Zeit für den atlantischen Verständnisprozess

Jürgen Nielsen-Sikora: Europe for the citizens. Interviews with Peter Altmaier, Barbara Gessler, Ruth Hieronymi und Hans-Gert Pöttering (ZEI Discussion Paper C186/2008): “Europe for the citizens” is a term of the community law vocabulary and it embraces different political meanings for the identification of the citizens with the European integration project. Part of it are not only the symbols of the EU but also the definitions and objectives of the EU that derive from the treaties. The European Commission should obtain a minimum understanding about how Europe works and how the decisions are being taken within its institutions. Historically the European Court guarantees a wide range of fundamental rights as opposed to sovereignty of the national states and in 1989 it already set „Europe for the citizens“ to its general objectives and moreover to the common objectives of the community. Primarily this project of the integrational process is for a more active participation of the citizens which is a basic prerequisite for all democratic political entities. European citizens should not be seen only as an economic factor in the EU context, but also as carriers of all right and obligations deriving from their citizenship.

The EU Treaty which came into force in 1993 created a particularly close legal relation between the European citizens, on the one hand and the EU, on the other. However, the negative referenda from 2005 in France and the Netherlands clearly showed how big the gap between the European citizens and European institutions really is. At the same time, the European citizens’ low participation during the elections for European Parliament speak for itself. Now with the Lisbon Treaty and the

Carl Christian von Weizsäcker: Regionalisierung der Regulierung im Bitstromzugangs-Markt? (ZEI Discussion Paper C 189/2008): In this discussion paper Prof. von Weizsäcker picks up a recently discussed topic on regulation of telecommunications. Public intervention into competition by regulation should always be limited to its necessary minimum. For the first time, national regulatory authorities in several EU Member States have adopted a geographic differentiation for the wholesale market for broadband access (so-called "bitstream access), in order to take account of the different intensity of competition and to deregulate areas with competitive markets. Based on a national uniform regulation of "last mile"-access, regulation of bitstream access was reduced or even completely suspended for a large part of the United Kingdom. Prof. von Weizsäcker analyzes this approach and transfers the concept onto Germany. The national regulatory authority has already taken up this topic within the current market analysis. Prof. von Weizsäcker considers this approach to be adequate and necessary also for Germany.

Lazaros Miliopoulos: Begriff und Idee der "Atlantischen Zivilisation" in Zeiten transatlantischer Zerreißproben (ZEI Discussion Paper C 188/2008): After introducing the geo-cultural understanding of the "Atlantic civilization", the author moots the historical relevance of the theory of the 'Atlantic revolution' which took place in the 18th century. His main suggestion refers to the scientific historical approach and the civilization theories studying the history and development of the planetary space and the Atlantic culture and civilization, by indicating that a new politically affecting strength the so-called 'Atlantic civilization' arose in the times of the anti-totalitarian Atlanticism after the World War Two. Based on this fundamental and conceivably underestimated in the time the relevance of this new vision of the "Atlantic civilization" was laid open open now especially for the development of the European identity.

Ján Figel': Reflecting on the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue (ZEI Discussion Paper C 187/2008): The year 2008 was devoted to Intercultural Dialogue in response to the changing social and cultural landscape in the European Union. There were two main reasons for this thematic devotion, European Commissioner Ján Figel' argues in the ZEI Discussion Paper C 187, – 1) the historical enlargements of 2004 and 2007 when twelve new countries joined the EU, and 2) the migratory flows that reach Europe from beyond its borders and create immigrant communities within the EU. Both of these have led to intensification of intercultural contacts that the EU citizens have. Closely linked with the concept of mutual respect and human dignity, the concept of intercultural dialogue lies at the very heart of the European integration. During the Year, the intercultural dialogue was promoted through a series of initiatives called Brussels Debates that involved before all the civil society but also teachers, businesses, religion representatives and covered issues of education, arts, migration, multilingualism, religion, workplace and media. In addition to this, the European Commission is co-financing seven flagship projects and there are national projects organized in the member states under the umbrella of the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue as well. The Year should not be perceived as just one sole year but it should ignite a long-term process and involve a broad range of policy fields. The Year should launch a sustainable political process from the grass roots all the way up to the national leader and the concept of intercultural dialogue should become a broader vision for the future of Europe and its place in the international scene.

