

Das Institut für europäische Integrationsforschung der  
Österreichischen Akademie der Wissenschaften lädt ein:

## VIENNA LECTURE ON THE EUROPEAN UNION

By Sandra Lavenex (Universität Luzern)  
and Dirk Lehmkuhl (Universität St. Gallen)

### All but Membership? The EU's Relations With its Neighbours

#### Abstract:

Until the 1990s, the process of European integration evolved within a relatively stable territory, delimited by the EU member states. Several rounds of enlargement had not hampered the slow but steady deepening of the EU's *acquis communautaire*. Both widening and deepening significantly contributed to a transformation of interactions on the European continent. In contrast to the internal perspective of European integration that filled libraries with academic studies and reports, the external dimension has only recently come to the center of analysis. Whereas the integration project has produced externalities early on, especially since the 1990s, the interdependence between the EU and countries outside the circle of member states has grown and the EU has engaged in an active promotion of its norms and rules beyond its borders. But the relationship between the EU and its neighbours is anything but simple and involves different arrangements such as the European Economic Area, Swiss- EU bilateralism, the stabilization and enlargement policy towards the candidate countries of the Western Balkans, or the European Neighbourhood Policy. In order to cope with the increasing variety of EU external affairs with its neighbours, we address the characteristics of different arrangements in both conceptual and empirical terms by referring to a number of case studies including air transport, competition, environment and migration policies. What is more, we ask whether or not different forms of interaction offer opportunities for organizational inclusion into the EU's system of governance.

#### Moderation by:

Gerda Falkner (Director of EIF; Professor, University of Vienna)

**Date: 22 November 2010, 17h00**

Wine & Cheese reception to follow

Place: Sitzungssaal der ÖAW, Dr. Ignaz Seipel - Platz 2, 1010 Wien