

## Director's Letter

It has been an exciting autumn at the [Centre for European Research \(CERGU\)](#)! In September we had the pleasure to introduce three new colleagues: postdoc Christina Reimann and two new PhD Students: Alexandra Bousiou and Kristina Wejstål. You can read more about them and their research projects below. Most welcome to CERGU!

This year's October Workshop (in cooperation with CES) had the title [‘Images of refugees in Europe’](#). A record number of participants joined us in listening to the extremely interesting presentations made by Prof Lene Hansen (University of Copenhagen) and our own Alexandra Bousiou, as well as the photos and images they presented. In addition, the Hasselblad foundation generously allowed us to show some excerpts from their exhibition “Watched – Surveillance, Art and Photography”, further emphasising the importance of images. Many thanks to Andrea Spehar, who moderated the event.



At the following graduation ceremony the 2016 Rutger Lindahl Award for the best Master's thesis in European Studies was awarded to Julian Dederke for his thesis: [‘Not indicted, and yet they do care. Why EU Governments file Observations to Cases before the ECJ’](#). More awards will be delivered December 13, when two former CERGU postdocs (Jan Rovny, Sciences Po, Paris) and Jonathan Polk, University of Gothenburg) and a member of CERGU International Advisory board (Lenka Rovna, Charles University, Prague), will be honoured by the Faculty of Social Sciences for their work to develop a transnational pedagogical project called [‘Rebuilding Europe’](#). The project helps to create a sense of reality of what the students learn theoretically in the Masters' Programme of European Studies, by collaborating with students in other European countries.

This autumn CERGU has organised two international workshops in Paris and Oslo respectively. November 17-18 we are happy to welcome several renowned scholars to Gothenburg to participate in the Conference [“A Hundred Years of Social Democracy and Cartels, Concentrations, and Competition in Europe”](#). This conference is organised by CERGU postdoc Brian Shaev, who is also portrayed below. We have many more workshops and conferences coming up in spring, thanks to several [conference grants awarded to CERGU scholars from Riksbankens Jubileumsfond \(RJ\)](#). For more information on up-coming events, see our [calendar](#) – as well as the public lunch seminars about current European affairs, organised by the [Brännpunkt Europa](#).

With so many people still fleeing from war, continuous economic decline, ‘Brexit’ and cultural conflicts, the need for solid humanistic, legal, economic and social sciences analyses is endless.

Thanks to all scholars in the CERGÚ network for all your hard work!

**Linda Berg**

## Welcome to Alexandra, Kristina and Christina!

Earlier this autumn, three researchers started their employment at CERGÚ.

**Alexandra Bousiou** will conduct a PhD project on “Governance responses to Externalization of the EU Asylum policy across the Southeastern European Border: The cases of the Greek Islands and the Turkish Coast” at the School of Global Studies. **Kristina Wejstål** is placed at the Department of Law with the PhD project “Legal Channels for Asylum Seekers into the European Union – A Balance between Protection and Security?”. Furthermore, **Christina Reimann** started her Postdoctoral project



“National integration, social security and foreign workers: The legal practice of migrants’ insurance in Rotterdam and Antwerp in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries” at the Department of Historical Studies. More information on these and other research projects at CERGÚ can be found on our [website](#).

## Coming up at CERGÚ

### Public Events

21 February, 2017

Europaperspektiv 2017: Bokseminarium  
”Tilliten i Europa vid ett vägsäl” (In Swedish)

29 March, 2017

European Research Day:  
“Cultural Borders of Europe”

10-14 May, 2017

CERGÚ at Vetenskapsfestivalen (The Science Festival)

### Workshops and Conferences

17-18 November, 2016

Conference ”A Hundred Years of Social Democracy and Cartels, Concentrations, and Competition in Europe”

19-20 January, 2017

Conference “The Future of Environmental Policy in Europe”

9-10 February, 2017

Workshop “Hate Crime in Europe”

9-10 March, 2017

Workshop “The new politics of EU Trade Policy”

For the full seminar program, see our [calendar](#).

## Profile of Brian Shaev

Brian Shaev is a postdoctoral researcher at CERGU and the Department of Economy and Society. During the past months, he has been busy preparing and organizing the conference “A Hundred Years of Social Democracy and Cartels, Concentrations, and Competition in Europe”, which will take place on the 17-18th November, 2016.



**Hi Brian! More than one year of your two-year postdoc employment at CERGU has passed. Could you share some reflections on your project with us?**

Sure. The fellowship has provided me time and the resources to extend research I conducted for my dissertation to new policy fields that came up during my graduate studies but that I did not have time to investigate in depth during my PhD. Having two years to focus exclusively on these fields in European integration history, which are migration/Free Movement of Workers, and cartels and competition policy, has allowed me to become knowledgeable about important and complicated fields while also having time to conduct archival research, which is at the core of history as a discipline. Now is an exciting time for me because the results of that research is beginning to bear fruit and I have been presenting it at various conferences in addition to organizing the upcoming conference in Gothenburg with CERGU.

**Before moving to Gothenburg, you completed a PhD in Pittsburgh in the US and also spent some time as a researcher in Bucharest, Romania. How does the working environment in Sweden differ from your previous work places? And how do you like living in Gothenburg?**

Well it is nice first of all to finally have my own office, so I appreciate that very much! More seriously, Gothenburg has an excellent library system on par with research universities in the United States such as Pittsburgh where I received my PhD. Historians are pesky researchers because we tend to want to see obscure books written decades ago in exotic languages of which there are less than 10 copies. So this is very important and a resource undervalued sometimes in other disciplines. Besides that the working environment has been quite pleasant and enjoyable and the city has been great too.

