



CERGU Winter 2023 Newsletter

Director's Letter

Dear Academic Community,

We are thrilled to introduce *ChatGPT*, a state-of-the-art language model developed by OpenAI, to the academic community. *ChatGPT* has the potential to revolutionize the way we interact with language and perform research tasks, making our lives easier and more efficient.

ChatGPT is a highly advanced AI system that can generate human-like responses to natural language inputs. It has been trained on vast amounts of data, allowing it to perform a wide range of tasks such as answering questions, generating text, and even completing writing tasks. In

academia, *ChatGPT* can be used to streamline research processes, saving time and increasing efficiency.

For example, *ChatGPT* can be utilized to quickly search for relevant literature, analyze data, and even summarize

research papers. It can also assist researchers with writing tasks such as drafting papers and creating presentations, freeing up time for more important tasks such as analysis and experimentation. The ability to collaborate with *ChatGPT* in real-time could also benefit research teams, facilitating smoother communication and collaboration.

We believe that *ChatGPT* has the potential to make a significant impact on the academic community and we are excited to see how researchers will utilize its capabilities. Whether you are a student, a faculty member, or a researcher, *ChatGPT* is sure to simplify your life and make your research process more efficient.

In conclusion, we encourage you to explore the capabilities of *ChatGPT* and consider how it could benefit your own research. If you have any questions or need assistance getting started, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Best regards, [Academic Community Organizers]



This was the response generated by ChatGPT on 30 January 2023 when I asked it to: "Write a 300 word newsletter about the introduction of ChatGPT to Academia.". It remains to be seen to what extent the AIChatbot, or LLM (short for Large Language Model), will generate research publications in the future, but one would be very naïve to think that it will not. In fact, one would already be very wrong. Chatbots such as ChatGPT have assisted researchers in their [writing](#) for many years and *Nature* has published their own [[nature.com/articles/d41586-023-00191-1](https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-023-00191-1)]"ground rules", because "tools such as ChatGPT threaten transparent science".

Here at the University of Gothenburg, the discussion of LLM's bursting on the scene has been focused on how we need to adapt our methods of assessing students. Some colleagues have proclaimed that the take home exam is dead, and from what I hear there are on-going discussions about banning the use of take home exams for all courses at individual departments.

However, the Chatbots do not discriminate against anyone, and researcher or student are equally welcome for a chat. I do not know how good the potential article drafts would be, but I would guess that there are already examples of peer reviewed articles out there whose authors, or at least main authors – and perhaps also peer reviews – are in fact LLMs like ChatGPT.

As Director of CERGU, I find this development fascinating. Technology shifts disrupt our set ways, and the process is always interesting. To me, it is also an inspiration for research. As a societal phenomenon, the technology is a significant game changer and we all need to learn how to master the tool. Furthermore, ChatGPT is a fantastic example of when an interdisciplinary approach to a research topic really has the potential to shine.

It might in fact be a topic for future discussions in the CERGU Non-unidisciplinary Research Project, which convened for our third meeting on January 20th. Please stay tuned for information updates on the CERGU-NURP project or [contact me](#) if you have any questions.

In the CERGU seminar series, there are several research seminars in the coming weeks, including the 26th edition of the book launch for [Europaperspektiv](#) (in Swedish) on 21 February. Please [sign up](#) for the event. There is a limited number of copies of the book available, for free, to those who register. CERGU deputy director Ann-Kristin Jonasson is one of the authors presenting chapters, and longtime CERGU friends Urban Strandberg and Cecilia Malmström are also participating in the seminar.

As you are all well aware, [Sweden currently chairs the Council of the European Union](#) and a panel discussion organized by CERGU devoted to the on-going Swedish presidency will take place on 15 March (read more below). The presidency of the Council is in fact very much on the CERGU agenda this spring and CERGU interns Emma Heck and Albin Sundberg will keep close track on current events while preparing a special series of fact sheets about the presidency that will be published on the CERGU website. We are very happy that Emma and Albin have opted to join us as interns during this semester!

