

Call for Papers

2023 Annual International Conference

- THE PROSPECTS OF THE EUROPEAN INTEGRATION IN TIME OF GEOPOLITICAL CHALLENGES –

Conference dates: November 3 and 4, 2023

Venue: Iustinianus Primus Law Faculty, Ss. Cyril and Methodius University, Skopje, Republic of North Macedonia – Hybrid event

Background:

The European integration has been praised by many for bringing economic growth, peace and stability to Europe. In the recent years the European integration is facing many unprecedented geopolitical challenges. The Eurozone crisis, the Russian annexation of Crimea and the ongoing war in Ukraine, the enormous influx of refugees, together with the Brexit, as well as the consequences of the climate change, are all challenging the Union to its limits. All these different crises have cast a doubt on ideas of "an ever closer" and an "ever-expanding" Union. In a rapidly changing global landscape, with stronger Chinese and Russian influence in the region, the success of the Union in effectively addressing challenges and seizing opportunities is defined by the constant revision of EU strategies, policies and legislation, as well as the focused support and provision of resources by the Member States. Faced with these geopolitical challenges, the European Union started refocusing the enlargement debate, which has been stalled for a while due to the growing enlargement fatigue. The EU law has become an exportable commodity many years ago, influencing and changing the states and societies outside the borders of the Union, especially throughout the enlargement policy of the European Union. The enlargement policy has been placed at the heart of the European project and the EU accession process is widely perceived as one of the most powerful tools of the European Union for the international promotion of democracy and the rule of law. Therefore, the *rapprochement* of the Western Balkan region is strongly connected with the process of building the

democracy in this conflict torn part of Europe, a process which must be encouraged continuously.

In this light, we invite papers that reflect on different aspects of the legal and political developments of the European integration as a whole in the context of the contemporary geopolitical challenges. In particular, we welcome papers reflecting on the following topics:

- Western Balkan states' European accession process
- “Staged accession”- The capacity of the new Methodology in shaping more effective and more efficient accession process;
- Russian aggression on Ukraine and its impact on the European integration;
- Climate change challenges to the European integration;
- Global challenges to the EU diplomacy;
- Rule of law as a building block of the European Union;
- EU *acquis* transposition in Western Balkan countries;

Submissions from academics, researchers and practitioners at any stage of their career, including PhD students, will be accepted.

Submission details:

Interested authors are invited to submit an **abstract (up to 300 words in length)** and a **brief academic CV** via the following link: <https://forms.office.com/e/6igWpPQz1N>

All submissions will be peer reviewed by an International Academic Committee of the Conference. Selected papers will be published in a **special issue of the Iustinianus Primus Law Review** (<https://journals.ukim.mk/index.php/iplr>)- a peer reviewed journal of the Iustinianus Primus Law Faculty, indexed in EBSCO and Hein Online.

Registration fee:

The registration fee until 30 September 2023 is price of 30 Euros for PhD students/ 50 Euros for online participation/ 70 Euros for on-site participation

Deadline Overview:

30 September 2023 – Deadline for submission of abstract

15 October 2023 – Announcement of the Final program

03 and 04 November 2023 – Dates of the Conference

28 February 2024 – Submission of final papers

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