



**ERASMUS+ PROGRAM/JEAN MONNET PROJECT:
“EU LAW BETWEEN UNIVERSALISM AND FRAGMENTATION: EXPLORING THE
CHALLENGE OF PROMOTING EU VALUES BEYOND ITS BORDERS”**

CALL FOR PAPERS

***CHALLENGES FOR THE EUROPEAN UNION’S EXTERNAL
ACTION***

(VALLADOLID, 9TH-10TH JUNE 2016)

The Spanish Association of Professors of International Law and International Relations (AEPDIRI <<http://www.aepdiri.org/>>) is the beneficiary of a Jean Monnet project on the pressures experienced by EU law in a globalized world that become apparent in the conflicting trends towards universalism, on the one hand, and states’ legal fragmentation, on the other. The purpose of the project is to promote research on EU policies from the viewpoint of the Association’s research areas -Public International Law, Private International Law and International Relations- with a view to enhancing EU values beyond its borders.

Within the framework of this Jean Monnet project, the AEPDIRI will organize an international Conference on **9 and 10 June 2016** in **Valladolid**, entitled “**Challenges for the European Union’s external action.**” In order to draw the attention of researchers to this field of study, the AEPDIRI is pleased to launch this call for papers.

External action has been an element present in the European integration project from the outset, and it has increasingly gained importance as the integration project has moved forward. The European Union has sought to be a prominent actor in the international arena. This has not only been a goal in itself, yet it has also been a way to foster -on a universal basis- the values that inspire and shape the EU.

Both old and new elements can be clearly found within the EU’s international dimension. Amongst the new elements, terrorism and the migration crisis must be mentioned. The old long-standing elements include institutional issues related to external action, which affect the vertical and horizontal allocation of powers, as well as the appearance of new structures, such as agencies.

Within this framework, the Conference aims to explore the following topics:

1. *The European Union in the world.* The papers may deal with EU’s external action regarding certain regions or countries, as well as they may deal with the role played by the EU in the most significant contemporary crises (Syria, Libya,

- Arab-Israeli conflict). There is also room for examining the role of the EU concerning the codification processes of private (international) law.
2. *The institutional features of the European Union's external action.* For instance, the papers could address both the most recent matters regarding the allocation of powers between the EU and Member States and the distribution of powers within the EU institutions, the EU agencies role concerning external action, or the European External Action Service (EEAS). Similarly, the consequences of a potential 'Brexit' could also be analyzed from a private international law perspective.
 3. *Security aspects of the European Union's external action.* This topic allows for examining the most recent developments regarding the EU's security and defense dimension, or to reflect on whether or not such developments are in line with EU values. This topic comprises any issues regarding the EU approach to the current refugee crisis on the basis of the notion of integration.
 4. *Sanctions adopted or imposed by the European Union.* Among other aspects, the following could be examined: the EU action in this regard, the ECJ's case law, how EU values permeate this domain, or the interconnection between the EU and Member States regarding the enforcement of sanctions imposed by the United Nations Security Council.
 5. *The promotion of EU values in its external action.* The purpose is to examine how the EU disseminates and promotes its values in the international arena. The following topics may be addressed: the support provided by the EU to international criminal courts, its humanitarian action and peace missions, conditionality of development agreement concluded by the EU, the role of human rights in bilateral investment treaties (BITs), or the promotion of EU democracy or leadership in the struggle against climate change. Additionally, the EU role within regional integration and legal harmonization processes could also be examined.

All those interested in submitting a paper on any of the items listed above, or on other related topics, should send their proposal by **30 April 2016** to secretaria@aepdiri.org. The proposal must contain, in addition to a title, a 5-line abstract and a 2 page excerpt in word format. A CV and a letter of recommendation must be attached as well.

The Conference Scientific Committee shall select the papers and will communicate its decision to all participants prior to 10 May.

Presentations can be made in Spanish or English and the papers will be published in either language in a book. The publishing house will be announced in due time.

The organization will bear the costs of selected candidates' participation in the Conference, always within the limits of the allocated budget.