




The EU enlargement: dynamics, experiences, perspectives

1. Introduction to the course: the EU enlargements overview, issues, political dynamics
 - a. This lecture introduces the course, its aims and objectives. It also presents an overview of the EU enlargements, and contextualises the following lectures. It looks at the rationale behind the development of the EU.
2. Structures and actors of the EU enlargement process
 - a. This lecture looks at the roles of the different EC/EU institutions in the enlargement process. In particular, the lecture will offer a historical perspective on the evolution of the roles of the European Commission and the European Parliament in the different enlargement rounds.
3. The first EU enlargement (1973)
 - a. The aim of this lecture is to look in detail in the first EC enlargement (the United Kingdom, Denmark, and Ireland). Issues covered will include both the presentation of the Community's internal response to new membership applications, and the overview of motives and rationales of the acceding members to join the EC.
4. The Mediterranean enlargement (1981, 1986)
 - a. The aim of this lecture is to look in detail in the second EC enlargement (Greece 1981, Spain and Portugal 1986). Issues covered will include both the presentation of the Community's internal response to new membership applications, and the overview of motives and rationales of the acceding members to join the EC. Particular attention will be paid to the transformation of post-authoritarian societies in view of EU enlargement.
5. EU enlargement after the fall of communism: a change in dynamics
 - a. This lecture looks at the change in the dynamics of enlargement after the fall of communism. It looks at the 'hidden enlargement' (unification of Germany), and the simultaneous transformation of the EC into the EU. The lecture pays particular attention to the rationale behind the introduction of the conditions of membership, which were subsequently applied to Central and East European States.
6. 
7. 
8.  Workshop
9. The 2004 enlargement of the EU: political dynamics
 - a. This lecture will examine in detail the political dynamics of the 2004 enlargement round. Issues covered will include both the presentation of the Community's internal response to new membership applications, and the overview of motives and rationales of the acceding members to join the EC. Particular attention will be paid to the transformation of post-communist societies in view of EU enlargement, and

political problems encountered in the process of adapting to the conditions of membership, such as the rule of law and minority rights.

10. The 2004 enlargement of the EU: socio-economic issues

- a. This lecture will examine in detail the socio-economic issues pertaining to the 2004 enlargement round. Particular attention will be paid to the transition from central to free market economy, and socio-economic problems encountered in the process of adapting to the conditions of membership, such as high inflation rates, unemployment, non-transparent privatisation, corruption and nepotism.

11. The 2007 enlargement of the EU

- a. This lecture will examine in detail the (late) accession of Bulgaria and Romania to the European Union. The lecture will explore why these two countries were laggards in the enlargement process, and what were the economic and political costs of their accession to the EU.

12. The EU after the Eastern enlargement

- a. This lecture will explore the change of EU's internal dynamics after the Eastern enlargement, and pay particular attention to the 'enlargement fatigue' in the context of the financial crisis.

13. Perspectives of EU enlargement: the Western Balkans

- a. This lecture will look at the EU's policy towards the Western Balkans. Particular attention will be paid to EU's stance towards post-conflict societies, as well as to the change of EU's conditionality after the 2003 Thessalonica Agenda.

14. Current issues of the EU enlargement – Europeanness and identities

- a. This lecture will look at the broader, societal and sociological, issues related to EU enlargement, ideas about European identity and European citizenship. The lecture will also make an emphasis on the questions of European identity and the candidacies of Turkey and Iceland.

15. Final exam