

European Foreign Policies in Transition

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Building on successful 2009 workshops, and the 2010 Bruges panels on the 'Europeanisation and EU Foreign Policy', the European Foreign Policies in Transition CRN conducted an intensive two-day Brussels-based Workshop, hosted by the Institute for European Studies, titled *New Frontiers in the Study of Member States Foreign Policies*. Now in its third year, the network is led by Richard Whitman (University of Kent) and Amelia Hadfield (Institute of European Studies, Vrije Universiteit Brussel).

The four central themes that contributors were asked to address included 'Conceptualising EU Member States Foreign Policy: Geography vs. Thematics', 'National Interest, Europeanization and Pragmatism', 'Defining the four corners of the EU: Central, Western, Southern and Northern Europe', and 'EU Foreign Policy Dimensions'. Using short concept pieces (defined as abbreviated pieces of work to promote brain-storming rather than fully-fledged conference papers), the workshop encouraged participants to consider the balance between geography and geopolitics; specifically how best to theorize and operationalize a workable method by which the foreign policies of 27 Member States can be identified, grouped and explained in terms of national and regional value sets, as well as tensions between Europeanization and foreign policy pragmatism.

The objective for the European Foreign Policies in Transition CRN (due to complete in 2012) is the publication of a multi-author book edited by Richard and Amelia and Ian Manners (University of Roskilde) that effectively and originally examines the national and European foreign policy orientations of the Member States on a variety of different levels. The CRN has thus produced a viable network of scholars tackling both the conceptual and empirical aspects of EU foreign policy as a national, regional and Union phenomenon.

The remaining two 2011 activities of the CRN include two dedicated panels at the 41st Annual UACES Conference in Cambridge, and a one-day workshop at the University of Kent in December, to finalize chapter content.