monopoly on the use of force towards the interior and the military monopoly of the use of force against the exterior, the fundamental fiscal decisions on public revenue and public expenditure, decisions on the shaping of circumstances of life in a social state, decisions which are of particular cultural importance (family law, school and education system and dealing with religious communities). The Court comments this list (points 253-260). Many elements are not new and are understandable. What is objectionable is to see a Member State pretending to exercise a unilateral control. We come back on this point.

The decision is impregnated by a vision of State and *Volk* that could not but appeared in tension with the affirmation of openness. Examples are numerous. This is in strong contrast with the reality of states being incapable to confront a number of internal and external challenges. Ensuring peace is mentioned but others are important now and will remain so for the future.

The right to withdraw from the Union is described in point 233, as “the withdrawal from a *Staatenverbund* which is founded on the principle of the reversible self-commitment” (“*ein auf dem Prinzip der umkehrbaren Selbstbindung beruhender Staatenverbund*”). In point 329, it is underlined that the “membership of the FRG depends [...] from its lasting and continuing will to be a member of the EU”. Interestingly, the text adds: “The legal boundaries of this will depend on the Basic Law.” Is it legitimate to define the remaining sovereignty of Germany by the possibility of withdrawal, i.e. by what could happen in crisis time? We are very far from the “shared destiny” of the ECSC Treaty. The allusion on legal boundaries is valid not only to check the participation but also the

decision of withdrawal. Article 50 TFEU itself refers to the conformity of the decision of withdrawal to the constitutional rules. Could the *BVerfG* demand from the Government to withdraw from the Union? This seems to be in conformity with the logic of the reasoning of the *BVerfG*.

The *BVerfG* tries to reassure itself by stressing the limits of its control: it mentions “obvious transgressions of the boundaries” of competence of the EU, *and it will intervene if legal protection cannot be obtained at the Union level* (i.e. by the ECJ). The *BVerfG* appears to manifest a great optimism: its control will neither endanger the unity of Union’s law nor transgress the loyalty obligation under the Treaty.

If one understands that, in its vision of sovereignty and statehood, the *BVerfG* wants to exercise on its own the control of the compatibility with the requirements of non-ultra vires and constitutional identity. It is particularly regrettable that the *BVerfG* has not seized the occasion to explicitly announce that it will accept in the future to ask for preliminary rulings to the ECJ. Perhaps the words in italics in the former paragraph could indicate a possible orientation in this direction but, if it is so, it remains very implicit. The acceptance of the dialogue with the ECJ would mitigate the unilateralism of the doctrine of the *BVerfG* that is incompatible with the openness repeatedly affirmed.

The defensive position of the *BVerfG* is also remarkable. One could regret that the *BVerfG* doesn’t focus on the similarities of the legal orders of the Member States, on the comfort this convergence represents for the respect of basic values, on the Charter and on the lessons to be drawn from other constitutional experiences for the interpretation of the GG in lieu of stressing Germany’s own constitutional way.

The more general remark we could make is that there are no really common rules and political unification if a central organ does not warrant a uniform interpretation and that, in lieu of refining constitutional controls by Courts of the Member States, one should comfort the role of the ECJ. But that is another story.

News from the TEPSA Network



TEPSA congratulates its Board members Andrew Duff and Jacek Saryusz-Wolski of their re-election into the European Parliament. Andrew Duff will stay member of the EP’s Constitutional Affairs Committee (AFCO) and Jacek-Saryusz-Wolski of the EP’s External Affairs Committee (AFET).



Furthermore, TEPSA congratulates Rafal Trzaskowski, affiliated to our associate member College of Europe Natolin, of his first election into the European Parliament. He was elected Vice-Chair of AFCO.

This will also allow TEPSA to disseminate its findings to major arenas of the debate on the EU’s future.

We hereby congratulate them and wish them good luck for their re-gained or new positions!