Sonja Schröder: The 2007-2013 European Cohesion Policy. A New Strategic Approach by the Commission? (ZEI Discussion Paper C 190/2008): This paper takes a closer look at the content of the 2007-13 European cohesion policy and aims to find out whether the European Commission has adopted a new strategic approach compared to the previous framework program. By focusing on the four main principles concentration, programming, additionality and partnership, this paper does not only provide a mere description of possible new features. It also sheds light on the underlying reasons explaining the attempt of the Commission to keep some elements while changing others. Besides, special attention is given to what happens in the researched realm after eastward enlargement of 2004. The general conclusion of the paper is that the Commission has adopted a new strategic approach in two respects. First, the policy is now visibly linked with and related to the Lisbon Agenda. Second, there is a clear shift of the Commission’s influence from the programming level to the strategic policy level.
forthcoming elections for European Parliament in 2009 two significant EU events are standing in line. Therefore the current paper suggests a brief analysis of the actual situation after the crisis from 2005 and stresses out the importance of the forthcoming year 2009. It also gives the word to those politicians who reflect on the relationship between the European citizens and the European institutions.

Hans-Gert Pöttering: European Union – New Impulses for the Decade Ahead (ZEI Discussion Paper C 185/2008): Special congratulations of the President of the European Parliament to the Center for European Integration Studies and the students who successfully graduated the master’s program in 2008. The ZEI itself has been contributing to the process of European integration by doing research in different fields and providing education for young European and non-European post-graduates. Generally, the academic work is essential for the integration process as it reflects on many important and often problematic issues connected to it, such as: rethinking of the relationship between the different levels of governance in Europe, contributing to the dialog among cultures and creating a new form of encounter between Europe and other parts of the world. It is of crucial importance for politicians and academics to unite in their reflection on European integration. Otherwise the EU would miss to prepare sufficiently for the age of globalization.

Ludger Kühnhardt: African Regional Integration and the Role of the European Union (ZEI Discussion Paper C 184/2008): The paper both outlines the difficulties and strategies for African integration, and details how the European Union might best interact with African states and regional groupings in order to encourage and support their continued integration. It discusses the challenges faced by African regional institutions after their post-colonial, sovereignty-based beginnings, as well as the role of sub-regional African groupings, the creation of an African Economic Community, and the importance of strategic, political goals, supranational structures, and common legislative commitments to the deepening of regional integration. The European Union as an example of successful continental integration is also examined, as is the future potential for bi-regional Economic Partnership Agreements within Africa.

Yannis Tsantoulis: Subregionalism in the Black Sea and the EU's Role. Incentives, Obstacles and a 'New Synergy' (ZEI Discussion Paper C 183/2008): In the post-Cold War era the wider Black Sea Region has been emerging as a decisive crossroads for the future of an expanding Europe. On the one hand, the latest enlargements of the EU and NATO and the attractiveness of the region justify the argument why the EU should enhance its role in the region and foster a dynamic policy, but on the other hand, the lack of resolution of the ‘frozen conflicts’ and the conundrums posed by the energy security paradigm reveal the difficulties in approaching the region. This study examines the very nature of the region and attempts to answer, why the EU has remained distant to all regional initiatives during the past decade and what are at the same time the current prospects and future challenges.