One of the four priorities of the Swedish presidency is “Democratic values and the Rule of Law”. In cooperation with The Swedish Institute for European Policy Studies (SIEPS) and the Swedish Network for European Legal Studies (SNELS), CERGU is organizing the conference “The Rule of Law in the EU: Crisis and Solutions”, 17-18 April in Stockholm, so check out the [CERGU conference webpage](#) for more information about this highly topical event.

Finally, I would like to congratulate everyone contributing to the European Studies programs on the positive evaluation report. As many of you in the CERGU network are part of both organizations, you know how important the close, almost symbiotic, cooperation between the organizations is for education and research in European studies at our university.

Andreas Moberg, Director of CERGU

Information from CES – Winter 2022

Positive external evaluation of CES educational programmes!

During 2022, the bachelor's and master's programmes in European Studies have been externally evaluated. The external evaluation was done by Anna Michalski, (Uppsala University, chair), Karl Nilsson, (University of Gothenburg, student representative), Rebecka Lettevall (Malmö University), Bengt Jacobsson, (Södertörn University) and Rikard Bengtsson (Lund University). The final report is now published online [here](#) (in Swedish).

The overall assessment of the European Studies programmes is very positive! In particular, the evaluators highlighted the emphasis on interdisciplinarity in all courses, with research informed teaching supported by the connection to CERGU, as well as a very strong focus on research methodology, especially the way we work with bachelor's and master's theses. We are very happy about this assessment, and it also provides good recommendations on how to continue to make our programmes even better in the future. Many thanks to the evaluators for their thorough assessment, and to all teachers, administrators and students who have contributed to the evaluation process!

The official delivery of the Faculty of Social Science's student environment prize was handed over to representatives from Brännpunkt Europa on 13 December.

We have now finalized the autumn semester with very good student performances, including a record number of bachelor's theses submitted on time.

During the spring semester we are looking forward to the master's students' thesis process. Moreover, we have many students doing internships at exciting places this spring, at private and public organisations, in Gothenburg, Stockholm, Brussels or further away. They are ambassadors of our education. We look forward to hearing more about their experiences when they return.



Linda Berg, Director of Studies, Centre for European Studies CES

CERGU Organizes Book Launch

Join us on 21 February, either on-site or online, for the book launch of the 26th annual Europaperspektiv publication! Each year the book focuses on a theme that is relevant to current events, and this year is no different. This Swedish-language event will feature three presentations from the book's authors, as well as a panel discussion with a moderator and commentators. The afternoon will begin with a fika outside the lecture hall Dragonen, and those who register to attend on-site will receive a copy of this year's publication.

More information can be found [here](#), and the deadline to [register](#) is 16 February at the latest.



Book Title: *EU:s inre och yttre gränser i en konfliktfylld värld* (The EU's Internal and External Borders in a World Filled with Conflicts)

Location: Lecture Hall Dragonen, Sprängkullsgatan 19, University of Gothenburg ([registration required](#)) and online via [Zoom webinar](#)

Date and Time: Tuesday 21 February, 14.30-17.00 (fika 14.30-14.45)
This event will be held in Swedish!

PROGRAM

Moderator: Urban Strandberg, docent i statsvetenskap, föreståndare och medgrundare för International Youth Think Tank vid Lindholmen Science Park samt universitetslektor vid Juridiska institutionen, Handelshögskolan vid Göteborgs universitet
Inre marknadens gränser i och utanför EU

Marja-Liisa Öberg, docent i EU-rätt, Lunds universitet
Kommentator: Cecilia Malmström, Senior Research Fellow på PIIE Peterson Institute for International Economics, tidigare ledamot i Europaparlamentet, EU-minister och EU-kommissionär

EU:s normspridning i en konfliktfylld värld: En existentiell nödvändighet med förhinder?

Ann-Kristin Jonasson, universitetslektor i statsvetenskap, Göteborgs universitet
Kommentator: Adam Cwejman, politisk redaktör på Göteborgs-Posten

EU:s ryska energiberoende: En kraft som splittrar eller enar unionen?

Torbjörn Becker, föreståndare för SITE, Stockholm Institute of Transition Economics
Kommentator: Thomas Sterner, professor i miljöekonomi, Göteborgs universitet

Upcoming Event on Swedish EU Presidency

The logo for the Swedish EU Presidency 2023 event, featuring the word "sweden" in white lowercase letters above "2023.eu" in yellow lowercase letters, all on a dark blue background.