Upcoming events

October 2009



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

In the framework of the **ACCESS-TR project** which TEPSA is implementing together with the Center for European Studies of the Middle East Technical University (CES-METU) in Ankara the final project conference will take place in Istanbul on the 10th of October 2009.

Recent events

TEPSA Pre-Presidency Conference on the occasion of the launching of the Swedish Presidency of the European Union, 28/29 May 2009, Stockholm



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. Finally, as a long tradition in offering recommendations to future Presidencies, Petr Kratochvíl from the Institute of International Relations, Prague, presented recommendations from TEPSA members to the Swedish EU Presidency.

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

For the individual workshop reports please consult www.tepsa.be

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.



After the Pre-Presidency Conference **TEPSA's General Assembly** gathered representatives of TEPSA member institutes to discuss internal matters.

July 2009

TEPSA Guest Lecture: "Slovenia 5 years EU membership experiences" by Marjan Svetličič



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 Svetličič, 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 weather 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 3rd and concluding workshop of the TEPSA Training Programme, 27-29 May 2009, Stockholm

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.

ACCESS-TR



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

Report from local workshops implemented within the framework of the Project “Mobilizing Local Networks for a better Informed Dialogue on Turkey’s Accession to the EU” (ACCESS-TR)

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, and
- 4) Ways of conducting foreign policy in the European Union.

The main observations from the discussions were that:

- the interest and level of knowledge with regard to the EU’s polity, politics and policies varied strongly among the stakeholders in the different regional centres,
- fears and prejudices in Turkey and the EU based on a lack of information and knowledge remain an important challenge in Turkey’s accession process to the EU,
- for some parts of the Turkish population enlargement is a key concern, but that the mood is changing with Turkey might loosing its interest and that the EU risks its credibility in Turkey as long as it is not clearer in its communication and strategy where to go with Turkey, and
- the different stakeholders involved in Turkey’s accession process to the EU can contribute to overcome the existing prejudices and fears by providing formats such as ACCESS-TR to discuss within an evidence-based framework.

The policy briefs which have been established in the context of the conferences as well as further information

is available at the ACCESS-TR project website (<http://acesstr.ces.metu.edu.tr>).

THESEUS



This year’s **THESEUS Seminar for Young Leaders on “EU in crisis”** will take place from 29 November until 4 December in Berlin. The next **THESEUS Conference** will take place on 4 and 5 December 2009 also in Berlin.

To foster dialogue between politics and academia in Europe, researchers and decision-makers from politics and society meet once a year for an intensive exchange of ideas. The conferences analyse the developments in European politics with special regard to global challenges for Europe. During the conference THESEUS rewards two researchers with the THESEUS Awards: one senior award going to a researcher distinguished for his or her work on the dynamics of European integration and one junior award for an excellent researcher of the younger generation.

Furthermore THESEUS is happy to welcome Prof. Dr. Christian Lequesne (Centre d’études et de recherches internationales (CERI), Sciences Po Paris) as next **THESEUS Visiting Professor** at the University of Cologne.

Please visit www.theseus-europe.net or www.theseus-europa.net for further information about the project and its activities.

EU-CONSENT



After the Network of Excellence **EU-CONSENT** expired in May 2009 TEPSA looks back to **4 years of successful partnership** in the framework of this project. With its activities TEPSA contributed to the implementation of the main project objectives:

- To identify, compare and analyse national and European strategies on enlargement and EU reforms,
- To assess the political, economic, societal and legal impact of successive EU enlargements and pre-accession processes on national and EU policies, and
- To disseminate the results of the project in various forms of printed and online publications, internet-homepages of project members.

Specifically, TEPSA and its member institutes contributed to Work package I (“Horizontal Integration: Shaping a Common Methodological and Conceptual Framework”) and Work package XII (“Dissemination”).

Key activities of TEPSA in the framework of the project were the organisation of the EU-CONSENT annual Plenary Conferences in Brussels which contributed to the promotion of intra-network and interdisciplinary communication and exchange. Furthermore, at these occasions TEPSA succeeded to bring together the researchers of EU-CONSENT with actors of the European Institutions and the broader Brussels community which, thus, strengthened the dissemination of EU-CONSENT activities and research.