Anna Niemann / Sonja Ana Luise Schröder / Meredith Catherine Tunick (eds.): Recovering from the Constitutional Failure. An Analysis of the EU Reflection Period (ZEI Discussion Paper C 182/2008): This paper examines how the European Union (EU) utilized its self-imposed “period of reflection” following the French and Dutch rejection of the Constitutional Treaty during the Spring of 2005. A brief historical overview is provided and an assessment of the main reasons for the negative referenda is presented. The political initiatives of the three main EU institutions—the European Council, Commission and Parliament—are also analyzed. In addition, the “period of reflection” activities of Member States are outlined, and a summary of academic assessments of several key European research institutes is given. Finally, the EU Council Presidencies are addressed, with an emphasis on the German Presidency, which was instrumental in paving the way to the Lisbon Treaty. Although the involvement of Member States and EU institutions during the “period of reflection” marked a critical moment in European integration history, as democracy, dialogue and debate among EU citizens was increased, this paper suggests that the “period of reflection” had little effect on the internal political negotiations which ultimately led to the creation of the Lisbon Treaty.

Marcus Höreth/Jared Sonnicksen: Making and Breaking Promises. The European Union under the Treaty of Lisbon (ZEI Discussion Paper C 181/2008): With the Treaty of Lisbon, the European Union is set to enter a new phase of European integration. The new reform treaty, derived to a wide extent from the rejected draft Constitutional Treaty, promises to make decision making and politics in this multi-level, one-of-a-kind polity more transparent, efficient and democratic. The authors take a focused look at the Treaty’s provisions most concerned with enhancing openness and effectiveness in the EU, and reflect on whether the “new and improved” rules may become, due to the drafters’ compromises and bargained exceptions, "more of the same" in the end.

Jeffrey Herf: “The Jewish Enemy”. Rethinking Anti-Semitism in the Era of Nazism and in Recent Times (ZEI Discussion Paper C 180/2008): Was the radical anti-Semitism of the national socialists that culminated into genocide, exclusively a European phenomenon? Which elements influenced the negative idea to exterminate and annihilate the Jewish people? This Discussion Paper examines these problems and also points to the parallels between the national socialist anti-Semitism in Germany and the anti-Semitism present in the Arabic-Islamic region in the era of World War II.

Martin Seidel: Optionen für die Europäische Integration (ZEI Discussion Paper C 179/2008): This essay pertains to the conclusion of the European integration process. It defines the final state that must be attained in Europe’s organizational process, in order for the functions of the European Union unfold. The current functional and legislative system does not provide an adequate capacity for the European Union to act concerning the organization of internal affairs. With regard to
its external affairs, beginning with collective energy policy and culminating in the creation of a shared external and security policy, as with all international affairs, as well as the responsibility of a united Europe for ensuring the „world public goods“, like the conservation of natural resources and the preservation of the earth’s natural climate, the current operational and decision-making structure of the European Union—even after the Treaty of Lisbon—is far from sufficient. The international assertiveness of the European Union requires a change in the determining overall structure of the European Union from the „United Nations of Europe“ to „United Europe“ and the-gradual-transformation of the European Union from a confederation into a federation.

**ZEI Regional Integration Observer on Latin America**

The fourth edition of the “ZEI Regional Integration Observer” has been published. It deals with regional integration in Latin America. On the one hand the articles analyze the internal dimension in the fields of politics, economics and infrastructure. On the other hand the bi-regional relationships with the European Union are addressed as well.

**Obama and a new transatlantic age**

Relations between Europe and the United States should be renewed in the years to come, ZEI Director Prof. Dr. Ludger Kühnhardt argues in an op-ed published by the Washington-based “American Institute for Contemporary German Studies” at Johns Hopkins University. Under the Presidency of Barack Obama, the US and the EU need to institutionalize the concept of “change” in the emerging multipolar world, he argues. Hard and soft power issues need to be addressed alike since no other partnership in today’s world can manage global affairs better than the US and the EU. President Obama should address the European Parliament as soon as possible.

**North Rhine-Westphalian Minister for European Affairs Krautscheid visits ZEI**

With 18 million people, Germany’s biggest federal state pursues three-dimensional foreign relations with selected partner countries such as Israel or Ghana, the European Union and, together with other German federal states, with the federation in Berlin. The Minister for Federal, European and Media Affairs in North Rhine-Westphalia, Andreas Krautscheid, hold a lecture at ZEI on 18 November 2008 in front of the ZEI-Master students and ZEI research fellows. In this context, he provided an insight into his work in Dusseldorf, Brussels and Berlin. In order to have a stake in European policy making, an important part of his work is to interfere and to influence new ideas or projects.