**Besides your daily work at the Department of Economy and Society, you are an active member of the CERGU research community. What do you see as the added value of taking part in CERGU activities, both for your project and personally?**

What is great about CERGU is that I am an historian of European integration (and other fields but especially of European integration) and we are a rather small field within history as a whole. So I have always benefited from interdisciplinary settings in European studies in which people from other disciplines investigate fields that I am interested in but are not as often a focus within history. In addition, it is a supportive and enjoyable community that has helped me to build and sustain a life many miles from where I grew up and did my doctoral studies.

**As part of your postdoc employment, you are organizing the conference “A Hundred Years of Social Democracy and Cartels, Concentrations, and Competition in Europe”. What has been the main challenge of planning an international conference?**

The main challenge that I have had is that since I proposed a postdoctoral project that, while focused on social democracy like my PhD, addresses a field that I have not researched to date, I did not have a network and contacts in the field, in this case the field of cartels and competition policy and law.



Fortunately I was able to build around a kernel of a group of historians in Gothenburg working on cartel history and made a contact with an historian at the Max Planck Institute for European Legal History who has worked on the history of European competition law and industrial policy, with a focus on Keynesianism and the automobile industry. With these two networks, we have constructed an excellent conference program. So some of this work was building from the ground up but I was fortunate in the contacts I made that will also prove extremely useful not only as we prepare a book out of our conference findings but also to lay the basis for future research projects and collaboration. Early next year I begin a new position as Leiden University teaching the History of European Integration but, though I am leaving Gothenburg, my collaborations with researchers at GU will surely continue!

## October Workshop 2016

This year's October workshop with the title 'Images of Refugees in Europe' took place on the 14<sup>th</sup> October. An audience of 80 gathered to listen to presentations and discussions on the very current topic. The keynote speech by Professor Lene Hansen from the University of Copenhagen combined theoretical insights on securitization with examples of contemporary iconic images of refugees. Alexandra Bousiou, who is a PhD student at CERGU and the School of Global Studies, spoke about the current situation in Lesbos, and showed photographs that she has taken during her fieldwork. The last presentation was a video screening, where selected parts of a film on the exhibition "Watched – Surveillance, Art and Photography" were shown. A big thank you to our speakers Lene Hansen and Alexandra Bousiou, and to Andrea Spehar, who moderated the event.



## Rutger Lindahl Award 2016



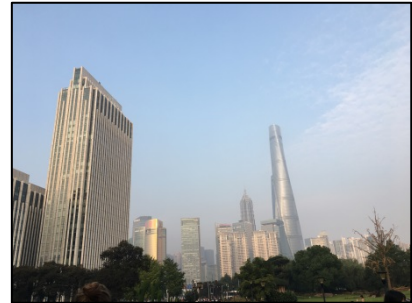
This year's winner of the Rutger Lindahl Award for the Best Master Thesis in European Studies is Julian Dederke. He received the prize for his thesis [\*Not indicted, and yet they do care. Why EU Governments file Observations to Cases before the ECJ.\*](#)

The prize comes with a cash reward of 10 000 Swedish kronor, and Julian's thesis will be published in our digital Working Papers Series.

## News from the Centre for European Studies (CES)

It has been a busy autumn at CERGUS's sister organization, the Centre for European Studies (CES). This autumn semester marked the start of the [Executive Master's Programme in European Studies \(EMAES\)](#). 15 students with various educational and professional backgrounds attend the programme while working at the same time, and they are expected to graduate in the spring semester of 2018. Another innovation that is currently under development and will be launched next autumn semester is the Humanities track of the Master's Programme in European Studies. [...]

In October, CES Director of Studies Urban Strandberg and internship coordinator Karin Andersson visited Fudan University in Shanghai, where they among others arranged a workshop at [Nordic Centre](#) to discuss double-degree cooperation with representatives from several other universities. During the 13<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> of December, a group of researchers and teachers from [SIRPA](#) at Fudan University will visit Gothenburg to discuss future cooperation in research and education with CERGUS and CES.



This year's Graduation Ceremony at CES was held in connection with the October Workshop on the 14<sup>th</sup> of October. Besides the Rutger Lindahl Award (see above), two new awards were granted for the first time this year – "The Henrik and Karolina von Mentzer European Studies Thesis Awards", which were awarded to Lisa Gastaldi for the Bachelor's thesis "*Protest or Ideology? Left-wing populism and voter behavior in European Parliament elections*", and to Clemens Schubert for the Master's thesis "*Patriotic and anti-islam, but European? What European means for Pegida in Dresden*". Congratulations!

## External Funding to CERGUS researchers!

During the autumn, several CERGUS researchers have been successful in attracting external funding. **Jonathan Polk** has been awarded 4.8 million kronor by Vetenskapsrådet for the project "Political Party Member Responses to Organizational Change: Exit, Voice, and Loyalty", which he and Ann-Kristin Kölln will carry out over a four-year period starting 2017.

Furthermore, **Andreas Hofmann**, **David Brax**, **Guri Rosén** and **Katarzyna Jezierska** have been awarded funding by Riksbankens Jubileumsfond for international workshops and conferences that will take place at CERGUS during the coming year.

# Congratulations!

Stay tuned for our next newsletter in winter 2017. In the meantime, like us on [Facebook](#), follow us on [Twitter](#), join our [LinkedIn](#) group, and check out our [website](#) where all the latest CERGUS news and events will be posted!





# **UNIVERSITY OF GOTHENBURG**

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