To the latter goal TEPSA also contributed by its bi-annual Pre-Presidency conferences. At these events, stakeholders from EU-CONSENT and beyond came together to discuss the priorities of the respective EU Presidencies and general prospects for the European Union and its Policies. Thereby, EU-CONSENT researchers could present some of their research results conducted in the EU-CONSENT network as speakers to an audience composed of representatives from the respective local governments, media, civil society and academia as well as international conference participants.

In order to foster cross-cutting/horizontal activities in general and the sustainability of EU-CONSENT activities and results in particular TEPSA supported e.g. the EU-CONSENT PhD online journal 'Consent for Europe' and participated in the working group on "sustainability".

With regard to the latter TEPSA has been involved in elaborating future formats of sustainability for EU-CONSENT (especially with regard to the annual plenary conferences and the PhD Schools) in order to maintain the successful co-operation between research institutes, think tanks and universities from all over Europe in an open and multi-disciplinary context.

Replies to calls for tender

After its framework contract with the European Parliament expired in May 2009, TEPSA applied again for the call for tender on "Provision of External Expertise on Foreign Policy Subjects". Keep your fingers crossed!



News from TEPSA Member Institutes

New personnel at FIIA

A new researcher, Timo Behr, PhD, will join the European Union research programme of the Finnish Institute of International Affairs from the beginning of

August 2009. His interests include CFSP, the Middle East, Germany and France.

Upcoming events hosted by TEPSA Member Institutes

"Managing Regional and Global Threats to Security - Perspectives from Austria and Japan"

Date: 14 October 2009, 10:00 - 19:00
Venue: Diplomatic Academy of Vienna, Favoritenstrasse 15a, A-1040 Vienna

oiiip-Conference on Colombia: "Allein gegen alle Bedrohungen? Politische Bilanzen nach acht Jahren demokratischer Sicherheit"

Date: 25 January 2010, 10:00 - 18:00
Venue: Diplomatic Academy of Vienna, Favoritenstraße 15a, 1040 Wien

Recent events hosted by TEPSA Member Institutes

28 July 2009

"ESDP @ 10: what lessons for the future?"

A conference organized jointly by the Swedish Presidency of the European Union, the EU Institute for Security Studies in collaboration with the Swedish Institute of International Affairs, in Brussels 28th July 2009.

The conference will cover topics such as "Post-conflict stabilization: the ESDP experience and future needs", "Bridging the gap: foreign policy, external action and crisis management" and "ESDP in a changing world: working with others". Opening speeches will be held by Carl Bildt, Swedish Minister for Foreign Affairs and Javier Solana, EU High Representative for the CFSP, Secretary General of the Council of the European Union.

16 June, Rome

"Addressing the Resurgence of Sea Piracy: Legal, Political and Security Aspect", in cooperation with the International Institute of Humanitarian Law

17 June, Rome

"L'Italia e l'Agenda globale. La Presidenza italiana del G8" (Italy and Global Agenda. The Italian Presidency of the G8), conference jointly organised by the IAI and the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, with a speech by the Minister for Foreign Affairs Franco Frattini

19 June, Rome

MICROCON: workshop on the EU-civil society and conflict in the cases of Karabakh, Israel-Palestine, Georgia, Transnistria, and Western Sahara

22 June, Rome

Second Transatlantic Security Symposium: **"US-Europe-Russia Security Relations: Towards a New Compact?"**, in cooperation with CSIS, Washington

25-26 June, Turin

"The EU in conflict prevention and civil-military crisis management - the quest for effectiveness and legitimacy": final Italian-German expert seminar in the framework of the project "The EU as a Global Player - Strengths and Weaknesses of the CFSP and ESDP as seen from an Italian-German Angle", in cooperation with the Institut für Europäische Politik-IEP