🔍 Minister Krautscheid and Prof. Kühnhardt

**American University Bishkek at ZEI**
Particular attention of the European approach in Central Asia should be paid to the improvement and the protection of the rule of law. Only in this form it is possible to establish a climate of confidence that allows on the one hand sustainable economic development and investment and on the other hand an ongoing improvement of the people’s situation. That was the unanimous opinion of the speakers that discussed with a group of students from Kyrgyzstan on 27 October 2008 at ZEI. The young visitors study European Studies at the American University Bishkek and visited ZEI to inform themselves on the work, the master programs and topics of the center. They were accompanied by Serik Beimenbetov who is responsible for European Studies in Bishkek. The visit took place in cooperation with DAAD.

Picture: Students of European Studies at the American University Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, headed by Serik Beimenbetov, visit ZEI. Amongst others they talked to Prof. Klaus W. Grewlich, former ambassador in Kyrgyzstan and lecturer of the MERINI-program and Andreas Marchetti, MA (on the right)

**Kühnhardt: Bi-Regional Relations EU-MERCOSUR must be intensified**

The development of bi-regional relations is an important new element of a stable world order. Current problems in finalizing a bi-regional agreement between the European Union and MERCOSUR should not undermine this fundamental perspective. ZEI Director Prof. Dr. Ludger Kühnhardt analyzed this and related issues at the XV. Forum Brazil-Europe, which the Konrad Adenauer Foundation organized together with the Fundação Getúlio Vargas and the Federation of Industries of São Paulo (FIESP) on October 27/28, 2008 in São Paulo. At the forum, North Rhine-Westphalian Governor (Ministerpräsident) Dr. Jürgen Rüttgers expressed the urgent need for an international social market economy in response to the current world financial crisis.

Picture: North Rhine-Westphalian Governor (Ministerpräsident) Dr. Jürgen Rüttgers (second from right) and ZEI Director Prof. Dr. Ludger Kühnhardt (extreme left) with Brazilian and other MERCOSUR countries representatives from industry, academia and diplomacy in São Paulo, October 28, 2008.

**European Commissioner Figel comments the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue**

The year 2008 was devoted to Intercultural Dialogue in response to the changing social and cultural landscape in the European Union. There were two main reasons for this thematic devotion, European Commissioner Ján Figel' argues in the ZEI Discussion Paper C 187, – 1) the historical enlargements of 2004 and 2007 when twelve new countries joined the EU, and 2) the migratory flows that reach Europe from beyond its borders and create immigrant communities within the EU. Both of these have led to intensification of intercultural contacts that the EU citizens have. Closely linked with the concept of mutual respect and human dignity, the concept of intercultural dialogue lies at the very heart of the European integration. During the Year, the intercultural dialogue was promoted through a series of initiatives called Brussels Debates that involved before all the civil society but also teachers, businesses, religion representatives and covered issues of education, arts, migration, multilingualism, religion, workplace and media. In addition to this, the European Commission is co-financing seven flagship projects and there are national projects organized in the member states under the umbrella of the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue as well. The Year should not be perceived as just one sole year but it should ignite a long-term process and involve a broad range of policy fields. The Year should launch a sustainable political process from the grass roots all the way up to the national leader and the concept of intercultural dialogue should become a broader vision for the future of Europe and its place in the international scene.

Regional Integration as a response to globalization

ZEI Summer School brought together young scholars from all over the world

In September 2008, the Center for European Integration Studies (ZEI) hosted for the second time a „Summer Academy on Comparative Regional Integration“. In this context 21 post-graduates and young academics from 18 countries analyzed different aspects of regionalism. Under the supervision of ZEI director Prof. Dr. Ludger Kühnhardt, this unique academy debated the question if and how the European Union can serve as a role model for other regions in the face of globalization.