CERGU will organize a panel event, “Välkommen till det svenska ordförandeskapet i EU – Möjligheter och begränsningar?” on the Swedish

EU presidency, which will be held on 15 March, 15.00-17.00 at the School of Business, Economics, and Law Room E43. This event will be held in Swedish and is open to the

public. CERGU researchers and political scientists Ann-Kristin Jonasson and Markus Johansson will be serving as moderators. Joining them will be Per Cramér, from the School of Business, Economics, and Law, Christer Ljungwall, from the School of Business, Economics, and Law, Rikard Warlenius, from the School of Global Studies, and Andreas Moberg, Department of Law and director of CERGU. A complete program will be available soon on the CERGU website. The event is organized in cooperation with the student-run group Brännpunkt Europa and Europa Direkt, Sjuhärad and Halland.

CERGU Prepares to Announce Postdoctoral Positions

Mark your calendars for mid-March and keep an eye on your inbox because CERGU plans to announce 1-3 positions for postdoctoral researchers in the field of European Studies! More information is coming soon.

New Year, New Grants

CERGU awarded many grants during 2022 for PhD students and projects involving PhD students, and a new pot of available funds will be available to apply for on 1 March, 2023. Keep checking CERGU's website for updated grant opportunities!

Meet the Interns

Some of you who attended conferences, seminars, or breakfasts may remember our outstanding intern from spring 2022, Edwina Beckanovic, and now have many new faces around the corridors at Pilgatan 19A. Please say 'hello' to our new CERGU and CERGU-affiliated interns!



Lina Carling is from Sweden and did her bachelor's degree in Human Rights at Lund University. She is currently working on her master's in European Studies on the social science track. This semester she is interning within Lisbeth Aggestam's project, Transnational Civil Society and Foreign Policy. Lina hopes that by interning she will be able to gain insight into how research and science projects are produced from the idea to the finished result, which will also hopefully inspire her future academic career ambitions!

Emma Klint Hansen holds a bachelor's degree in European Studies from the University of Southern Denmark. She is currently doing a master's in European Studies at the University of Gothenburg on the humanities track. Emma is interning for Katarina Leppänen, helping to research the Swedish journalist Sven Backlund and his role as a cultural and conceptual mediator along with his commitment to education. After the internship Emma hopes to find a job that involves academic research or work related to civil society development. Emma says that during her bachelor studies she was exposed to the wonderful world of civil society that is found in the Nordic countries, and organizational work became one of her main interests.



Emma Heck was born and raised in Belgium, but believe it or not, her mother tongue is German, not French or Flemish! Before moving to Sweden she did her bachelor's in International Marketing and Management. Currently she is studying a master's in European Studies on the humanities track. Aside from that she works as an editor and graphic designer for the student magazine *Utblick*. This semester she is a CERGU intern, supervised by Andreas Moberg. Following her master's Emma doesn't really have concrete plans, but hopes to work in research or for an aid organization or NGO.

Amberlyn Sangmanee is from Thailand and has a bachelor's degree in Business Communication from Assumption University, Thailand. She is studying a master's in European Studies, humanities track and has Mats Andrén as her supervisor. She is currently researching cultural borders in Europe, 2013-2023. Amberlyn considers herself to be a generalist with a background in business and liberal arts. She says that she often provides an 'outsider view' to class discussions, which occasionally can be incredibly thought-provoking or end up being really funny. A fun fact about her is that she has 6067 followers on Twitter!





John-Vilhelm Schnell is half-Swedish and half-American, but grew up in Switzerland and attended an international school. He did his BA in International Relations with a minor in Journalism at Webster University, Geneva Switzerland. John-Vilhelm is currently pursuing a master's in European Studies, humanities track and is interning on Mats Andrén's project "Europe from the Margin" focusing on the history of Switzerland's marginal position within Europe. After the internship he hopes to work as an analyst focusing on European affairs through political, historical, and cultural models. John-Vilhelm grew up around many different languages, and in addition to speaking fluent English and Swedish, he is also able to speak conversational German.