6 July, Rome

"The G20-G8 continuum: global governance in a world of crisis", round table in cooperation with Chatham House, Centre for International Governance Innovation and University of Toronto

For the programmes and the reports: go to http://www.iai.it/sections_en/convegni/archivioconvegni/conferences_2009.asp

Calls from Member Institutes

Call for Applications / PhD School on External Relations



The Center for European Studies at the Middle East Technical University is organizing the **2nd PhD School of the "Strengthening and Integrating Academic Networks" (SInAN) project** between 4th and 8th of October 2009, focusing on the External relations of the EU and Turkey with a special emphasis on European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP), Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP)/European Security and Defence Policy (ESDP) and relations with NATO.

The travel and accommodation costs of the participants will be covered, but please note that costs will be reimbursed only for those who fully participate in the classes, since all academic programmes are compulsory. Applications must contain: a letter of motivation, 500 word abstract of the applicant's proposed paper for presentation at the PhD School, CV with full contact coordinates. After the deadline for submissions 10 participants will be selected by the organizers on the basis of the applications.

Please send your motivation letter, abstract, and CV by **15th August, 2009** to cigdem@ces.metu.edu.tr and ces@ces.metu.edu.tr

Contact and further information: <http://sinan.ces.metu.edu.tr>



INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND POLITICAL SCIENCE
VILNIUS UNIVERSITY

Institute of International Relations and Political Science, Vilnius University / Lithuanian Political Science Association

Call for papers/International Conference

"Making democracy work in the digital age"

5-6 November 2009, Vilnius, Lithuania

During the last decades there has been much discussion about the deepening problems of democracy such as diminishing electoral turnout, increasing dissatisfaction with political institutions, transformation of politics into a political spectacle. These problems raise the question of the effectiveness and the meaning of the traditional democratic mechanisms in the contemporary society and point to the need to look for new forms of communication between citizens and government, based on the creative use of the opportunities offered by new information and communication technologies.

We invite proposals for papers to address the following themes:

- Transformation of political engagement and new forms of online political activism
- Internet and party politics: will the Internet save or erode political parties?
- Transformation of public sphere and online political deliberation
- Internet in electoral campaigns
- E-governance and e-participation
- E-democracy innovations

The Conference is organized by the Institute of International Relations and Political Science, Vilnius University and Lithuanian Political Science Association. It is sponsored by the Lithuanian State Science and Studies Foundation.

Venue: Institute of International Relations and Political Science, Vilnius University (Vokieciu str. 10, Vilnius)

Conference working languages: English and Lithuanian

Applications (consisting of an abstract no longer than 500 words and a short academic CV) should be sent to galina.vascenkaite@tspmi.vu.lt. The deadline for applications is **21 September 2009**.

Accepted papers will be notified by **12 October, 2009**.

There is no conference fee. The organizers will cover accommodation costs of paper givers. Limited number of travel grants is available for participants who do not have other sources of funding to attend the conference. To apply for the travel grant please contact galina.vascenkaite@tspmi.vu.lt.

More information: www.e-democracy.lt
 Contact: Galina Vascentkaite, Tel. +370 (5) 2514148, e-mail: galina.vascenkaite@tspmi.vu.lt

With the **European Online Academy**, the Centre international de formation européenne in cooperation with the Jean Monnet Chair of the University of Cologne organises the **Certificate** (one-year) and **Master in EU Studies Online** (two-year).

Through a **combination of e-learning and concentrated face-to-face-learning phases** (at weekends mainly in Berlin, Rome, Brussels and Budapest) the European Online Academy allows the participants to deepen and to supplement their knowledge of the EU integration process. The programmes are an outstanding opportunity for young professionals to continue their studies while pursuing their career at the same time.

Deadline for the online application is **5 September 2009**. A limited number of scholarships are awarded to particularly qualified candidates to cover part of the fee.

For further information and application please consult our website www.eu-online-academy.org or contact Aline Palige (aline.palige@cife.eu).