Peace, security and economic prosperity are major achievements of European Integration, since the foundation of the European Economic Community 50 years ago. Today this success story serves more and more as a pattern for other parts
of the world. In Africa, as well as in Latin America, the Caribbean and Asia, nations have joined forces in regional groupings and thereby opened markets and borders. However, the conditions for and ways to regional integration are different. Against this background the ZEI Summer Academy wants to strengthen the mutual understanding between the participants and their understanding of the European Union. Together with a renowned faculty, consisting of experts from think tanks, the academia and politics, the young scholars discussed the potentials of the EU to serve as model and partner for their own regions. The academy strove to provide Europe’s wealth of experience to these parts of the world and prepare them to handle new global challenges. The opening ceremony was held by ZEI director Prof. Dr. Ludger Kühnhardt on 1st September.

The program consisted of a series of lectures – including workshops, group and panel discussions and participant statements – as well as a visit of the European Parliament and Commission in Brussels and diverse cultural activities. Discussing with EU professionals and Members of Parliament, the participants were able to get a profound impression of the structure and procedures of the European Union.

For some years now, the Center for European Integration Studies at the University of Bonn is specializing in research on questions of comparative regional integration. Therefore, it gave the participants an excellent basis to deepen their knowledge and profit in their particular region.

The Summer Academy was sponsored by the DAAD with funds of the German Federal Foreign Office and supported by the European Commission, the Representation of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia to the European Union, the Deutsche Welle, the European Central Bank and InWEnt.

Contact:
Ariane Kösters / Wiebke Drescher
Center for European Integration Studies
Telephone: 0228/73-4960 und -1766
E-Mail: wdrescher@uni-bonn.de

"Where is Europe heading to?", Franco-German panel discussion in the House of History

Ruth Hieronymi, MEP, and
Thomas Gutschker, Rheinischer Merkur

Since its beginning in the 1950s, the EU has benefited more from its crises than its debates on treaties, said Thomas Gutschker, head of the foreign affairs department of the German weekly “Rheinischer Merkur” at the House of History of the Federal Republic of Germany.

On 21 October 2008, Gutschker, Ruth Hieronymi, MEP, Michael Mertes, State Secretary of Federal and European Affairs in North Rhine-Westphalia and Julien Thorel, Maître de conférences, Université Jean Monnet St. Etienne, dealt with the subject “Where is Europe heading to? Which initiatives can be taken by the French Presidency?”. The joint event of ZEI together with the Foundation Haus der Geschichte (House of History), Deutsch-Französische Gesellschaft Bonn und Rhein-Sieg (Franco-German Association) and Europa Union Deutschland, Bonn-Rhein/Sieg (European Union Association) was well attended and moderated by Prof. Dr. Johannes Thomas, Prof. emeritus, Paderborn University.

The panelists agreed on the outstanding crisis management of the French EU council Presidency given the No of the Irish to the Lisbon Treaty, the war in Georgia and the financial crisis. Moreover, Thorel stressed that these positive outcomes could not been taken for granted seeing on the one hand the debates in the forefront and on the other hand the personality of Sarkozy. The results of the event that took about two hours: the latest crises of the EU should be used to start a new beginning. To this day it is the “Franco-German motor” that has been crucial to the European integration.

Lecture: Prof. Dr. Udo Steinbach on "Energy at the Bosphorus"

In addition to renewed stabilization efforts in the Near and Middle East, the ever-growing import dependency of the European Union on Russian oil and gas necessitates an upgrading of the EU’s foreign policy initiatives towards the Union’s energy-rich neighbors in the South Caucasus and Central Asia. On this background, Prof. Dr. Udo Steinbach of the Center
for Near and Middle Eastern Studies (CNMS) at the Philipps-Universität Marburg elaborated on the unfolding “energy poker at the Bosphorus” at ZEI on 30 September 2008. The joint event of Deutsch-Türkische Gesellschaft Bonn (German-Turkish Association, DTG) and Deutsche Gesellschaft für Auswärtige Politik (German Council on Foreign Relations, DGAP) was dedicated to the issue of “Turkey as a hinge between Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia”, and initiated a lively discussion among the numerous attendants of ZEI’s “Europadialog”.