Albin Sundberg will be interning at CERGU for the next five months as part of his master's degree in European Studies at the University of Gothenburg. He previously studied Global Studies, and received his bachelor's degree in 2022. After the internship he plans on finishing his degree, but also hopes to travel around and see Europe by train! You might be surprised to hear that Albin is colorblind.



Save the Date: CERGU Internal Conference

CERGU arranges an internal conference annually in order to keep up with what the researchers involved in the network are currently involved in, from research ideas, applications, to full-blown projects and papers. Prior internal conferences have been held at Lindholmen on Hisingen, at Glashuset near Valand, outside of Gothenburg on the coast at Säröhus Hotel and Spa, recently at Quality Hotel Riverfront in Majorna, and then of course on campus and even entirely online during the pandemic! This year we are so happy to announce that our upcoming internal conference will take place at Arken [Hotel & Art Garden Spa](#) on 15-16 May. This will be an opportunity to meet CERGU colleagues and hear about their current research, as well as to perhaps present something of your own. The CERGU administration will be sending out a sign-up sheet soon, so save the date!



Inaugural Seminar Held in Honor of Claes Alvstam

On Friday 3 February, the inaugural seminar on the topic of international trade was held at the School of Business, Economics and Law in honor of the late Claes Alvstam, a close friend and champion of CERGU. Per Cramér, dean and professor in International Law introduced the speakers and topic, and was then followed by three presenters who knew Claes and are experts on the subject of international business and trade. The focus of the seminar was “to gain a deeper understanding of the changing conditions for international trade and the longer-term effects of this development,” in a world where effective multilateralism is key to tackling ongoing simultaneous challenges.

Following an introduction by Per Cramér, Cecilia Malmström, former European Commissioner for Trade, and non-resident fellow at the Peterson Institute for International Economics in Washington D.C. spoke. After Cecilia it was Anders Ahnlid, director general for the National Board of Trade in Stockholm, and Petros Mavroidis, Edwin B. Parker Professor of Foreign and Comparative Law at Columbia University in New York who shared their knowledge with the audience. While this was the first seminar in honor of Claes Alvstam, the plan is to continue to hold an international trade/business-related seminar every year. Read more about the event here: <https://www.gu.se/en/event/changing-conditions-for-international-trade-prospects-for-the-future>



Follow [CERGU](#) on social media! You can stay up to date with current seminars, events, and conferences, as well as the latest publications and news about CERGU by following us on [Twitter](#), liking our NEW! [Facebook](#) page and joining our [LinkedIn](#) group. CERGU is now on [Instagram](#), too!



Upcoming CERGU Events

21/2, 14.30-17.00 **Europaperspektiv 2023** (in Swedish) [Register here!](#) Lecture Hall Dragonen

6/3, 13.15-15.00 **Guest Seminar: Ian Manners** (Professor, Political Science, Lund University) “Arrival of Normative Power in Planetary Politics, co-organized with the International Politics seminar, Political Science, Stora Skansen B336 and via Zoom

15/3, 15.00-17.00 **Välkommen till Det svenska ordförandeskapet i EU – Möjligheter och begränsningar?**, Handelshögskolan rum E43 (in Swedish)

5/4, 15.00-17.30 **Guest Seminar: Pasi Ihalainen** (Professor, Comparative European History, University of Jyväskylä, Finland) “Redefinitions of democracy in Britain, France and Germany since 1968: A digital conceptual history approach”, co-organized with LIR, Room C664 Humanisten and via [Zoom](#)

17-18/4 **Conference: The Rule of Law in the EU: Crisis and Solutions**, IVA Conference Center Stockholm ([read more here!](#))

19/4, 16.30-17.30 CERGU at the International Science Festival Theme: Borders/Gränser, City Library at Götaplatsen

18/4, 9.30-11.00 **Working Seminar: Oksana Shmulyar Gréen**, title TBD, Conference Room Pilen K309 and via [Zoom](#)

5/2, 9.30-11.00 **Guest Seminar: Julia Simon** Conference Room Pilen K309 and online via [Zoom](#)

15-16/5 **CERGU Internal Conference** (INTERNAL EVENT, lunch-lunch)



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