



***A new “organized and living Europe”.
70 Years since the Schuman Declaration: Achievements and
Challenges of European Integration.***

Call for papers

On June 26th and 27th 2020, in Venice, the AUSE (Associazione Universitaria per gli Studi Europei) — ECSA Italy will organize an international conference entitled: *A new “organized and living Europe”. 70 Years since the Schuman Declaration: Achievements and Challenges of European Integration.*

In setting in motion the process of European integration, the Schuman Declaration of 9 May 1950 adopted a clear programmatic approach; it contained, in fact, many clues as to the characteristics and goals that the European project has come to take on. 70 years down the road, the time is ripe to take stock of the realization of this project, and of what its future may hold. This conference aims to bring into focus some fundamental issues which the Schuman Declaration and the subsequent creation of the European Coal and Steel Community placed at the root of Europe’s integration and which remain to this day: the construction of the European Market and economic growth, the development of supranational institutions and the aspiration towards a European federation, social progress and solidarity, to name only a few of the key concepts put forth in the Declaration.

The recent difficulties facing integration, and the proposals to relaunch this process, call for scholars to assume a long perspective and, at the same time, to look for new interpretative keys to present to Europe’s citizens and policy-makers.

In accordance with the multidisciplinary approach which has always characterized the activities of the AUSE, we plan to organize three sessions:

1. The Construction of the European Market and Economic Growth

In 1951, the European Coal and Steel Community not only promised the free circulation of coal and steel products through the introduction of new guidelines for competition among the firms of the member states, but also supported a grand plan of industrial development led by the supranational High Authority. With the birth of the EEC in 1957, an important transition took place: the objectives of economic development were entrusted to the Common Market, which was taken to be a multiplier of economic opportunity for the firms and, more broadly, for the economies of the member states themselves, while the 1957 treaty attributed a fundamental and innovative role to competition policy. Since then, the tension between industrial policy and competition policy has been a fundamental element of the process of integration, with alternating phases determined by the complex dialectic between the various levels of government, European and national. It will therefore be interesting to examine the changes in these policies, whose outcomes have contributed and continue to contribute to shaping Europe’s production and technology bases, as well as the capability of European firms to operate in a global context.



Paper proposals may cover the following subjects: analyses of European industrial policy, whether comparative or by sector, the creation of European champions, competition policy, the strategies of European businesses, EU businesses in the international division of labor. These topics should not be considered exhaustive; other paper proposals relevant to the session will also be considered.

2. The institutional system and its dynamics

With the birth of the ECSC, an original institutional system was created whose structure has been at the basis of successive developments in the community's integration. The pivotal point of this system was the High Authority, the supranational organ including independent personalities called together to pursue the common European interest. Alongside the High Authority was the Council of Ministers, in which national interests found expression, the Court of Justice, with the mission to ensure that EC law was complied with, and the Common Assembly, a permanent body with a parliamentary nature. The four institutions interacted with one another in a dynamic manner, at times partly in conflict, leading to the emergence of several queries which have cropped up time and again throughout the history of European integration from its very beginnings. What, in the operation of the Community, and then the Union, is the relationship between technical expertise and politics? Are the representatives of the national interests within the Council of Ministers meant to work to add further legitimacy to community actions, or do they primarily serve to put on the brakes? What factors lead to the Court of Justice taking on a greater role in creating community laws? On what basis were the first experiences of supranational parliamentary control undertaken, and what elements favored its growth in subsequent decades? These topics should not be considered exhaustive; other paper proposals relevant to the session will also be considered.

3. Birth and Transformation of the European Social Model

Inspired by the Schuman Declaration, the European Coal and Steel Community created the basis for the European social model, initiating a sector dialogue on, and implementation of, instruments for the improvement of living and working conditions of the workforce. The social aspects of the ECSC Treaty were of great significance, and the harmonization of labor conditions was conceived ambitiously as an expression of common interest in the social aspects. Most importantly, it was the first time that these issues had been considered in a specific way by a supranational body, with innovative methods for intervening to manage employment crises.

The attention to social issues is reaffirmed in the Treaty on European Union (article 3, title 1) which traces the contours of the vision that guided the construction of the European social model from the origins of the processes of integration to the present day. In identifying the social market economy as the European model, the drafters of the Treaty did not limit themselves to echoing the lessons of the founding fathers, but rather defined the goals that the EU has committed itself to pursuing in terms of the values that it represents. These objectives call for wide-ranging instruments of intervention — through which one can truly construct a solid social pillar — and must be understood from a perspective capable of adapting and being guided by a long-term vision: ensuring the prosperity of future generations, the protection of environmental resources, social equity, social justice, and solidarity.

What are the challenges for the transformation and resilience of the European social model in the face of the processes of economic globalization? What answers has Europe given and can Europe give to its citizens faced with changes in systems of production brought about by technological innovation and industrial crises? What impact have economic crises had on social cohesion within the Community/Union? These topics should not be considered exhaustive; other paper proposals relevant to the session will also be considered.



Proposals submission guidelines

The conference will welcome papers both in Italian and in English.
Please send proposals (abstracts of 2,000 characters) along with a CV by 20 March 2020 to both of the following email addresses: :

felisini@uniroma2.it
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The decisions of the academic committee will be communicated by 30 March 2020 .

Conference venue:

Venezia, Centro Culturale Don Orione Artigianelli
26 e 27 giugno 2020

Scientific Committee

Daniela Felisini
Salvatore Aloisio
Sandro Guerrieri
Franco Mosconi
Daniela Preda
Francesco Velo

Organizing Committee

Serena Casu, Francesco Velo

The conference will take place within the series of events hosted through the project “Network of EU Integration Studies,” created by AUSE with the support of the EACEA — Erasmus+ Jean Monnet Programme of the European Commission.

Thanks to EU support attendants will not pay any registration fee.
Funds will be provided by AUSE to partially cover travel and accommodation costs of presenters.