Turkey is not only the geographic center of European efforts to achieve greater energy security in terms of diversification of source countries and transport routes of oil and natural gas imports. Beyond that, Turkey is in a position to rely on an intense and increasingly dynamic development of foreign and security policy relations with its neighbors. Delving into the complexities of the subject, Professor Steinbach advanced the view that Turkey’s geopolitical realities have redefined relations between the EU and candidate country Turkey in the context of accession negotiations, although mutual benefits have not yet been sufficiently reaped and capitalized upon.

Results of the recently conducted MES alumni survey

Results of the recently conducted MES alumni survey show: ZEI-MES graduates have excellent prospects for a career in national top-level administration and the business sector

Since the start of the program in 1998/99, 260 students have graduated with a Master of European Studies from Bonn University at the Center for European Integration Studies (ZEI). ZEI alumni have entered various career sectors: they work in EU institutions and international organizations, NGOs, national administrations, lobby groups, in the field of science and research and have found success in the private sector. The range of organizations and companies that recruited ZEI graduates is far reaching.

A survey, conducted in June 2008, has shown that ZEI alumni work in the following career sectors:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Career Sector</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EU, International Organizations</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National top-level administration</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Sector</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science &amp; Research</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Macroeconomic Policies for EU Accession

Apart from highly politicised foreign policy issues, key topics in EU accession processes also concern fiscal policy, monetary policy, euro adoption and the management of capital inflows. In their book “Macroeconomic Policies for EU Accession”, the editors Erdem Başçı, Vice Governor of the Central Bank of Turkey, Sübidey Togan, Director of the Centre for International Economics at Bilkent University, and Jürgen von Hagen, Director at ZEI, contribute to the discussion on the concrete challenges and opportunities of the EU accession process for Turkey as well as other prospective EU candidate countries.


New Book Releases

Ludger Kühnhardt, European Union – The Second Founding

Ludger Kühnhardt, European Union - The Second Founding: The Changing Rationale of European Integration,

Prof. Dr. Ludger Kühnhardt, Director at the Center for European Integration Studies (ZEI) at the University of Bonn has published a broadly structured study about the first fifty years of European integration, its geopolitical context and academic reflection. His study is based on the two-fold thesis that since a few years, the European Union is going through a process of its Second Founding while simultaneously changing its rationale. The original founding of European integration in 1957 was based on the notion of internal reconciliation among European states and societies. Since the 1990’s European integration has become, increasingly, a political project with implications for the internal structure of its member states and their societies. At the same time, with the end of the Cold War, the rational of European integration has begun to change:
European integration is about a new global role of Europe, its contribution to the management of global affairs and its ability to cope with the effects of globalization on Europe. Inside the EU, the Second Founding is about a new contract between political elites and the people of Europe in order to solidify legitimacy and effectiveness for this unique experiment in European history. Prof. Dr. Ludger Künnhardt is author of thirty books and edits the volumes of ZEI at Nomos.

Ariane Köslер/Martin Zimmek (eds.), Elements of Regional Integration


The European Union might be the most prominent example of regional integration but it is by far not the only one. The importance of regional integration in Africa, Asia, Latin America, the Caribbean and even in the Pacific Islands region is constantly growing. All these regions aspire for more than pure economic cooperation. In addition to intensified economic cooperation, political, legal and cultural aspects are important factors as well that form a Mixtum Compositum of regional integration elements. The new ZEI publication discusses these different components of regional integration in theoretical perspective and in a policy-oriented approach. It contributes to comparative regional integration studies through theoretical analysis and case studies from different regions. Elements of Regional Integration presents the main features of regional integration in an interdisciplinary manner. It addresses scholars of political sciences, economics and law as well as students and is suited as accompanying material for courses. Ariane Köslер and Martin Zimmek, ZEI Research Fellows, have gathered leading experts from different academic disciplines to shed light on these different elements of regional integration in a worldwide context.