Publications

"Enlarging the European Union: Effects on the new member states and on the EU" *Graham Avery, Anne Faber, Anne Schmidt (eds.)* Trans European Policy Studies Association, Brussels

"L'Union européenne et sa monnaie" (by Jean-Victor Louis), *Commentaire J. Mégret*, Editions de l'Université de Bruxelles, 2009.

TEPSA Brief

The third issue of TEPSA Brief in 2009 presents the **"Priorities and Challenges of the Swedish EU Presidency - Recommendations from the TEPSA network, June 2009"** and were drafted by Brendan Donnelly (The Federal Trust for Education and Research), Hanna Ojanen (The Finnish Institute of International Affairs) and Petr Kratochvíl (The Institute of International Relations, Prague).

Should you have suggestions or proposals for topics please contact Yvonne Nasshoven at yvonne.nasshoven@tepsa.be.

TEPSA Lisbon Treaty Ratification Monitor

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. The paper aims to give an overview of the current state of the art of the ratification process and the debates at European and national level (here the 4 remaining countries where the Lisbon Treaty is not yet ratified: Czech Republic, Ireland, Germany, and Poland). **By Anne Schmidt** (anne.schmidt@tepsa.be)

Publications from the Member Institutes

Energy. Pulling the Baltic Sea Region together or apart? (edited by Andris Spruds and Toms Rostoks)

In recent years, the Baltic Sea region has gained importance as an energy bridge between the EU and Russia. At the same time, important changes have taken place in the sphere of energy in the EU and the individual countries of the region. This new contribution to the growing field of energy research offers analyses by specialists from Germany, Russia, Poland, Norway, Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, Finland and Sweden. Together they explore and assess the impact of national energy strategies on regional cooperation not only in the realm of energy but also beyond. Each author assesses his country's energy policies and offers valuable insights in the wider regional implications of that country's energy choices.

For further information and possibilities to acquire the book, please, contact Mr. Atis Lejins (atis.lejins@lu.lv) or Andris Spruds (aspruds@hotmail.com).

CIFE launches "Le Courrier de l'Europe", a new independent EU policy journal (edited by Bruno Bossière)

The Centre International de Formation Européenne (CIFE), in cooperation with the publisher Office de Publications Européennes, produces a new independent EU policy journal "Le Courrier de l'Europe". This publication – in English and French - has the ambition to become a major platform for information and debate on topical policy challenges facing Europe.

For further information, please contact the Head of the Editorial Team and Director of the CIFE office in Brussels, Bruno.Boissiere@cife.eu, Tel.: +32 496 38 02 97

"A New Role for the European Union: Building Homeland Security at the Supranational Level" (by Mark Rhinard), Journal of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, the Berkley Electronic Press.
<http://www.bepress.com/jhsem/>

L'Italia e la politica internazionale (by G. Bonvicini and A. Colombo), edizione 2009, Bologna: il Mulino, 2009

The tenth edition of the yearbook put out by the IAI and ISPI deals with international developments in 2008. Much of the volume analyses the three major events of the year from different points of view: the diplomatic and military crises between Russia and Georgia and between Israel and Palestine, the change in the US presidency with the election of Barack Obama, and the devastating crisis that first struck the financial world and then swept through the international economy. But the real unifying theme of this edition of the yearbook is the crisis (revealed by all these events) of multilateralism and the major international economic and security organisations.

Cyprus: A Conflict at the Crossroads (edited by N.Tocci and T.Diez), Manchester University Press, Manchester, June 2009

KIMEDE has collected a number of high-quality essays for its next **Cyprus Yearbook of International Relations**. Participants in this double volume, for 2008-2009, include TEPSA colleagues Wolfgang Wessels, Brendan Donnelly and KIMEDE's own Andreas Antoniou, as well as, *inter alia*, H.E. Miguel Angel Moratinos, former Cypriot Foreign Minister, Ms Erato Kozakou-Marcoullis, Professors Thanos Veremis and Stavros Zenios, and Turkish journalist and author, Mustafa Akyol. The new Yearbook should be out in early October.