



The European Council

How to study a Key Institution in Challenging Times

10 November 2020

Joint Conference of

Centre for Turkey and European Union Studies (CETEUS)
and
Trans European Policy Studies Association (TEPSA)

In the framework of the Jean Monnet Project TRACK



TRACK Teaching and Researching
the European Council



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www.track.uni-koeln.de



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10 November 2020

10:00 – 10:15

Introduction and Welcome: The relevance of the European Council and the TRACK Project

Lea Hopp | TRACK, University of Cologne

Wolfgang Wessels | TRACK, University of Cologne

10:15 – 11:15

Keynote Panel: the European Council – what kind of institution?

Chair: **Wolfgang Wessels** | TRACK, University of Cologne

- **Brigid Laffan** | European University Institute & TRACK Advisory Board
- **Herman van Rompuy** | President European Council emeritus & Head of TRACK Advisory Board

Rapporteur: Adrian Krieger

11:15 – 11:30

Break

11:30 - 13:00

Panel I: A History-making Moment: The European Council as a transformative force for the Multi-Annual Financial Framework and Next Generation EU – towards a new Union

Chair: **Agnieszka Cianciara** | Polish Academy of Sciences & TRACK Advisory Board

- **Michele Chang** | College of Europe
- **Jim Cloos** | Secretary-General, Council of the European Union
- **Christophe Hillion** | NUIPI & TRACK Advisory Board

Rapporteur: Anke Schönlau

13:00 – 13:30

Break

13:30 - 14:30

Panel II: The Decline of Europe? The European Council in International Affairs

Chair: **Nicoletta Pirozzi** | Istituto Affari Internazionali

- **Desmond Dinan** | George Mason University & TRACK Advisory Board
- **Julie Smith** | Cambridge University, Member of the House of Lords & TRACK Advisory Board

Rapporteur: Christian Raphael

14:30 – 14:45

Break

14:45 – 15:30

Results & Outlook: Agenda for teaching and researching the European Council

Lucia Mokrá | Comenius University Bratislava & TEPSA

Uwe Puetter | Europa-Universität Flensburg & TRACK Advisory Board

Wolfgang Wessels | TRACK, University of Cologne

Rapporteur: Student



Jean-Monnet Project

Teaching and Researching the European Council: Enhancing and disseminating knowledge on a key institution in challenging times

TRACK Objectives

Regarding political and academic challenges, TRACK responds to an ongoing need to provide regular offers for teaching and research on the European Council (EUCO) as a key institution. In view of known and unknown challenges in the EU, TRACK focuses on the EUCO's role in the EU's policy-making and in shaping the EU's future. By identifying challenges for Europe, TRACK analyzes and assess the EUCO's activities along five dimensions (history, real world functions, internal patterns of



Academic Analysis

TRACK regularly **analyses** and **assess** the EUCO's activities along **five analytical dimensions** (history, real world functions, internal decision-making, impact on the EU's institutional architecture, and lessons for teaching and research), aiming to **promote EU studies** by a **real-time analysis** of the EUCO as a **moving target**.



Events

TRACK organizes amongst other a **kick-off conference** in Brussels; **public lectures with panel discussions and a luncheon debate** across Europe; a **mid-term event** on the German Presidency in Berlin; **World Cafés** at secondary schools and a **dissemination conference** in Brussels



Online Activities

TRACK provides open access information comprising **analytical reports** on the EUCO's performance, **comments** after each EUCO meeting **on Twitter**, a set of **innovative online teaching modules**, contributions to **Wikipedia articles** and **living editions** on the EU system and **journal articles**.



Dissemination

TRACK follows a tailor-made dissemination strategy and spread its output via a constantly updated **website**, **newsletters**, **social media** (Twitter, Facebook) and the **partner institutes' networks**.

decision-making, impact on the EU's institutional architecture, lessons for teaching and research) for filling gaps in teaching and research.

TRACK Key Points

Project lifetime	01 September 2019 – 31 August 2021
Academic coordinator	Prof Dr Wolfgang Wessels, CETEUS University of Cologne
Project assistants	Lea Hopp, B.Sc., CETEUS University of Cologne Marius Korte, B.A., CETEUS University of Cologne

The TRACK advisory board consists of high-level experts from different disciplines and countries with Herman van Rompuy, former president of the European Council, as the head of the advisory board.