ZEI Announces Cooperation with GTZ and ECOWAS

The Center for European Integration Studies will organize a mid-career academy for high ranking officials of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). This unique effort in supporting human capacity-building in the West African process of regional integration will be made possible with the support of German Technical Assistance (GTZ). In conceptualizing and realizing this mid-career activity, ZEI will increase its global profile in further education, based on research expertise at ZEI. The academy will be held in spring 2009.

Contact: Matthias Vogl: mvogl@uni-bonn.de

„Grüne Hochschultour“ Stopps by at ZEI

The formalities of the so-called Bologna process have been adopted but there has been done little for the contents so far. This is the opinion of Kai Gehring, member of the German Bundestag and spokesman for the policy of higher education of the faction of Bündnis 90/Die Grünen (Green party) who has been visiting several German universities to talk to scientists and administrative staff.

On 3 July 2008, Prof. Ludger Künnhardt, Director at ZEI, welcomed Kai Gehring and his team and gave an overview of the work done at this research center. Special interest was given to the upcoming Summer Academy in Comparative Regional Integration in September 2008. Furthermore, the visitors wanted to know more about the two Master programs offered, MES (Master of European Studies) and MERNI (Master of European Regulation of Network Industries). Afterwards, the participants of the meeting discussed in general the future of the (German) higher education area. Another priority was given to the question on what the scientists at ZEI think about the latest developments in the EU and the probable failure of the Treaty of Lisbon.

Initiating a „relance européenne“
Despite the Irish no, the French Presidency will aim at the ratification of the Treaty of Lisbon in order to achieve institutional reforms necessary to implement actions better for the European citizens, said Prof. Philippe Moreau Defarges, political scientist at Ifri (Institut français des relations internationales) in Paris.

Within the context of "Germany, France and European crises," the joint research project of ZEI and Ifri, Moreau Defarges visited ZEI on 30 June 2008. Chaired by ZEI-Director Prof. Dr. Ludger Kühnhardt and Research Fellow Andreas Marchetti, who is coordinating the project at ZEI, Moreau Defarges presented the French interpretation of the Treaty of Lisbon.

The multilayered exchange between the French scientist and the German researchers participating in the project centred especially on the question of how the EU should handle the new crisis brought about by the Irish rejection of the Treaty of Lisbon and how changes could be introduced.

**MES and MERNI: Final Ceremony of the Class of 2008**

**Master of European Studies (MES) and Master of European Regulation of Network Industries (MERNI): Final Ceremony of the Class of 2008 with the President of the European Parliament**

On May 29, 2008 the final ceremony of the tenth study-course of the Master of European Studies took place at the Center for European Integration Studies. On the same occasion, ZEI celebrated the first study-year of the newly established Master of European Regulation of Network Industries (MERNI). 46 graduates from 21 countries were honored for their achievements. They were welcomed by the Rector of the University of Bonn, Prof. Dr. Matthias Winiger, and the Mayor of Bonn, Ulrich Hauschild. ZEI Directors Prof. Dr. Ludger Kühnhardt and Prof. Dr. Christian Koenig expressed their gratitude to all supporters and friends of ZEI, especially the Europe-wide faculty and the sponsors of scholarships.

The President of the European Parliament Prof. Dr. Hans-Gert Pöttering congratulated ZEI to its ten years of success in further education. In his key note speech at the Final Ceremony he stressed the need of the European Union to contribute to the intercultural dialogue and to be a global partner in the formation of regional groupings. He described ZEI as a good academic example of this approach: Both the research profile of ZEI and the further education programs at ZEI reflect this need for a global culture- and value-based focus of the European Union. President Pöttering expressed his conviction that the ZEI Fellows of the Class of 2008 would find most attractive career options after graduation from ZEI. They belong to a new generation of young leaders in the European Union and outside Europe as those with a sense of partnership with the EU.

On the occasion of the jubilee class ZEI has published a brochure „Master of European Studies – Ten Years of Excellence“. The brochure is available as hard copy. If you would like to have a hard copy, please send your postal address to europeanstudies.zei@uni-bonn.de.

