

# **SPECIAL CERC BULLETIN: CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENT**

## **EU-ASIA RELATIONS: A CRITICAL REVIEW**

**An international conference to be held on**

**Thursday 27 March – Friday 28 March 2008**

CONTEMPORARY EUROPE RESEARCH CENTRE  
Jean Monnet European Centre of Excellence  
The University of Melbourne  
Level 2, 234 Queensberry Street, Carlton

A major international conference will take place in Melbourne in March 2008, examining the EU's external relations and objectives with Asia-Pacific. In aiming to contribute to the relatively new academic engagement with the EU's international presence, *EU-Asia Relations: A Critical Review* will provide a greatly necessary critical assessment of the current state of the EU – Asia-Pacific engagement. To capitalise on the conclusions of the conference, a policy workshop on 27 June 2008 in Brussels is to follow. These events are organised with the European Institute of Asian Studies in Brussels

The key themes to be addressed include:

**Europe's view of Asia, and Asia's view of the EU; the role of the EU as a 'normative actor'; the state of Asian integration; the predominance of China in EU's Asia policy; prospects for EU-Asian cooperation on global issues; and academic assessments of the EU-Asia relationship.**

**Conference registration is now open – Early Bird rates are available until 14 March 2008. The registration form can be downloaded at: <http://www.cerc.unimelb.edu.au/events/EAR-conf/EAR-registration-form.rtf>**

The draft program for the conference is as follows:

### **Day 1 - Thursday 27 March 2008**

**8.45 – 9.15 Conference Registration**

**9.15 – 9.30 Opening Address**

H. E. Bruno Julien, (Ambassador of the European Commission Delegation in Canberra, Delegation of the European Commission to Australia and New Zealand)

### **9.30 – 11.15 Session 1: How Europe Looks at Asia**

*Session Chair:*

H. E. Bruno Julien, (Ambassador of the European Commission Delegation in Canberra, Delegation of the European Commission to Australia and New Zealand)

- Dr Fraser Cameron (European Institute for Asian Studies, Belgium): ‘EU-Asia Relations since 2001: Setting the Scene’
- A/Prof Philomena Murray (Contemporary Europe Research Centre, University of Melbourne, Australia): ‘How Europe Looks at Asia : Between Expectations and Capabilities’
- Dr Heungchong Kim (Korea Institute for International Economic Policy, Korea): ‘A Korea-EU FTA in the Context of EU’s External Strategies towards Asia’

### **11.15 – 11.45 Morning Tea Break**

#### **11.45 - 12.50 Session 2: How Asia looks at Europe – Part I**

*Session Chair:* tbc

- Prof Kennedy Graham (University of Canterbury, New Zealand)
- Dr Jing Men (Vrije Universiteit, Belgium): ‘The European Union in the Eyes of Chinese’

### **12.50 - 14.00 Lunch**

#### **14.00- 15.45 Session 3: How Asia looks at the Europe – Part II**

*Session Chair:* tbc

- Prof Joseph Camilleri (La Trobe University): ‘Restoring the Silk-Road: Perceptions, Perspectives and Policies’
- Dr Natalia Chaban (University of Canterbury, New Zealand): ‘The EU through the Eyes of Asia’
- Ms Nicole Alecu de Flers (Institute for European Integration Research, Austria): ‘The EU in the Eyes of Asia: From Internal Integration to External Projection?’

### **15.45 – 16.15 Afternoon Tea Break**

#### **16.15 – 17.25 Session 4: The EU as a Normative Power**

*Session Chair:* tbc

- Tânia Felício (United Nations University – CRIS, Belgium): ‘The EU as a Normative Actor in East Asia’s regional integration, regional governance and democracy: difficult harmonization’
- Dr Dimitrios Konstadakopoulos (University of the West of England, United Kingdom): ‘Cooling the Earth? The Changing Priorities of EU-Asia Technology Cooperation’

### **18.30 19.00 Pre Conference Dinner Drinks**

### **19.00 - Conference Dinner**

## **Day 2 – Friday 28 March 2008**

### **9.30 – 10.00 Conference Registration**

#### **10.00 - 11.10 Session 5: Asian Integration – Going Nowhere?**

*Session Chair:* tbc

- Prof Douglas Webber (INSEAD, France): ‘Soft-Core Asia: Strategic Rivalry and Economic Cooperation In An Amorphous Region’
- Dr Lay Hwee Yeo (Singapore Institute of International Affairs, Singapore): ‘The Missing “Cs” in East Asian integration’

**11.10 - 11.40 Morning Tea Break**

**11.40 - 12.50 Session 6: The EU and China**

*Session Chair:* tbc

- Prof Georg Wiessala (University of Central Lancashire, United Kingdom): ‘Engaging with the “Other East”: A Critical Analysis of the Current State of the EU’s Asia Policy’
- Prof Bernadette Andreosso-O’Callaghan (University of Limerick, Ireland): ‘The EU Asia Policy – China, China, China’

**12.50 - 13.50 Lunch**

**13.50 – 15.35 Session 7: Global Issues – Can the EU and Asia Cooperate?**

*Session Chair:* tbc

- Mr Bertrand Fort (Asia-Europe Foundation, Singapore): ‘Engaging with the “Other East”: A Critical Analysis of the Current State of the EU’s Asia Policy’
- Prof Elzbieta Kawecka-Wyrzykowska (Warsaw School of Economics, Poland): ‘EU-ASIA Economic Relations: Prospects and Challenges for Closer Cooperation’
- Mr Natee Vichitsorasatra (Loughborough University, United Kingdom): ‘Bilateralism and Multilateralism: A Balancing Act for Material and Ideational ‘Cooperation’ between the EC and East Asia’

**15.35 – 16.00 Afternoon Tea**

**16.00 – 17.15 Roundtable**

**17.15 – 17.30 Concluding Remarks**

Further information on the conference is available from the conference website:

<http://www.cerc.unimelb.edu.au/events/EAR-conf/index.html>

*EU-Asia Relations: A Critical Review* is run from the Contemporary Europe Research Centre (CERC) at the University of Melbourne, Australia and is funded by a grant from the European Union (Agreement number 2007 – 1747 / 001 - 001), with additional support from the University of Melbourne.

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The production of this bulletin is financially supported by the Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence European Union Award W04/0043 2004-3518/001-001 and is a CERC Knowledge Transfer initiative