**Cape Verde hopes for cooperation with ZEI in the West African regional integration**
The President of the Parliament of Cap Verde, Aristides Lima, has asked ZEI during a visit to Bonn to cooperate in the development of a West African Institute for Regional Integration to be based in Cape Verde in the context of the West African regional grouping ECOWAS. During an intensive exchange of thoughts on May 28, 2008 with ZEI Director Prof. Dr. Ludger Kühnhardt and the Executive Director of ZEF Consult, Dr. Hartmut Ihne, President Lima and the members of his delegation expressed their interest in stronger academic cooperation with the two research and further education institutes at the University of Bonn. Cape Verde is in the process to conduct negotiations on a privileged partnership with the European Union and thus interested to strengthen its capacities and knowledge about European integration.

**Former Prime Minister of Slovenia visited ZEI**

Alojz Peterle, former Prime Minister of Slovenia and current Member of the European Parliament, visited ZEI on 22 February 2008. In a “Europadialog” he delivered a lecture to the students of the Master of European Studies-program and explained the aims of Slovenia’s current EU Presidency. He analyzed the latest developments in the Western Balkans as well as the historic perspective of the Balkans regarding the dissolution of Yugoslavia. Covering the historic and current development of the western Balkan, he was hopeful that coexistence and cooperation are possible. “Instead of extending the past, it is time to build a common future”, he said.

Alojz Peterle became elected as Prime Minister in 1991 and declared Slovenia’s independence. In the years of 1993-94 and 2000 he served as foreign minister of Slovenia and in 2004 he became a Member of the European Parliament for the “New Slovenia Christian People’s Party”.

**France, Germany and European Crises**

New research project of ZEI with French partner, funded by the German Research Foundation

Will Turkey eventually join the European Union? How can the EU enhance its global role? Why is the EU not reforming its agricultural policy? For years, discussions on European policy issues have gone in circles – without producing concrete results. Within the framework of a new research project “France, Germany and European Crises”, ZEI and the French Institute for Foreign Relations (Ifri) will develop policy recommendations for a European renewal.

The German Research Foundation and the French Agence Nationale de la Recherche are financing the project for a period of three years. Starting point of the analysis is the Lisbon Treaty, signed in December 2007, as it will constitute the future legal framework for the EU. Since January 2008, scientists from both institutes analyse the new treaty. In order to develop plausible policy recommendations, they will also conduct interviews with decision makers and opinion makers in Germany and France. Prof. Dr. Ludger Kühnhardt, Director at ZEI, is convinced that this approach will facilitate the formulation of new approaches: “European integration has always needed Franco-German impulses in order to deepen.” No other time could be more promising for this endeavour: After federal elections in fall 2009, there will be no national elections held on either side of the Rhine for three years. Such a long period for Franco-German initiatives is rather rare.

At ZEI, Research Fellow Andreas Marchetti will coordinate the research together with Dr. Claire Demesmay, Research Fellow at Ifri.

**ZEI Master of European Studies re-accredited with the Highest Scores**

The Master of European Studies at the Center for European Integration Studies of Bonn University has been re-accredited for another five years with highest scores. The intensive evaluation by FIBAA, the Foundation for International Business Administration Accreditation has underlined the strengths of the program, one of the best of its kind in Europe. This was the first re-accreditation of a Master program at Bonn University. “We feel encouraged and commit ourselves to maintain the
high international standard of our Master program. With this Master program we contribute to the strengthening of
competencies on EU matters inside and outside Europe," said ZEI director Prof. Dr. Ludger Kühnhardt. The Master of
European Studies is offered in English by an international faculty of academics and practitioners. The interdisciplinary
program offers knowledge on EU-related matters from a legal, political and economic perspective. Since 1998, more than
200 students worldwide have acquired the ZEI Master title. This has opened them impressive careers in politics and
administration, private sector and media, non-governmental organizations and academia. Since the study year 2007/2008,
the Master of European Studies is offered by ZEI in cooperation with the Faculty of Arts of Bonn University. For further
information, please contact the program coordinator, Tabea Leibbrand.